

January 21, 2024

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The Third Sunday after Epiphany

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

P.O. Box 98, Okabena, MN 56161

A member congregation of the
Church of the Lutheran Confession

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WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.

Prelude Mrs. Kathy Lueck

Hymn 537 *Every Morning Mercies New*

Order of Service Page 12 ff. in the Worship Supplement

Epistle Lesson Romans 12:16-21 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance *is* Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. Therefore

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 8:1-13 When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.”

Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. And Jesus said to him, “See that you tell no one; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented.” And Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.”

The centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, “Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you.” And his servant was healed that same hour.

Hymn 370 *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

Sermon Psalm 95:1-9 [EHV]

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord.
Let us give a loud shout to the Rock who saves us.
Let us approach His presence with thanksgiving.
With music we will shout to Him.
For the Lord is the great God
and the great King above all gods.
He holds the unexplored places of the earth in His hand,
and the peaks of the mountains belong to Him.
The sea belongs to Him, for He made it,
and His hands formed the dry land.

Come, let us bow down. Let us revere Him.
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker,
for He is our God,
and we are the people of His pasture
and the flock in His hand.

Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts as they did at Meribah,
as they did that day at Massah in the wilderness,
where your fathers challenged Me
and tested Me though they had seen what I had done.

The God We Worship...

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 39:1-4 *Praise to the Lord, The Almighty*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer + The Benediction

Hymn 39:5 *Praise to the Lord, The Almighty*

ANNUAL MEETING All voting members are encouraged to attend today's meeting immediately after the noon meal. The agenda includes regular reports from the Boards, plus: Membership: Todd Rosen and Melinda

Bose, and her children, Payton and Kendall have applied for membership; Transfer of Ben Hansen to Messiah, Eau Claire; Other Business: Revisiting the topic of investing extra funds with a member for a higher rate of return, CBP estimate, Lent and Easter schedules, Convention delegates (June 20-23); April Quarterly Meeting date.

HOLIDAY DRIVE Today is the last day for the holiday drive for Helping Hand Pregnancy Center in Worthington and for our CDS. Many items were donated and we are also able to also present about \$1,200 in monetary donations to the pregnancy center. Thank you so much!

If any Mission Society members are able to help put mission tags on the pregnancy center items, please meet in Mrs. Eigenberg's classroom after the potluck.

ANNUAL REPORT Please see the address list in the entryway and make sure that your information is up to date. Thank you.

BIRTH Zachary and Suraya Strike were blessed with a healthy baby girl on Friday afternoon. We join in thanking the Lord for His gift to them.

CLC NEWS Pastor Thomas Schuetze, Lakewood, CO has the calls to Marquette and Iron River, MI. Daniel Roehl is considering the call to ILC.

ARTS CAMP will be held March 22-24 at Immanuel, Mankato. This is an amazing opportunity for creative fun and learning with other young Christians. There will be a variety of sessions including things like music, theater, crafts, and more! This camp is open to students in 5th-8th grade. Registration opens February 5th. Please contact Amber Casto with any questions at artscamp@immanuelmankato.org.

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USHERS 01/21 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
01/28 Kendall B., Larry B. Jonathen L.
02/04 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.

CLEANING (Wk. 2) The Boernsens
The Liepolds and Luecks