

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025

Liturgy: TLH p.5



ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church & School

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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #394

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪ **Amen.**

P Pastor

Confession of Our Sins

C **Congregation**

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord unto us all.

C ♪ **Amen.**

The Introit

Ps. 97:1, 6, 9-12

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.
- C** **For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.**
- P** The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- C** **O you who love the Lord, hate evil! He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**
- P** Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.
- C** **Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!**

The Gloria Patri

TLH 131:5

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

- C** *♩* **All glory, Jesus, be to Thee For this Thy glad epiphany; Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore.**

The Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** *♩* **And with thy spirit.**

The Collect Prayer of the Day

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** *♩* **Amen.**



2 Kings 5:1-15a

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. ² Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of

Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." ⁵ And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. ⁶ And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷ And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me." ⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. ¹⁵ Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel."



Romans 1:8-17

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. ⁹ For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you ¹⁰ always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. ¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you-- ¹² that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. ¹³ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. ¹⁴ I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. ¹⁵ So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

✠ The Baptism of Julie Joy Appel ✠

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.



Matthew 8:1-17

When he came down from the mountain, great crowds followed him. ² And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean." ³ And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. ⁴ And Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a proof to them." ⁵ When he had entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him, ⁶ "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly." ⁷ And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." ⁸ But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ¹⁰ When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. ¹¹ I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, ¹² while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹³ And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment. ¹⁴ And when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. ¹⁵ He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him. ¹⁶ That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. ¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

“He Takes Our Illnesses and Bears Our Diseases.”

The Offertory

- C** ♪ *Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #652

"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

P The Lord be with you.

C ♪ *And with thy spirit.*

P Lift up your hearts.

C ♪ *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, Our God.

C ♪ *It is meet and right so to do.*

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should, at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

C ♪ *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest.*

The Words of Institution

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Order of Holy Communion



P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C *♫ Amen.*

The Agnus Dei

C *♫ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God That takest away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world. Grant us Thy peace. Amen.*

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30 & more.) If you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper ✠

Distribution Hymns:

TLH #313; WS #755; TLH #311

The Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

C *♫ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant Depart in peace according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation; Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, A Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.*

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C *♫ Amen, amen, a – men.*

Hymn: TLH #54

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

CLC Funds Descriptions

Last week, it was announced that our congregation had met its budgeted contribution amount for the CLC Cooperative Budget Plan. These are the offerings marked "General" on the right side of your offering envelopes. If you wish to continue to donate to the CLC General Fund, you are very welcome to do so. If, however, you would like to contribute to another fund, the descriptions of the various CLC funds are below:

General – This fund manages the annual operating budget of the CLC. From this fund come the operating costs for Immanuel Lutheran High School & College, the CLC Mission Board, Publications, etc., along with the salaries for the professors at ILC and our foreign missionaries.

ILC Building Fund – This fund had been used formerly to pay off the Academic Center at ILC. Now that that has been paid off, ILC Building Fund contributions will be put toward the future planned projects of a gymnasium & theatre/chapel.

Mission Development Fund – This fund is used for special mission projects of a non-recurring nature, such as purchasing Bibles and Catechisms and building churches overseas.

ILC Improvement Fund – This fund is used for special ILC campus upkeep projects of a non-recurring nature.

ILC Student Endowment – This fund is used for providing financial assistance to students in attending ILC. Student Aid is afforded to High School students on an as-needed basis, and annual endowments are also given to college students preparing for the public ministry.

Another important fund not listed on your offering envelopes is the newly established:

EduK8 Fund – This fund was created to provide assistance to CLC congregations in the establishment and ongoing support of Christian Day Schools. This is seen as an exciting, potential domestic mission outreach for our synod.

Voters' Meeting Summary – At last Sunday's January Annual Meeting, Pastor Sam Rodebaugh's family was accepted as members of St John's, transferring from our sister church, Faith Lutheran, in St. Louis, Missouri. Bennet and Karri Olmanson and family were accepted as members, transferring in from Immanuel in Mankato. Ryan Mueller was approved as a voting member. St. John's CBP estimate to the CLC was set at \$48,000 for the coming fiscal year. The Lent schedule was modified, evening pulpit exchange services will be held on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm with fellowship meals following, starting with Ash Wednesday on March 5. The April Quarterly Meeting will be held on Palm Sunday, April 13th. *(Adapted from the minutes of Secretary Christian Kazemba.)*

Praise the Lord for welcoming Julie Joy Appel into His family through the waters of baptism. We rejoice together with Jeremy and Stephanie on the precious gift of a healthy baby daughter and for her re-birth and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Please keep Julie in your prayers, that the Lord would continue to nourish in her that which He has already begun—faith in Christ Jesus her Savior.

School Winter Fair – The Christian Day School will be holding its annual Winter Fair on Wednesday, February 5, at 6:00 pm. The congregation is invited and encouraged to attend to see the hard work put in by our students. There will be student displays, artwork, songs, and finger food refreshments.

2025 CLC Mission Helper Trip – Larry Boernsen will be representing our congregation on this summer's Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. He will be joined by Carrie Koenig, Isabelle Roehl, Dan Roehl, Troyal Mayhew, Henry Lau, Stephanie Lau, and Todd Ohlmann. Please ask that the Lord would bless all of their preparations for this important work!

Lenten Time Change – The voters decided to move our midweek Lenten services up a half-hour earlier to 6:30 pm, in an effort to make attending easier for those with longer drives/younger children.

Lenten Pulpit Exchange – This Lent, St. John's will be participating in a pulpit exchange together with Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato, Salem Lutheran of Eagle Lake, and Grace Lutheran of Sleepy Eye. That means that the pastors of those congregations will take turns preaching here on the Wednesdays of Lent. The theme of joint Lenten services will be "Sounds of the Passion." Ash Wednesday will begin the season of Lent on March 5th.

CLC Tourney Band – The CLC Annual Grade School Basketball Tournament will be held March 14th – 16th. *"Come and join the 21st CLC Tourney Band at the CLC Grade School Basketball Tournament in Eau Claire, WI on Saturday, March 15! Register band players (grades 5-8) at clctourneyband.weebly.com. Music is available on the website. Basketball players and non-basketball players are welcome! Our one practice will be during that morning (time TBA) with a performance around noon."*

CLC Call News – Ms. Blair Sydow has **received and accepted** the call to continue serving as the full time upper grade teacher at Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, SD and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD **is still considering** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI **is still considering** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN has **received** the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD.

Ushers	1/26	Kendall B, Larry B.
	2/2	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	2/9	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
Cleaning	This Week – Lueck, Liepold (wk. 3)	
	Up Next – Strike, Strike	

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

January 27th – February 1st, 2025

Mon Matthew 4:12-17 When John is imprisoned, Jesus takes up the call to repentance and begins His ministry. He makes His headquarters in Capernaum, proclaims the kingdom of heaven, and the light shines!

Tues Romans 8:1-4 Upon those in the shadow of death the light now shines in Christ Jesus, for through Him we have been set free from the law of sin and death (v2). He took on our flesh to bear our condemnation (v3).

Wed Romans 8:5-11 The fleshly mind is hostile to God, does not want to please Him, and leads to the darkness of death. But the spiritual mind knows of the resurrection in Jesus and walks to life and peace (v6).

Thurs Genesis 15:1-7 The Lord promises Abram countless descendants when he has yet to see the first one, but Abram believes the Lord, that He is truly his shield from all danger and his very great reward!

Fri Amos 3:1-8 Seven questions the Lord asks His people. They can understand a lot of things in God's creation. Should they not also understand that the Lord means it when He speaks condemnation and salvation?

Sat Acts 8:26-39 The Lord reaches out to an Ethiopian through His servants Isaiah and Philip, and the Light shines for this official on the desert road to Gaza. Baptized, he continues on his way rejoicing!



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