

4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026

Liturgy: WS p. 1

Organist: Lana Strike



LET HIM WHO BOASTS

BOAST

IN THE

LORD



ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church & School

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## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #389

*"Not What These Hands Have Done"*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Pastor

**C** Congregation

### Confession of Our Sins

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

**P** Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

**C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved you above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive our sins.**

**P** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen!

*"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." (John 20:23)*

### The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

*Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"*



(P:) Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to all peo-ple on  
earth. (C:) Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al -  
might - y God and Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we  
give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry.  
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the  
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the  
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.  
For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone  
are the Lord, You a - lone are the Most High,  
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## Collect Prayer of the Day

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**P** Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



### Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says:  
Arise, plead your case before  
the mountains, and let the

hills hear your voice. <sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel. <sup>3</sup> "O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! <sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. <sup>5</sup> O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD." <sup>6</sup> "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? <sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" <sup>8</sup> He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?



### Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, he went  
up on the mountain, and  
when he sat down, his disci-

ples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: <sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> "Blessed are those who mourn, for they



shall be comforted. <sup>5</sup> "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup> "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. <sup>7</sup> "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. <sup>8</sup> "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. <sup>9</sup> "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. <sup>10</sup> "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup> "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** ♪ *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*These words are written that we may believe that  
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## Confession of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

**C** 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.



## 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

### Finding Inner Weakness

- I. By Myself: Strength Becomes Weakness
- II. With Christ: Weakness Becomes Strength

### The Offertory

*In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.*

**✪ Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

## ✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #370

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

## ✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

### 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.

**G Amen!**

Hymn: TLH #376

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

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**Nepal Presentation** – Larry Boernsen will be joined by his fellow mission helper Troyal Mayhew as they present on their trip to Nepal from this past summer. Their presentation will be next Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, during the normal Bible Class hour.

**Card Shower** – A card shower for Lydia Moore will be held on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 am here in the fellowship hall. Please RSVP to Mara Boernsen; more information is in the entryway.

**Ladies' Night Out** – The next outing will be Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Dudley's Garage in Lakefield. There is a max capacity of 12, so be sure to sign up early if you intend to go. More information can be found in the entryway.

**Anniversary Reception** – All are invited to a reception for Ron & Karen Strike next Sunday, celebrating 55 years of marriage.

**Choir Practice** resumed today and continues through Lent.

<b>Ushers</b>	2/1	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	2/8	Kendall B, Larry B.
	2/15	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
<b>Cleaning</b>	This Week – The Strikes (wk. 4)	
	Up Next – Ling, Rovere, Sumey	

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

February 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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**Mon Matthew 8:23-27** Jesus could sleep in the middle of a terrible storm because even the wind and the sea obey Him (v27)! Such is the glory of God's own Son!

**Tues Romans 13:8-10** Following Christ does not mean we do not pay lawful debts, but Christian love goes beyond the mere payments owed and serves the best interest of one's neighbor.

**Wed Isaiah 43:1-3** Jesus embodied the promises of old, was with the disciples when they passed through the waters (v2), and saved mankind from the fire that their sins deserve.

**Thurs Psalm 97** When the Lord rules, that is surely something to celebrate, for His righteousness wins over all evil, and all the peoples see His glory (v6). He guards, delivers, and brings light and joy to His people.

**Fri Psalm 2:1-6** Why? Why-ever would the people and rulers of this world rage against the Lord who saves by His Christ? Thankfully they can not stop Him from establishing His King on the throne.

**Sat Psalm 2:7-12** The Son speaks of the Father's decree, very much like the announcement at Jesus' baptism and transfiguration: "This is my beloved Son!" How blessed are all who take refuge in Him (v12).

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