

“²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!””

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Second Sunday after Epiphany – January 15, 2017

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*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday after Epiphany– January 15, 2017

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One, and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

Today we commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr., renewer of society and martyr, who died in 1968. An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

PRELUDE: *Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless* – Robert J. Powell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations,
who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Loving God,
**we confess that we have turned from your way
to follow our own ways.**
**Forgive us for the times
we have spoken or acted too quickly;
we have not spoken or acted at all;
we have hurt those closest to us;
we have hurt those we have yet to know;
we have thought more about ourselves than others;
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.**
**Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,
so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.
Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.
God's love never runs out.
God never tires of calling us beloved children.
Hear God say to you now:

Your sins are forgiven,
for the sake of + Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG #314: Arise, Your Light Has Come**

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***GLORY TO GOD**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Holy God, our strength and our redeemer,
by your Spirit hold us forever,
that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you,
follow you and joyfully find you,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant Israel speaks for herself and acknowledges herself as God's secret weapon. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel itself. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born,
 while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
 in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
 he made me a polished arrow,
 in his quiver he hid me away.
³And he said to me, "You are my servant,
 Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
 I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
 yet surely my cause is with the LORD,
 and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says,
 who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
 to bring Jacob back to him,
 and that Israel might be gathered to him,
 for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
 and my God has become my strength—
⁶he says,
 "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
 to raise up the tribes of Jacob
 and to restore the survivors of Israel;
 I will give you as a light to the nations,
 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD,
 the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
 to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
 the slave of rulers,
 "Kings shall see and stand up,
 princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
 because of the LORD, who is faithful,
 the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40

*The cantor sings the refrain and all repeat it. The congregation sings the **bold** verses.*



I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep with - in me.

¹I waited patiently up- | on the LORD,
 who stooped to me and | heard my cry.
²The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,
 and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;
Many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

⁴Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!

They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies.

R

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be com- | pared with you!
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than | I can count.

⁶Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;

you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have | not required.

R

⁷And so I said, “Here I | am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

⁸“I love to do your will, | O my God;
your law is | deep within me.”

⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O | LORD, you know.

¹⁰I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and | your deliverance;

I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the | great assembly.

¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compas- | sion from me;

may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep me safe.

R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God’s church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

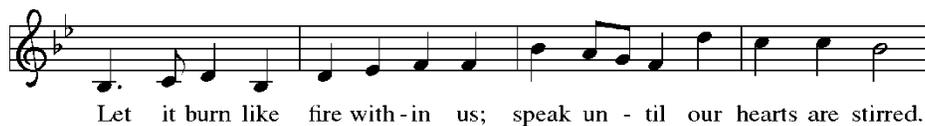
⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***GOSPEL READING: John 1:29-42**

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON**



HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Only Son from Heaven

1. The on - ly Son from heav - en, fore - told by an - cient seers,
 2. Oh, time of God ap - point - ed, oh, bright and ho - ly morn!
 3. A - wak - en, Lord, our spir - it to know and love you more,
 4. O Fa - ther, here be - fore you with God the Ho - ly Ghost,

by God the Fa - ther giv - en, in hu - man form ap - pears.
 He comes, the king a - noint - ed, the Christ, the vir - gin - born,
 in faith to stand un - shak - en, in spir - it to a - dore,
 and Je - sus, we a - dore you, O pride of an - gel - host:

No sphere his light con - fin - ing, no star so bright - ly
 grim death to van - quish for us, to o - pen heav'n be -
 that we, through this world mov - ing, each glimpse of heav - en
 be - fore you mor - tals low - ly cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,

shin - ing as he, our Morn - ing Star.
 - fore us and bring us life a - gain.
 prov - ing, may reap its full - ness there.
 ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

Gather us in, gracious God. Bring together Methodist and Pentecostal, Baptist and Roman Catholic, Lutheran and AME-Zion. Form us in worship into your united people. Send us out as one in you, proclaiming your glory and serving all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Fed with bread and wine, Christ's body and blood, make us eager to care for your good creation. Send us to pick up litter from highways and lakeshores and protect animal habitats. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all the nations of the world. Help us to reach out to the places where the scandal of hunger resides. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Quell the anxieties of all who wait for test results. Bring hope to all whose life is a struggle and filled with despair. Send us to care for those who suffer, especially Sally, Bill, Reed, Raymond, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Jane, David & Ellen, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Open us to see how our congregation abounds with every spiritual gift. Send us out to share our abundant gifts and proclaim your steadfast love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for the faithfulness of your prophets, especially Martin Luther King Jr. Strengthen our faith in you. Send us out to proclaim and live your justice boldly. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN #696: *Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult

All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

receive the gifts we bring,

ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Through this meal unite us as your body,
shining with the light of your justice and mercy;
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O holy God:

you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness
and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.
Come. Be filled with light and life.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.

COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

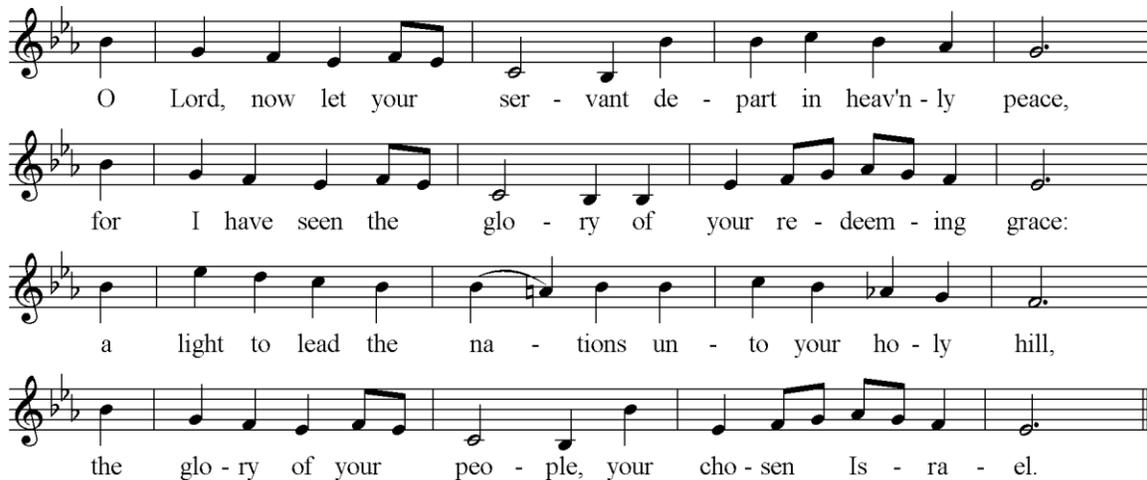
COMMUNION HYMN #677: *This Little Light of Mine*

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n - ly peace,
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O Morning Star, fair and bright,
you have refreshed us again with heavenly food.

You are our dearest treasure.

Go with us now—

today, tomorrow, every day—

that we tell the story of your never-ending love

and sing your praise both now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care:

As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread,
assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament.

In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament,
and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence
through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

*BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

*SENDING SONG #665: Rise, Shine, You People!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Rise, Shine, You People! – Benjamin M. Culli

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Matt Claus
Communion Assistant:
Acolyte:
Lector:
Usher:
Attendance Last Week: 78
Weekly Budgeted Expense (as of 12/31/16): \$3,374.14
Weekly Budgeted Expense (as of 1/08/17): \$3,185.02
YTD Budgeted Expense (as of 12/31/16): \$ 175,455.09
YTD Actual Expense (as of 12/31/16): \$ 169,982.58
YTD Actual Expense (as of 1/08/17): \$ 4,190.18

10:30 am

Assisting Minister: Valerie Cardinal
Communion Assistant:
Acolyte:
Lector:
Usher:
Attendance Last Year: 58
Last Week's General Giving: \$2,703.39
Last Week's Designated Giving: \$343.61
YTD Receipts (2017): \$7,006.00

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