

The Epiphany Season

January 14, 2018

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just the clergy but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place.

Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to the story of the vision of Jacob, who called the place of his vision “the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven” (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

- Gathering -

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk: Partnership with Peace Lutheran Church

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.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

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.**

Processional Hymn – #676 Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

Greeting and Hymn of Praise (*Glory to God*) – Page 184-186

Prayer of the Day

- Word -

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

Scripture Readings – see insert (*Response: Thanks be to God.*)

Gospel Acclamation – Page 188

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #636 How Small Our Span of Life

Apostles' Creed – Page 105

Prayers of the People

Sharing the Peace (*Response: And also with you.*)

- Meal -

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering *Special Music by the Senior Choir: “Be Thou My Vision”*

Offertory Hymn – #801 Change My Heart, O God

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 190

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily
bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the
kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Distribution of Bread and Wine

All who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Hymns – #483, #574, #592

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

- Sending -

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

Blessing

Sending Hymn – #313 O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

Dismissal (*Response: Thanks be to God!*)

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dickinson, North Dakota

www.stjohnelc.org (701)225-6747

Mission Statement: “Living in Service to Christ”

Welcome to Worship at St. John!

If you are worshipping for the first time, we hope you feel joyfully welcomed! Worship is the most important thing we do together: Gathering in God's Name, Hearing God's Word, Sharing in the Holy Meal, and then Sending You to Shine Christ's Light in the World.

We believe worship brings abundant life and freedom to you and to your neighbor. There are four worship services offered each week at St. John, providing a variety of ways to worship. We encourage you to try them all to find the right fit for you.

**To learn more about worship and St. John's story,
click on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org**

~ To Assist You at Worship ~

- *If you are considering becoming a member at St. John*, we ask that you begin by visiting with a pastor and attending a *new member coffee*, held four times each year. For details, click on the MEMBERSHIP link on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org.
- *Personal amplifiers for the hearing impaired are available*. Please ask an usher.
- *Children's worship bags* are in the narthex and the Commons Area.
- *Childcare*: Children are always welcome in worship, but if a parent feels that little hands, feet and voices are making it difficult for others to worship, the nursery is staffed during the 10:30 a.m. service. If a child needs a shorter break, there is wiggle room and a glider chair in the narthex.
- *Holy Communion* is celebrated at each worship service. The table is open to all who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love. You may stand or kneel and receive the bread and wine. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, simply ask the person serving.
- *The decision about when a child should commune is made by the parent*. We encourage families to visit with a pastor to learn about the sacrament before communing for the first time. Children communing should extend their hands. Children not communing are invited to fold their hands.
- *Coffee is served* in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- St. John is a member congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** and part of the **Western North Dakota Synod**. St. John is a corporate member of Badlands Ministries Bible Camp and St. Luke's Nursing Home. ELCA and LCMS congregations in western and eastern North Dakota own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

~ Introductions to the Readings ~

1 Samuel 3:1-10 - At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the Lord comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Paul is helping the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

John 1:43-51 - In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

~ Worship Leaders ~

Presiding Minister	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Thursday
Preaching Minister	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Sunday
Presiding Minister	Pastor Joe Natwick	Sunday
Assisting Minister.....	Jenny Rea	Thursday
Assisting Minister.....	Marci Murphy	8 AM Sunday
Assisting Minister.....	Trey Wilson	10:30AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Dan Pender, Linda Splichal	Sunday
Organist.....	Michael Stevenson	Thursday
Organist.....	Cheryl Hewson	Sunday
Server.....	Kate Welk	Thursday
Servers.....	Tyler Warwick & Benett Carlson	8 AM Sunday
Servers.....	Kyle Anderson & Cody Foss	10:30 AM Sunday

LEGACY OF FAITH CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The Legacy of Faith Campaign began in Nov. 2016 with a generous gift from an anonymous donor, and a congregational vote to raise \$500,000 for the purpose of...

- \$225,000 for 141 5th Ave West: *(this amount has already been raised)*
 - \$150,000 to purchase house and property, and
 - \$ 75,000 for demolition and landscaping
- \$275,000 to be divided evenly between the
 - Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Center's new building, and
 - Western North Dakota Synod Ministry Trust Fund

In gratitude for the past, present, and a future that remains unseen, we continue a legacy of giving generously out of God's abundance. Visit with a pastor or refer to the brochures in the pew racks for more information.

At this time, \$355,747 has been raised in pledges and contributions! **Thank you faithfully tending to the future.**

The campaign continues through Dec. 31, 2019.

On Thurs., Jan. 18 and Sun., Jan. 21, hear an update on the campaign and the property.

~ *This Week at St. John* ~

Monday, Jan 15	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Jan 16	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting FPU (Financial Peace University)
Wednesday, Jan 17	9:30 AM 5:15 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Staff Meeting Supper Church School Worship Faith Experience
Thursday, Jan 18	Noon 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Circle 4 at church Backpack Prep Worship
Friday, Jan 19	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Sunday, Jan 21	8:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:30 AM 1:00 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Senior Choir practice Adult Education- <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i> Welcome Coffee (basement) Worship Handbells Sr. High Youth Group

WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*:
Wednesday 156, Thursday 53, and Sunday 301.

WALKING INTO A NEW YEAR

Beginning a new year is a blessing. However, you might be walking into the new year after a significant change in your life. Maybe you could use some extra support. When you have someone to care, listen, and share God's love with you, it can help you get through the confusion, stress, or loneliness you may be experiencing. God does not intend for you to struggle alone.

Stephen Ministry is available for anyone who is facing overwhelming needs for care: hospitalization, grieving, suffering, loneliness or discouragement, divorce or separation, unemployment, accidents, and the list goes on.

Consider allowing a Stephen Minister to walk with you on your journey to wholeness. Connect with a pastor to learn more.

~ SERVE & CONNECT ~



**LEGACY OF FAITH
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Another heart has been added to St. John's Giving Tree because another \$14,000 has been pledged or given to the Legacy of Faith Campaign since November! There are 35 hearts on the tree, each heart represents \$10,000 pledged! We have 15 hearts left to reach our goal! THANK YOU to all who give to this campaign of generosity. Gifts given will be benefitting the DVRCC and the WND Synod Ministry Fund.

Please take a brochure from the pew or from the Giving Tree sign (narthex) to read about this Campaign, and prayerfully consider making a pledge. You may return your pledge card in the offering plate, or pledge online – click on the GIVE button.

NEED TO PICK UP YOUR DIRECTORY?

Family directories have been moved to the copier room – please pick up your directory today! If you did not have your photo taken, you can purchase a directory for \$15.00.



January 16 - March 13 (Tues. @ 7:00 pm)

Begin 2018 with a financial plan! Financial Peace University will give you the knowledge you need to budget, save and plan for retirement. Sign up at www.stjohnelc.org OR pick up a form from the Commons area bulletin board today! The first eight registrations will receive all of the benefits of this class at a discount (cost \$50.00 / person or couple). Subsequent registrants - \$129.00 / person or couple.



WELCOME COFFEE

January 14 @ 9:15 am (basement)

Interested in becoming a member of St. John? Come to the Welcome Coffee and find out more about St. John and ways we connect with the community of Dickinson and people around the world. New Member Sunday is on Feb. 11th during the 10:30 am worship.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Jan 30th @ 7:00 pm (Fluffy Fields Winery)

Conversations about life, faith and God That is what this group is about! Each month, people gather to have incredible conversations on interesting topics such as “God in Sports”, “Decoding Denominations” and “Affluenza”. This is an informal group made up of all denominations – so bring a friend! If you want to be on Pastor Joe's email list for this class (in case there is “prep” work to do), let him know at jnatwick@stjohnelc.org.

ST. JOHN ANNUAL MEETING

February 11th @ 9:00 am (basement)

Come to the Annual meeting to have a voice in the business matters of St. John and approve the budget for 2018 This year you will see a “Narrative Budget” that tells our story. All confirmed members are encouraged to attend and vote.

COFFEE for PUERTO RICO!

Purchase coffee from a Senior High missionary! This coffee comes from Praying Pelican (Fair Trade farmers) and a portion of your purchase will go to help pay for their trip to Puerto Rico! There is also a sign up form on the Commons area bulletin board to purchase this coffee – proceeds will be applied to the advisor's accounts to fund the cost of the trip. Coffee sales will continue through Jan. 21st.

For updates on schedules and programs, visit our website at www.stjohnelc.org.