

# *The Epiphany Season*

*January 21, 2018*

Stories of the call to discipleship continue as the Time after Epiphany plays out the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of fisherman brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

## **- Gathering -**

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Legacy of Faith Campaign Update – Hannah Rathgeber

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 – #720 We Are Called**

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 – #798 Will You Come and Follow Me**

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

### **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 – #817, #661, #815**

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

## **- Sending -**

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

Blessing

### **Sending Hymn – #543 Go, My Children, with My Blessing (vs 1 & 3)**

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

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Dickinson, North Dakota*

[www.stjohnelc.org](http://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](http://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](http://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 ~

**Jonah 3:1-5, 10** The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah’s dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question “On whom should God have mercy?”

**1 Corinthians 7:29-31** Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God’s future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Mark 1:14-20** Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Presiding Minister .....	Pastor Joe Natwick	Thursday
Preaching Minister .....	Pastor Joe Natwick	Sunday
Presiding Minister .....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Sunday
Assisting Minister.....	Tanna Reopelle	Thursday
Assisting Minister.....	Jan Wilkie	8 AM Sunday
Assisting Minister.....	Patrick Healy	10:30AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Tim Wegner, Jesse Kilwein	Sunday
Organist.....	Carrie Mitzel	Thursday
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Server.....	Isaac Hoffer	Thursday
Servers.....	Ella Healy & Kate Enney	8 AM Sunday
Servers.....	Amy Fridley & Beau Krueger	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 Feb. 9 and 11, Bishop Mark Narum will share a video *thank you* for your commitment to the Western North Dakota Synod Ministry Trust Fund.

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Jan 22	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Jan 23	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting FPU (Financial Peace University)
Wednesday, Jan 24	9:30 AM 5:15 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Staff Meeting Supper Church School Worship
Thursday, Jan 25	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Backpack Prep Worship
Friday, Jan 26	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Sunday, Jan 28	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> 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 **No service due to weather.** Thursday **45.** and Sunday **271.**



**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.***

**ASH WEDNESDAY & MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP**

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent on February 14th. Midweek Lenten services will now be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. throughout Lent. There is no Church School or Confirmation during Lent. Thursday worship will continue as usual.

~ 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.

**LIFEKEYS ~ DISCOVER WHO YOU ARE**

**Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> @ First Lutheran Church – Minot**  
Deacon Beth Anderson will facilitate the LifeKeys Process of exploring how God has gifted you to serve. In this highly interactive workshop, you'll uncover your life gifts, interest areas, and spiritual gifts and explore your values, personality type, & passions. Then you get to put it all together to consider how God may be calling you to share all that you are in your home, congregation and community. For more info and to register, go to [www.wndsynod.org/gifts](http://www.wndsynod.org/gifts).

For updates on schedules and programs, visit our website at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org).

**THEOLOGY ON TAP**

**Jan 30<sup>th</sup> @ 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](mailto:jnatwick@stjohnelc.org).



**ST. JOHN ANNUAL MEETING**

**February 11<sup>th</sup> @ 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. 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**BADLANDS MINISTRIES EVENTS**

Visit the Commons area bulletin board for information on upcoming events at Badlands Ministries ~

Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> – Giving Hearts Day

Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> – Canvas Paint Class

Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Winter Crafting Retreat

**\*\*Applications and registrations are now being accepted for Summer Camp!\*\***