

# *The Epiphany Season*

*January 28, 2018*

Throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus confronts the powers of this world that rebel against God: the power of Rome, the power of an oppressive church, and the power of demonic spirits. Today, Jesus confronts these powers in a human body, freeing a man by the divine authority of God's mercy. We invite you to imagine Jesus also frees you and makes you whole by confronting in your human body all of your self-doubt, regret, fear, and brokenness.

We invite you to be healed by the power of Christ.

## **- Gathering -**

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Brief Order for Healing and Wholeness

We gather to worship in the name of the Triune God, + as people who are broken in heart, body and mind, living in a broken world, coming before God whose brokenness makes us whole. **Amen.**

O God...Come to us now with your healing powers. **Speak to us, O God, and make us whole.** *(Please repeat this response after each petition.)*

God, giver of healing and wholeness, loves this world and this people so much, that God handed over Christ to suffer and die for you. Accept now that gift. Know that you are healed and forgiven, loved and made whole, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Gathering Hymn – #581 You Are Mine**

*(During this hymn, you are welcome at the communion rail for the Laying on of Hands. A pastor will say a simple prayer over you and anoint you with a cross on your forehead.)*

Greeting

### **Hymn of Praise – #595 Jesus Loves Me**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Healing Christ, **speak with authority in our lives. Speak to us and to what is in us, so we might be whole. Speak to us with love, hope, and strength, so we might hear you and know that we are your people, and that you are our God. We pray in the name of the one who gives healing, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **- 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 – #697 Just a Closer Walk with Thee**

Apostles' Creed – Page 105

Prayers of the People and 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 at 10:30 a.m.: “Majesty”*

**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 – #599, #612, #614**

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

## **- Sending -**

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

Blessing

**Sending Hymn – #886 (V. 1-3) Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

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 ~

**Deuteronomy 18:15-20** - Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

**1 Corinthians 8:1-13** - Paul is concerned about how some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable, believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause a sister or brother to sin.

**Mark 1:21-28** - The story has barely begun, and already the battle is joined. Jesus sides with humanity against every force that would bring death and disease. These forces recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. This, however, is only the first fight. The war will go on much longer.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching Minister .....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	
Presiding Minister .....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Thursday
	Pastor Joe Natwick	Sunday
Assisting Minister .....	Diane Melbye	Thursday
	Marcy Decker	8 AM Sunday
	Don Brugamyer	10:30AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Darlene Pelton, Jon Tangen	Sunday
Organist.....	Carrie Mitzel	Thursday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers.....	Liz Fadness	Thursday
	Weston Klatt, Lane Richard	8 AM Sunday
	Alexander Meier, Charley Rathgeber	10:30 AM Sunday



During Lent, you are encouraged to slow down and reflect. As Lutherans, we set aside 40 days to let go of our unhealthy attachments and renew a right relationship with God. The season of Lent reminds us to say no to things that do not nurture our relationship with Christ, and to say yes to things that do.

For the past three years, we have said “YES!” to raising money for water wells in Africa. This year, we will shift gears and say “YES!” to health and wellness in Malawi, and “THANKS!” to practitioners of health and wellness in Dickinson.

*Where is Malawi?* Malawi is located in the southeastern part of Africa. The small country is home to 18 million people.

*Why Malawi?* ELCA World Hunger has identified Malawi as a country with a great need for health and wellness support. The percentage of poverty was 50.7% in 2011.

*Watch for ways you can be involved in the “40 Days of Giving” event in the February newsletter future bulletin announcements!*

~ *This Week at St. John* ~

Monday, Jan 29	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Jan 30	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting FPU (Financial Peace University) Theology on Tap at Fluffy Fields
Wednesday, Jan 31	9:30 AM 5:15 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Monthly Staff Meeting Supper Church School Worship
Thursday, Feb 1	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Backpack Prep Worship
Friday, Feb 2	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study / Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Saturday, Feb 3	9:00 AM	Altar Guild
Sunday, Feb 4	8:00 AM 9:15 AM  10:30 AM 1:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Senior Choir practice Adult Education - <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i> Worship Handbells Scouts 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 **187**, Thursday **62**, and Sunday **287**.

**ASH WEDNESDAY & MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP**

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent on February 14th. During Lent, the Sunday morning and Thursday evening worship services will remain the same. However, Wednesday nights will be much different! Please come and experience Lenten Worship – we will use the Holden Evening Prayer service and hear from members of the congregation as they speak about their story of faith. There is no Church School or Confirmation during Lent.

**LENTEN SCHEDULE:**

Sunday Worship      8:00 & 10:30 am  
Thursday Worship    7:00 pm

Wednesdays -      5:30 pm Lenten Supper (Puerto Rico FUNdraiser)  
                             5:45 pm "What is the Bible?" Adult Lenten study  
                             Milestone Ministry classes as scheduled  
                             7:00 pm Lenten Worship

~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

**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).

**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. *At this time, these St. John members have been nominated to serve on Council:*

Deacons: Jen Jung and Seth Poland

Trustees: Richard Benz and Jared Bookhardt

**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.

**AGAPE NIGHT- Everyone is invited!**

**Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 pm**

What is agape love? It is an unconditional love – a love where nothing is expected in return.



Sound familiar? We experience this with God’s love. This event welcomes every one of every age to celebrate God’s love, and to participate in sharing their love – expecting nothing in return!

Supper begins at 5:00 pm

Activities begin at 5:30 pm

Worship begins at 6:30 pm

Come and participate in this fun night with your family and friends!

**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!\*\**

**BABYSITTING OUR WAY TO PUERTO RICO!**

**Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 – 10:00 pm**



This is a win-win-win! Parents get a night out for a nice Valentine celebration, kids get to have a great time playing games, watching movies, etc., and the youth earn money for their trip to Puerto Rico! Children need to be signed up by Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>! There is a sign-up form on the Commons area bulletin board or you can email Kaitlyn at [kolson@stjohnelc.org](mailto:kolson@stjohnelc.org) (please include each child’s name and age). Children should be fed prior to coming.

**For information and updates on schedules, visit us at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)!**

