

# *Baptism of Our Lord*

*January 13, 2019*

*The Baptism of Our Lord cannot help but recall our own and all baptismal blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as daughters and sons, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we “pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire.” On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of the beloved Son of God in bread and wine.*

## **- Gathering -**

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

Welcome and Announcements

(8:00 a.m.) Thanksgiving for Baptism – Page 97

(10:30 a.m.) Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us. **Amen.**

Gathered in God’s presence, let us confess our sin. (*Silence is kept for reflection.*)

Mighty and loving God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

Hear the voice of Jesus: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.” In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever. **Amen.**

## **Processional Hymn – #456 Baptized in Water**

Greeting and Hymn of Praise – Page 139

Prayer of the Day

## **- Word -**

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

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

Gospel Acclamation – **Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” Alleluia.** (Matt. 3:17)

Gospel (*Before reading: Glory to you, O Lord. After: Praise to you, O Christ!*)

Sermon

## Hymn of the Day – #581 You Are Mine

(8:00 am) Apostles' Creed – Page 105

(10:30 am) Holy Baptism – Page 227 (Cameron Minnie Presthus)

Prayers of the People and Sharing the Peace (*Response: **And also with you.***)

## **- Meal -**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Offering *Senior Choir Anthem at 10:30 a.m. "Come Be Baptized"*

## Offertory Hymn – #294 (V. 1 and 3) In the Bleak Midwinter

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 144

Lord's Prayer

**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.*

Lamb of God – Page 146

## Hymns – #471, #445, #396

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

## **- Sending -**

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

Benediction

May the Creator who holds the Earth as an artist holds brush and palette fill your imagination so you find the world inspiring and wonderful.

May Jesus bless you with discomfort at injustice and oppression.

May the Spirit bless you with hope poured out like water and flowing as a river.

God says to you, "you are my beloved, be blessed this day and always." **Amen.**

## Hymn – #595 Jesus Loves Me!

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

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Dickinson, North Dakota*

[www.stjohnele.org](http://www.stjohnele.org) (701)225-6747

Mission Statement: "Living in Service to Christ"

# Welcome to Worship at St. John!

If you are here for the very first time, or if you are a regular visitor, we are excited you found St. John. Walking into a church building for the first time can be intimidating. Now that you are here, sit back and relax. Everything you need to know about the service is in your bulletin or on the projector screen. You do not need to know stuff about the Bible or Lutheran liturgy.

You need only to be curious about what God might up to in this service and in your life. Through the mysterious work of the Spirit, you will be fed with God's Word in song, Scripture and sermon, and then we will set the table with our best dishes and welcome you to the feast of Holy Communion. You may be new to St. John, but we have been expecting you and waiting to welcome you on this day.

**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 or meal*, 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. It is not a requirement to be Lutheran or a member of this congregation. 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.
- Fair Trade Coffee is served in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- About St. John: 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 Reading ~

Isaiah 43:1-7- Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring them home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

Acts 8:14-17- Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22- The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

## ~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching .....	Kaitlyn Olson	
Presiding Ministers.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton and Pastor Joe Natwick	
Assisting Ministers.....	Tanna Reopelle	Thursday
	Patrick Healy	8:00 AM Sunday
	Kris Fehr	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Dan Pender	8:00 AM Sunday
	Linda Splichal	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers .....	William Lindvig	Thursday
	Ethan Erdman & Mason Stroh	8:00 AM
	Nathan Klein & Dylan Smith	10:30 AM

### WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*: Wednesday **163**, Thursday **48**, Sunday **264**.

### BAPTISM

On Sunday, we celebrate the baptism of **Cameron Minnie Presthus**. Cameron's parents are Courtney & Rick Presthus. Sponsors are Kjersti Armstrong & Brenton Magnusson.

### EXPERIENCE "PRAY-GROUND" January 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am

At St. John Lutheran Church, we give thanks for children in worship, because it means our congregation has a vibrant future full of young worshipers eager to carry on our mission as they grow and learn about God's love for all of us.

In the coming months, "Pray-Ground" will be introduced to encourage participation in a church service by the smallest members of a congregation. Space will be "reserved" in the front of the sanctuary for participating families. Every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, January through May, children will have the opportunity to experience "Pray-ground".



## ~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Jan 14	4:30 PM	Lutheran Social Services
	5:00 PM	Scouts
	7:00 PM	Scouts
Tuesday, Jan 15	8:30 AM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting
	12:00 PM	Alzheimer Support Meeting
Wednesday, Jan 16	9:30 AM	Staff Meeting
	5:15 PM	Fellowship Meal
	6:00 PM	Church School
		Adult Education
		1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Milestone Ministry
	6:30 PM	Worship
	7:00 PM	Mentor Faith Experience
Thursday, Jan 17	12:00 PM	Circle 4
	6:00 PM	Backpacks
	7:00 PM	Worship
Friday, Jan 18	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins
	9:00 AM	Backpack Delivery
	6:00 PM	Youth Group Ski Trip (Friday-Sunday)
Sunday, Jan 20	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Education- <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i>
		Senior Choir
	10:30 AM	Worship
	3:15 PM	Handbells
	7:00 PM	Senior High Youth
		Our Journey of Hope

### **ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH @ 9:00 am (Church basement)**



Come to the Annual Meeting to hear the story of what God is up to at St. John! Once again, you will see a "Narrative Budget" that tells the story. All confirmed members are encouraged to attend and vote. As a confirmed member (someone confirmed at St. John or another congregation who has formally joined St. John), you have a voice in the business matters in this congregation. You will be asked to approve the budget for 2019 and vote for new Congregation Council and Trust Fund Committee members.

This year, you will be asked to amend the constitution of St. John (view this document online or pick up a hard copy from the church office). The amendments regard language about standing committees, and expand the language of rostered leaders to include deacons, in addition to ordained ministers. The latter change updates the constitution according to the 2016 ELCA Model Constitution.

***On Sun., Jan. 13 at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Room, members of the Review Committee will explain these changes and address any questions or concerns.***

## ~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

### RIDE-SHARING & PARKING

We are grateful for a vibrant congregation of worshippers! To help all of us access the building as easily as possible, consider the following tips:

- If you have *no* trouble walking, consider parking a little farther away to leave the closer spaces for people with young children, and for those who may have a little more trouble walking from their cars to the church?
- We encourage you to carpool.

*If you would like a ride to make it easier for you to get to church, the church office may be able to find someone to drive you. Please ask.*



### WELCOME COFFEE

**January 13 @ 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. 10<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 am worship.

### THEOLOGY ON TAP

**January 29th @ 7:00 pm (Fluffy Fields Winery)**

Theology on Tap is a night for great conversation! With carefully crafted conversations in a small group setting, we dive deep into topics that affect faith, life, and the world. Everyone is welcome! This is a nondenominational group that embraces diversity and conversation!

This month, Theology on Tap returns to **Fluffy Fields Winery**. You are invited to taste and experience what this night is all about! If you want to receive information on the topic prior to the discussion, email Pastor Joe at [jnatwick@stjohnelc.org](mailto:jnatwick@stjohnelc.org).

### MILESTONE MINISTRY in JANUARY

**January 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> Graders & parents – 10 Commandments**

Learning about the basic rules that we all live by ... What do they mean? Why are they important? What happens when the rules aren't followed?

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm**

**4<sup>th</sup> Graders & parents – Apostles' Creed**

The Apostles' Creed is one way, as Christians, to say what we believe. This class walks through the Apostles' Creed, why we have it and what it means to us.

### BAPTISM OF OUR LORD SUNDAY

**January 13<sup>th</sup>**

During each service on Sun., Jan 13, we recognize and share a gift with babies baptized in the previous year, on the same day we recognize the Baptism of Our Lord. You are also invited to think about what God may be calling you to do this year, as we live out our baptisms and practice our faith.



### 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.**

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