

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 24th, 2019

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of the glory of God revealed in the Christ.

- Gathering -

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

Welcome and Announcements

Happy 100th Birthday to Lutheran Social Services (LSS)

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 – #651 (V. 1-4) Oh, Praise the Gracious Power

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. Love your enemies, and you will be children of the Most High; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Alleluia.**

(*Luke 6:35, 37*)

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #808 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

(8:00 am) Apostles' Creed – Page 105

(10:30 am) Public Recognition of Holy Baptism – Ophelia Chari Tisor

Hymn – #677 (vs.1) – This Little Light of Mine

Prayers of the People

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. "His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Offertory Hymn – #310 (V. 1) Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

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 – #483, #328, #608

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

- Sending -

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

Benediction

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 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.stjohnecl.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.stjohnecl.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 ~

Genesis 45:3-11, 15- Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good, to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50- In the Apostles Creed, we speak of the “resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.” Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ’s perfect life into eternity.

Luke 6:27-38- Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even to enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God’s intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Joe Natwick	
Assisting Ministers.....	Marcy Decker	Thursday
	Russ Murphy	8:00 AM Sunday
	Kris Brugamyer	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Jennifer Jung	8:00 AM Sunday
	Jesse Kilwein	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers	Nathan Klein	Thursday
	Burkley Luchi & Molly Robb	8:00 AM
	Isaac Hoffer & Matthew Schmitt	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 **133**, Thursday **43**, Sunday **299**.

BAPTISM

On Thursday, we celebrated the baptism of **Cody Andrew Midkiff**. Cody’s parents are Alexis Young & Shawn Midkiff. Sponsors are Lucas Young & Nicole Young.



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES - “The Walk Where God Showed Up”

Walking through this life, God shows up through people. Look back and wonder who has walked with you along the way to encourage you in your life and faith in Jesus. Look ahead and know God will continue to show up and walk alongside you. Come and hear when “God showed up” in stories from the following St. John members: March 13th – Bruce Pier, March 20th – Kris Pederson, March 27th – Rasia Mackey, April 3rd – Rachael Sisson, April 10th – Trevor Conrad.

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Feb 25	4:30 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Lutheran Social Services Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Feb 26	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting Theology on Tap (Players)
Wed., Feb 27	9:30 AM 5:15 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Staff Meeting Fellowship Meal Church School Adult Education 5 th Grade Milestone Ministry Worship
Thursday, Feb 28	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Backpacks Worship
Friday, March 1	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Saturday, March 2	9:00 AM	Altar Guild Meeting
Sunday, March 3	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 3:15 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Adult Education Senior Choir Handbells Senior High Youth



LENTEN SCHEDULE:

March 6th: ASH WEDNESDAY

Worship 12:10 & 7:00 pm
Supper 5:30 pm (Mystery Mission Trip FUNdraiser)

March 13th – April 10th: LENT

SUNDAYS 8:00 & 10:30 am *Worship*
 9:15 am Adult Lenten Study – Confirmation 2.0 “The Bible”

WEDNESDAYS* 7:00 pm Lenten Worship – “The Walk Where God Showed Up”
 5:30 pm Lenten Supper (Mystery Mission Trip FUNdraiser)
 5:45 pm Adult Lenten study - “Confirmation 2.0 – The Bible”

THURSDAYS No Worship

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.

****There is no Church School, Milestone Ministry classes or Confirmation activities during Lent. Families are invited to participate in Lenten worship together.***

~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

CONFIRMATION 1.0 (adult education)

Your pastors are getting excited for Lent! Lent is a time of renewal and learning. To get you as excited as your pastors, classes about the Small Catechism are being held on



Sundays @ 9:15 am

(Fellowship room)

Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm

(Conference room-main floor)

If you miss Sunday's class, come on the following Wednesday! Check the bulletin boards and your weekly E-News for topics.

Beginning in Lent, teaching will focus on the Bible with Confirmation 2.0

MILESTONE MINISTRY – 5TH GRADE

February 27 @ 6:00 pm

“My Body. God’s Gift.” – As children mature physically, this is a time to partner home and congregation to make sure the children we love have good information, clear & consistent values, and support to be moral. This class is intended to give children and their families Christian language surrounding sexuality and is completely different from the “Changing Program” that is used in the public schools. A parent / guardian must accompany their student to this class.



DVRCC COLLECTION

The Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Center (DVRCC) has moved to its new location! St. John will be gathering items for them during the month of February to get help them through these winter months. Items which are most needed right now are:

- 1) Laundry soap (HE),
- 2) Hand sanitizer,
- 3) Food items such as boxed dinners & pasta sauces (no mac & cheese), boxed rice, bread, beans, etc.
- 4) Frozen meat (must come from a meat shop or market)

There is a collection tub in the Commons area (by the elevator) for your donations. If you would like to provide frozen meat, you can either purchase a gift card from a store and leave it in the offering plate or contact Amy Graves, Director of Hospitality & Stewardship, for pick-up and delivery (agraves@stjohnelc.org or 701.225.6747).

THEOLOGY ON TAP

February 26th @ 7:00 pm (Players Bar & Grill)

This 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. ***The private room is reserved at 6:00pm***, so come early and grab a bite to eat. You are invited to taste and experience what this night is all about!

YOUR GENEROSITY

Giving in January 2019 = \$ 100,712

(includes prepaid contributions)



Giving year to date 2018 \$ 67,744

Giving year to date 2019 \$100,712

Expenses year to date 2019 \$ 56,233

