1st Sunday after Epiphany

January 12, 2025

Liturgy: WS p. 12







Lutheran Church & School

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→ Opening Prayer →

"God Himself Is Present" Hymn: TLH #4

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession of Our Sins

P Pastor

Congregation We come before God recognizing that we are sinful & need His forgiveness.

- P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray:

Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!



G Amen!

The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father" Lord, have mer-cy Christ, have mer-cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. us.



Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

P O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You and grant that they both perceive and know what things they ought to do and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



1 Kings 8:6-13

Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place in the inner

sanctuary of the house, in the Most Holy Place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. ⁷ For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. ⁸ And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the Holy Place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from

outside. And they are there to this day. ⁹ There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. ¹⁰ And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, ¹¹ so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD. ¹² Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. ¹³ I have indeed built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in forever."



Luke 2:41-52

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. 42 And

when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. 43 And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, 44 but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, 45 and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." 49 And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" 50 And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. 51 And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

G ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #133 "Within the Father's House"



Romans 12:1-5

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies

as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

His Body, His Choice

I. God's body which He's lent to meII. God's body to which I belong

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

→ The Offering of Thankful Hearts →

Hymn: TLH #400 "Take My Life and Let It Be"

+ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer +

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen!

Hymn: WS #767 "Church of God, Elect and Glorious"

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| Ushers | 1/12 | Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R. |
|----------|------|--|
| | 1/19 | Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R. |
| | 1/26 | Kendall B, Larry B. |
| Cleaning | | This Week – Dronen, Baumann, Aden, Ferguson (Wk. 1) |
| | | Up Next – Boernsen, Boernsen |

<u>Annual Meeting</u> – The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Voters' Meeting on Sunday, January 19, after the noon potluck meal. Besides regular Board reports, Agenda items will include: CBP estimate, worship schedule for Lent/Easter, April Quarterly Meeting date. Please give any other Agenda items to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

Greetings from Kitale – "I convey to you Christmas greetings and wish you a prosperous new year (2025). May Christ guide you throughout the new year! Pass our Christmas greetings to our brothers and sisters at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church! God has blessed us with a keyboard here at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran church. We conducted a fundraising on 28th April 2024 and we raised kshs 170000. [About \$1300] We added kshs 13000 [About \$100] and bought Yahama keyboard PRS sx720 series at kshs 183000. [About \$1400] We thank God for this blessing! Due to insufficient funds, we were unable to purchase a powered mixer, speakers and microphones to have a complete set. We request brethren to pray with us to acquire the remaining three items. Yours in Christ, Calvin Afeti Luvisha, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church Kitale, Kenya."

<u>Church Un-Decorating</u> – If you are able, please stick around after the service to take down the Christmas decorations.

<u>Baby Announcement</u> – Pastor and Jess are expecting their 5th child in July. We give thanks to the Lord for this blessing and ask you to please keep Jess and the baby in your prayers!

<u>CLC Call News</u> - Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, SD and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD has *received* the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI has *received* the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN has *received* the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

January 13th - 18th, 2025

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
-Psalm 119:105

Mon John 1:35-39 God uses John, the special servant whom He has prepared, to reveal the promised Messiah to his disciples. This is not surprising to us, but worth noting. Bringing disciples to Jesus is God's work!

Tues John 1:40-42 Through something as common as a family relationship, another disciple, Peter, is brought to Jesus. How many souls will be led to their Savior through Peter and his fellow disciples!

Wed Matthew 12:46-50 Jesus treasures His disciples because of their relationship to His heavenly Father. In following Him, they are doing the will of His Father in heaven (v50).

Thurs Romans 4:16-25 Not just the legal descendants of Abraham but all who share his faith are his "children." The promises that he believed include those fulfilled by Jesus in accomplishing our justification.

Fri Genesis 13:5-11 Abram seeks to end the strife between his own and Lot's herdsman. He shows his trust in God's providing for him by letting Lot have first choice of the portions of land available to them.

Sat Deuteronomy 18:15-19 Rather than fortune tellers and diviners (v14), God's people are to listen to the prophet whom God sends, culminating in that Prophet Jesus the Christ (cp Acts 3:22-26).