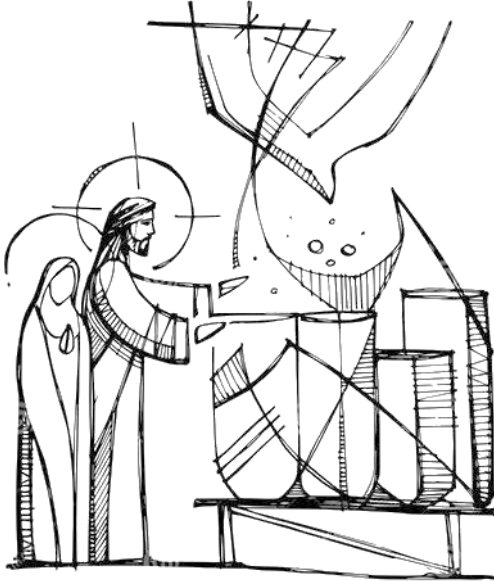


Welcome to Worship

at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
reconciling in Christ congregation



Second Sunday of Epiphany

January 19, 2025

10:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

330 Ferry Street; Easton, PA 18042-4500

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Statement of Welcome

*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female;
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. — Galatians 3:28*

As a community of God striving to be open to all people, we at St. John's Lutheran Congregation believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We welcome all to join us as we struggle to better understand the mysteries of God's teachings. We are challenged by Christ to care for, to love, to understand, and to listen to each other, regardless of race, age, gender, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual/affectional orientation, national origin, or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people.

St. John's Lutheran Congregation is a place for each person to shine in their own unique gifts.

Statement of Mission

St. John's Lutheran Church is a downtown, community-oriented, congregation of Christians. We worship God, strive to welcome, and wholly accept everyone, and reach out with and in God's love.

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Communion is a time we invite all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament. If this is your belief, there are instructions to follow at the time of Communion later in the bulletin.

Service Notes:

- (asterisk) indicates, please stand as you are able.
- Page # indicates the front of the hymnal is used . . .
- Hymn # indicates the back of the Hymnal is used . . .

Hymn Book Abbreviations:

ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book
WOV – With One Voice
ACS – All Creation Sings

Gathering

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

Welcome

Prelude *“My Soul, All Filled with Wonder”* by Lee Sejisca
(based on *“Schmücke dich”* by Johann Crüger)

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin . . .

Merciful God,

C: You speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ’s ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

ELW # 470 *“Draw Us In the Spirit’s Tether”*

***Greeting**

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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***Kyrie**

- page 98

***Canticle of Praise**

“Glory to God”

- page 99

***Prayer of the Day**

A: Let us pray. Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Children's Chat

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your

builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 36:5-10

⁵ Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep;
you save humankind and animals, O Lord.**

⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸ **They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹ For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

- page 102

*** Gospel**

John 2:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – *The Rev. Mike Button*

*Hymn of the Day

ELW # 488 *“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”*

*Apostles’ Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.* On the third day he rose
again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of
the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Prayers of Intercession

A: Let us pray. Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation to continue to heed your prophetic call. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need including *those we mention on our prayer list . . . and those we name aloud or in our hearts . . .* God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for neighboring congregations and ministry sites. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen

*** The Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(Ushers now proceed to the Altar to receive the offering plates...)

Offertory *“Thy Word”* by Michael Smith and Amy Grant
Sung by the Wittenberg Choir

***Presentation of Gifts**

(Ushers now bring the offering plates forward.)

*Offertory Hymn

ACS# 914 *“Jesus, the Light of the World”* (v. 4)

4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;
Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.
Refrain
We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.
Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

*Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen

*Great Thanksgiving

- page 107

* Preface

(Leader continues . . .)

***Holy, Holy, Holy** - page 108

***Thanksgiving at the Table** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Lord's Prayer** - page 112

***Lamb of God** - page 112

***Invitation to Communion** - page 112

Holy Communion - *If you are baptized and believe that it is the real blood and body of Christ, we welcome you at the Lord's table.*

**At the invitation of the usher, please proceed to the front to receive communion. Communion is also available in your pew, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.*

Communion Hymns

ACS # 962 ***“In This Feast of Love”***

ACS # 963 ***“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior”***

ACS # 966 ***“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”***

***Table Blessing**

*Post Communion Hymn

ACS #984 *“May the God of Hope Go with Us”*



May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

*Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

Sending

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

Announcements

*Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

ELW # 576 *“We Are All One in Mission”*

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant–Joyce Petty
Ushers – Nancy Ducey / Connie Garr
Reader – Larry Transue
Altar Guild – Sue Glenn / Sharon Rabuck
Video Team – Bill Iacovone

This Week at St. John's January 19th – January 26th

Today (1/19/25) – Second Sunday of Epiphany, 10:30 am

Today (1/19/25) – Following Worship: Property Meeting – Office
 Outreach - Chapel

Monday (1/20/25) – Choir Rehearsal, 1:00 pm.

Tuesday (1/21/25) – Gallery Painting Event, 12-3:00 pm, Gallery

Wednesday (1/22/25) – Prayer Group, 11:00 am – Hospitality Room

Sunday (1/26/25) – Sunday School / Adult Forum, 9:00 am

Sunday (1/26/25) – Third Sunday of Epiphany, 10:30 am

Sunday (1/26/25) – Following Worship: Congregational Meeting
 & Congregational Lunch

Week 1, 1/12/25 Attendance - 40

Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering	\$2,305.00
Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget:	\$1971.00
Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering:	\$4,830.00
Difference Compared to Budget	+888.00