



2nd Sunday in Epiphany

Pre-Service Personal Prayer: We thank You, gracious Father in heaven, for the priceless blessings You have given us in and through Your Word. Bless our hearing of that holy Word. Grant that we may receive it with meekness, apply it to our lives and daily needs and make it known to others. Above all, strengthen and keep us in our saving faith unto eternal life through this blessed Means of Grace. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 126 (TLH): Arise and Shine in Splendor

- 1. Arise and shine in splendor Let night to day surrender; Thy Light is drawing near. Above thee day is beaming, In matchless beauty gleaming; The glory of the Lord is here.
- See earth in darkness lying, The heathen nations dying
 In hopeless gloom and night. To thee the Lord of heaven

 Thy Life, thy Hope hath given Great glory, honor, and delight.
- 3. The world's remotest races, Upon whose weary faces
 The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with zeal untiring,
 With joy thy Light desiring That breaks upon them from on high.
- 4. Lift up thine eyes and wonder; See, nations gather yonder, They all come unto thee. The world has heard thy story, Thy sons come to thy glory, And daughters haste thy Light to see.
- 5. Thy heart will leap for gladness When from the realms of sadness They come o'er land and sea. Thine eyes will wake from slumber When people without number Come thronging from afar to thee.

The Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen!

The Confession and Absolution of Sins

We come before our Holy God admitting that we are sinful and need His forgiveness.

P Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant forgiveness:

- Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.
- P God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie – Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.



Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis – Latin for "Glory in the Highest (to God)." A hymn glorifying and praising our God.





The Prayer for the Day

The main thoughts for the day are collected together in this prayer.

Let us pray. . . through Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The First Reading: Acts 10:34-38

So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

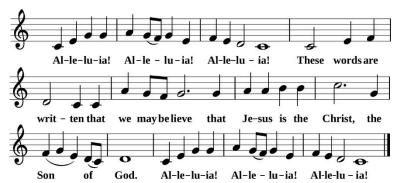
The Responsive Reading: Psalm 45 Selected Verses

- P My heart overflows with a pleasing theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.
- P Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your splendor and majesty!
- In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness; let your right hand teach you awesome deeds!
- P Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;
- You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
- P I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;
- Therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

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





The Apostle's Creed We boldly confess what we believe.

- 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.

Installation of Church Officers

Nicholas Jakel: Trustee (3yr)

Randy Wittorp: Secretary (1yr), Board of Education (2yr)

Hymn 134:1-4 (TLH): Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

- Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise, Manifested by the star To the sages from afar, Branch of royal David's stem, In Thy birth at Bethlehem. Anthems be to Thee addressed God in man made manifest.
- 2. Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme,
 And at Cana, Wedding-guest, In Thy Godhead manifest;
 Manifest in power divine, Changing water into wine.
 Anthems be to Thee addressed God in man made manifest.
 - Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
 Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;
 Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill.
 Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
- 4. Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heavens shall flee; Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign; All will then the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear; Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.

The Sermon: Isaiah 42:1-4

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

Theme: SPECIAL AGENT JESUS CHRIST

I. He has bona fide credentialsII. He gets bona fide results

The Offertory



Hymn 370 (TLH): My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

- My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
 I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
 On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.
- When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.
 On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

- 3. His oath, His covenant, and blood Support me in the whelming flood; When every earthly prop gives way, He then is all my Hope and Stay.

 On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.
- 4. When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found, Clothed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne!

 On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

The Offering of Thankful Hearts

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. If you wish to give your church offering electronically, you can do so by using the CashApp on your mobile device. The church's Scashtag is "Scicmtzion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse

(127:3): As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring Christ to Thee our heav'nly King!

Prayer of the Church - The Lord's Prayer

COUR Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Benediction

The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26)

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 peace.

C Amen!

Closing Hymn 134:5 (TLH): Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

5. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Mirrored in Thy holy Word; May we imitate Thee now And be pure as pure art Thou That we like to Thee may be At Thy great Epiphany And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If the LORD wills, we will do this or that. James 4:15

WELCOME EVERYONE! We pray that God's Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. Ask Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain our beliefs and teachings. Where & when? Your convenience.

THE AFTER-CHRISTMAS PARTY: Thanks to everyone who planned and attended the Christmas party this past Friday evening. Much fun for all!

THE 1st QUARTER VOTERS MEETING is today following the service. Copies of the 2022 Annual Report are available on the hymnal rack.

A CLEVELAND AREA WORSHIP SERVICE is next Sunday at 4pm in North Olmsted. Speak with Pastor for more details.

JAY SANDEEN CARE PACKAGE: We are collecting items for a care package to send to Mt. Zion member Jay Sandeen who is currently deployed in Iraq. Jay resides in Columbus, OH and is a faithful attendee of our monthly services in Cleveland. A box has been designated in the back of church for donated items. Here are some ideas: lightweight non-perishable snacks or homemade foods, single-serve drink mixes, crosswords or puzzle books, a favorite novel (not too thick), family photos, encouraging letters, Bible verse calendar/bookmark/card deck. Collection ends January 31.

SERVING US THIS WEEK

January Usher: Dave Troyan Church Cleaning: Ryans

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Attendance Last Sunday: Worship = 26; Bible Class/Sunday School = 18

Bi-Weekly		Total Offerings	
Offerings Budgeted:	N/A	Budgeted YTD:	N/A
Bi-Weekly		Total Offerings	
Offerings Received:	\$3945.00	Received YTD:	\$3945.00
Missions Offerings YTD (includes 10% of GB & individual offerings):			N/A
Maisie Wittorp Christian Education Memorial Fund:			\$67,687.99

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AT MT. ZION

Today	11am	Q1 Voters Meeting
Thu. 1/19	7pm	Board of Education Meeting
Fri. 1/20	2pm	UM Ann Arbor Bible Study
Sun. 1/22	9am	Bible Class / Sunday School
	10am	Worship Service

	4pm	Cleveland Area Worship Service
Tue. 2/14	7-9pm	Elders/Council/Trustees/Outreach Meetings
Wed. 2/22	7pm	Ash Wednesday Service

IN OUR PRAYERS <> ENCOURAGEMENT LIST

Ephesians 6:18 "Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."

Jackie McGruder remains homebound as she continues to suffer from lupus. **Jay Sandeen** is deployed with his army unit in Iraq. **The Wittorps** are expecting a baby girl in April. **Stephen Hughes** has been dealing with some heart issues and is waiting for test results. **CLC Pastor John Hein** (Grace Lutheran Church, Fridley, MN) is receiving treatment for stage 4 thymic carcinoma cancer.

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION SYNODWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! Psalm 133:1

CLC CALL NEWS: Pastor Andrew Schaller of Calvary, Marquette, MI *is still considering* the call to serve Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI. + Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane, Spokane, WA *has received* the call to serve Messiah, Eau Claire, WI.

MINISTRY BY MAIL PODCAST: The CLC's weekly sermon publication "Ministry by Mail" provides print sermons by postal mail, email, and online (www.LutheranSermons.org and on Facebook). Beginning with Advent, we have added audio publication of our sermons with the current sermon uploaded each Saturday. Audio is available on most major podcast providers – Google Podcasts, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Spotify, and Anchor.FM. Search "CLC Ministry by Mail" in these services to find us and subscribe to follow. For more information contact Editor Nathan Pfeiffer at editor@lutheransermons.org

2023 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP: The application deadline for the 2023 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal is tomorrow, January 16th. There are still a few open slots available. Find more information and apply at: mht.lutheranmissions.org/2023-nepal

APPRECIATION FROM CLC PASTOR JOHN HEIN: Janelle and I desire to convey our deep appreciation for all the wonderful support we have received since my cancer diagnosis. Many of our fellow Christians, known and unknown, have sent us cards, letters, emails, etc., with edifying reminders from Scripture and letting us know they are praying for us. These and the generous outpouring of financial support sent to us and to Grace Lutheran in Fridley, MN, have been absolutely incredible. We stand in awe at how the LORD uses our challenges to remind us what a gracious God He is in our lives, even as He moves hearts to such expressions full of Christian love. Our cup overflows! May the LORD be glorified during my treasured time of grace as I face what lies ahead according to His good pleasure. In Christ, Pastor John Hein (caringbridge.org/visit/pastorjohnhein)