



St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.



UNCOVERED

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Welcome to our visitors!

- It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- Large print service folders and assisted listening devices are available from an usher.
- Children's service folders and worship notes are available in the round tract rack in the entry area.
- Parents may take small children into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed and follow the worship service on the TV monitor. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.
- During the offering, all worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder or available online at www.sjtosa.org/Connect). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.
- Please join us for Bible study at 9:15 a.m.
Lutheran Theology and Its Application to Mental Health
(Fellowship Hall, lower level of church)
A staffed nursery is available during Bible study

The Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 12 & 13, 2022

Definitions Uncovered: Blessings Are Cursed; Curses Are Blessed

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

All Depends on Our Possessing

Christian Worship 807

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

Amen.

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of power and might, you know that we live in the midst of many great dangers, and in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Give us strength and protection to support us in all peril, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5–8

Blessed is the one who has been given the gift of faith and whose trust is in the LORD.

This is what the LORD says:

“Cursed is the one who trusts in man,
who draws strength from mere flesh
and whose heart turns away from the LORD.
That person will be like a bush in the wastelands;
they will not see prosperity when it comes.
They will dwell in the parched places of the desert,
in a salt land where no one lives.

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 1 (see pg. 12)

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7b–10

Paul's thorn in the flesh was a blessing rather than a curse.

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 121:8

Alleluia, alleluia.

The LORD will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 6:17–26

Jesus teaches that we find blessings in places we least expect.

He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you,

when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort.

Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.

Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,

for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Anthem (Sunday)

Adult Handbell Choir

Ten Thousand Reasons

arranged by Peggy Bettcher

Refrain: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Refrain*

You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great, and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing -
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Refrain*

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still my soul will sing your praise unending—
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. *Refrain*

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Hymn of the Day

Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening

Christian Worship 631

Sermon

Luke 6:17-26

God's Ways Are Higher Than Our Ways

Please stand

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.**

Prayer of the Church

Dearest Lord Jesus, during this Epiphany season we thank and praise you for the wondrous works you did during your life here on earth.

Thank you for these mighty signs and miracles that proved you are indeed the Son of God.

Savior of the nations, we thank you for being born of a woman and coming to this earth to live as our brother—holy and without sin.

Through your incarnation, you adopted us and made us members of your family.

Anointed One, we thank you for your constant and unswerving adherence to your Father's law. From your baptism in the Jordan to your ascent to the cross at Calvary, you lived a pure and holy life.

Through your perfect life, our feeble and broken efforts to follow God's commands are covered by your perfect obedience.

Lamb of God, we thank you for the greatness of your love and the tenderness of your mercy that moved you to sacrifice yourself on the cross for us.

Through your innocent death and victorious resurrection, our sins are not counted against us.

Light of the world, we thank you for your preaching and your teaching by which you brought light to those sitting in darkness.

Through your Word, we hear and share the good news of the salvation that is now ours.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

Alpha and Omega, bring us at last to your throne in heaven where we will offer you our unending thanks and praise.

**Until that glorious day, move us to live out this thanks and praise in everything we do.
Amen.**

Be seated

Offering

Members of St. John's give offerings to support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors are welcome but not obligated to give an offering. To submit your offering electronically or to fill out an online Connection Card, scan the QR code or visit www.sjtosa.org/offering.



Hymn

Day by Day
Christian Worship 803

Please stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

Amazing Grace
Christian Worship 576

Announcements

WELS Connection

Michigan Lutheran Seminary

Postlude

Acknowledgments

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Serving at Worship

Preacher

Pastor Joel Leyrer

Presiding Minister

Pastor Eric Schroeder

Musicians

Megan Bauer, piano (Saturday)
Pastor Kyle Bitter, organ (Sunday)

Adult Handbell Choir Director

Kristi Meyer

Worship Notes

- The flowers are placed by Kurt, Julie, John, and Ryan Handeland in memory of Nathan Michael, who would have been 14, in gratitude to the Savior for the eternal life he now enjoys, and by the Gregory family in celebration of Elsa and Nora's 17th birthdays.

In Our Prayers

- Family and friends of long-time St. John's member Carol Hanson, who went to be with her Lord on Saturday, February 5, and whose Christian victory service will be held on Friday, February 25.
- Terry Paul, hospitalized this week and now convalescing at home.
- JoAnn Schoeneck, hospitalized at Froedtert and recovering from emergency partial hip replacement surgery.
- Sue Pappalardo, transferred to Madison last week where she will begin the evaluation process for a lung transplant.

Psalm 1



1 How tru - ly blest are they who shun the
2 But make the law of God their stud - y
3 They like a tree shall thrive with wa - ters
4 The wick - ed are not so! They no such



sin - ners' ways, a - mong their coun - sels
and de - light a - mid the la - bors
near the root. Fresh as the leaf their
bless - ing find. Their hopes shall flee like



nev - er stand, nor take the scorn - ers' place,
of the day and watch - es of the night.
name shall live; their works are heav'n - ly fruit.
emp - ty chaff be - fore the driv - ing wind.

5 How will they bear to stand
before that judgment seat
where all the saints at Christ's right hand
in full assembly meet?

6 God knows and he approves
the way the righteous go,
but sinners and their works shall meet
a dreadful overthrow.

Text and tune: Public domain

Parents' Preview for February 20

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Christian Worship 729 (stanza 1)



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us,
hal - lows all our hu - man race, you our head, who, throned in
glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead: fill us with your
love and pit - y, heal our wrongs and help our need.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sunday Bible Study

A new Sunday morning Bible study begins on February 27 at 9:15 a.m.

Christ Will Be of No Advantage to You: Paul's Case Against Salvation by Law in Galatians

Taught by Rev. Dr. Wade Johnson (Wisconsin Lutheran College)

In this course, we will explore one of the earliest challenges that sprang up among the congregations founded by the Apostle Paul. While the law of God is good and wise, it cannot deliver salvation. No law can do that. Salvation is a gift. Nevertheless, some insisted that Christians must still observe certain Old Testament ceremonial laws in order to be righteous.

In response, Paul warned that Christ would be of no advantage to those who did so.

Together we will explore why, using Paul's Letter to the Galatians as our guide.

Readings for the Week of Epiphany 6

M	Job 10:1-22	John 5:1-18
T	Job 11:1-20	John 5:19-29
W	Job 12:1-6, 12-25	John 5:30-47
R	Job 13:1-12	John 6:1-21
F	Job 13:13-28	John 6:22-40
S	Job 14:1-22	John 6:41-59

The Mission of our Church

As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.

As 21st century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:



Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives



Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word



Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support



Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people



Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others

Pastors

Pastor Joel Leyrer
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Pastor Eric Schroeder
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Pastor Kyle Bitter
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Chinese Outreach

Pastor

Pastor Joshua Yu
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Worship Services

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Worship in Chinese

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

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