

St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

Epiphany 2

January 14, 2024



Worship Assistants

Pastor: Rev. Norman Sulaica, Jr.

Ladies Aid : Carolyn Kessel

Lay Reader: Joseph Ordner

Sanctuary Prep: Rachel Church, Sherry Randermann

Accompanist: Linda Schulzer

Ushers: Chad Westerfeld, Larry Pieper

Acolyte: Audrey Dismukes

Church Ministers: St John Members

Screen Crew: Steve Skrla, Barnay Glaesmann

Communion Bread: Donna Bentke

Council Members: Virginia Altman, Regina Holtkamp

Tellers: Charles Gaskamp, Lauren Maass

Memorial Committee: Deanna Giese, Susi Bentke

Altar Preparations: Connie Rohde, Janet Wehring

Please tune to 87.9 FM for access to the service in the church parking lot on Sundays.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

ELW Pg. 152

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you. R. Peace be with you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life. In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

He Leadeth Me (v. 1, 3, 4)

SCREEN

1 **He leadeth me: oh, blessed thought!
Oh, words with heav’nly comfort fraught!
Whate’er I do, where’er I be,
still ’tis God’s hand that leadeth me.**

Refrain

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll’wer I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.**

3 **Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,**

**nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me. *Refrain***

**4 And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the vict'ry's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me. *Refrain***

INTROIT Psalm 40:10a,b

I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;

I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

ELW Pg. 147

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

And also with you.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Rise, Shine, You People! (v. 1-3) ELW #665

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you restrain the powers of heaven and earth. Mercifully hear your people's prayers for peace in our time. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING:

1 Samuel 3:1-10

¹The boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was

calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM:

Psalm 139:1-10

¹ O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

³ You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.

⁷ Where shall I go from your Spirit?
Or where shall I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food” — and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” ¹⁷But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So

glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy Word

SCREEN

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

***GOSPEL**

John 1:43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O' Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Norman Sulaica, Jr.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak (v. 1, 2, 4) ELW #676*

CREED

ELW Pg. 105

***Apostles'* Creed**

**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

OFFERING HYMN *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* *ELW #184*

OFFERTORY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* *ELW #884*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

ELW Pg. 152

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

ELW Pg. 153

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy

ELW Pg. 153

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARIST PRAYER

Let us pray.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.
We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,

we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our 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.**

Please be seated.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

SCREEN

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS	<i>Here Is Bread</i>	<i>ELW #483</i>
	<i>Will You Come and Follow Me</i>	<i>ELW #798</i>
	<i>O Jesus, I Have Promised</i>	<i>ELW #810</i>

Please stand as you are able.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.


BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN	<i>Arise, Your Light Has Come!</i>	<i>ELW #314</i>
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace for our Savior speaks to us through His Word.
Thanks be to God.

 Altar Flowers	<p>Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Pastor Norm and Laura Sulaica.</p>
<p>Luther League will meet today at 2:00PM.</p>	
<p><u>Contact Information for Pastor Norm</u> Pastor Norm can be reached in either of the following ways: Cell Phone Number (361) 362-9108 Or Email: pastornorm2003@yahoo.com</p>	



Monday, January 15th

10:00AM Bible Study

6:00PM Bod4God

Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday, January 16th

9:00AM Quilting

9:00AM Music Planning

4:30PM God Squad

Wednesday January 17th

4:30PM Confirmation

6:30PM Choir Practice

Thursday, January 18th

6:00PM Faith Lessons

Saturday, January 20th

8:00AM Men's Ministry Breakfast

Faith Lessons Prophet and Kings of Israel

Join us for a 5-week study from the holy Lands Teacher and Professor, Ray Vander Laan. The study will take us to Megiddo, Mount Carmel, Lachish, Negev, and Arad. We will explore ancient ruins and scripture. Each lesson will grow our faith in God. Our third week journey through the Prophets and Kings of Israel begins at 6:00PM on January 18th.

Member Offering Envelopes for 2024 are available in the Narthex.

Lawn Care

The Church is looking for lawn care services. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, contact Colton Maass at (979) 251-2818.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes is Wednesday January 17th at 4:30PM.

Choir

Choir practice is January 17th, at 6:30PM Consider joining!

Bod4God

Pastor Norm is continuing his Bod4God journey. Bod4God is centered around scripture and weight loss. His purpose is to encourage each of you to commit to raising money for our youth to attend camp and also to encourage a healthier you. A sign up sheet to support this Weight-A-Thon will be available in the Narthex and remain throughout the event. You can make a financial commitment for every pound Pastor Norm loses or a single donation. Bod4God will meet January 15th at 6:00PM. He will step back on the scale on January 21st, 2024.

Quilting is Tuesday, January 16th at 9:00AM.

Special Envelope for the month of January is
NALC Disaster Response

2024 St John Council Members

President	Kenneth Seeker	Evangelism.....	Cindy Clay
President Elect.....	Gerald Herrmann	Financial Secretary.....	Cassie Lynch
Treasurer.....	Regina Holtkamp	Parish Ed.....	Stephanie Koehler
Secretary.....	Rita Gaskamp	Property.....	Colton Maass
Community Concerns.....	Gayle Bednar	Worship & Music.....	Virginia Altman

Men's Ministry Breakfast

The Men's Ministry will meet on Saturday, January 20th at 8:00AM.

Jump Start will meet on January 15th at 6:30PM.

Newsletter Deadline is Monday, January 15th.

Bible Study

Bible study will be on Monday, January 15th at 10:00AM.

Church Gift Shop and Library

Take the opportunity to visit the library and see what is available for you!

Reaching Your Church Office: Linda Crabtree prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com Church Office

Phone: 979-836-8666 Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm

Website: www.stjohnprairiehill.org

Church Council President Ken Seeker. (512) 801--8663

Semi Annual Congregational Meeting

The semi-annual meeting of the congregation will be held on January 28, 2024 after the worship service.. Look for your meeting information in the mail.

Beginning, February 13th, the Rachel Circle will meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:00AM.

Prayer Requests for our Church Family:

Mavis Smith Janice Cordova Sydney Wagner Florence Bentke Gilbert Spinn Helen Gaskamp Mollie Grote
Cynthia Wilson Linda King Jerry Randermann Connie Seward Dorothy Wiesepape Mark Marburger
Tom Bentke Earline Moody Verna Mae Sefcik Ruth Finke Milton Bosse Donald Lange Jim & Sandy Kite
Mike Altman Emery & Helen Schulze Dennis Moehlmann Diana Williams Lloyd Neutzler Cookie Engeling
Troy Seeker

Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: John Haarmeyer, Myrtle Randermann, Colby Seeker, Kory Moehlmann,
Justin Reuter, Trenton Kuecker, Wyatt Davis, Oliver Schramme, Rachel Church

Those Celebrating wedding anniversaries: Lance & Shannon Altman

Prayer Request for Family and Friends of our Members:

Aaron Batot	Gladys Schwartz	Rita Huckert
Alan Pittman	Gloria Hanath	Roger Ellermann
Albert Lee & Caroline Linke	James Lee	RV Pittman
Aliza Jones	Joe Deatherage	Sara Hardy
Amanda Gurka	Larry Dean Koch	Shannon Mitschke
Ann Fogt	Leah McGee	Shannon Wellmann
Blake Townsend	Kelsey Matthies	Sue Beall
Carol Lieber	Kennedy Altman	Tess Loberg
Christy Dallmeyer	Mark Hundemer	Wayne Hueske
Connie Cadenhead	Mike McIntyre	
Dorothy Bowles	Missy Goldsmith	<i>Please note on your prayer card</i>
Ellie & Eilla Rosenbaum	Nicole Clark	<i>those individuals to be added</i>
Floyd & Joan Engeling	Otto Kemper	<i>or removed from the list.</i>

The 2024 flower chart has been posted in the Annex. You may sign up for flowers by checking the flower chart for available dates.