

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 23, 2025, 8:30am

“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education”

“Persevere With Thanksgiving”



Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still living?” But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence. Genesis 45:3

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: **“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education.”**

Welcome! Friends and friends-to-be, we welcome you to this time of worship, faith education and Christian fellowship. May the Word of God nourish you for your life and ministry in the days to come.

Devotions & Publications Available are found in the main entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... **WORSHIP NOTES**

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshipping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. **Please list the name of each person in worship.** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Our school has a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available in the main (west) entryway.

For All Who Worship...If you are arriving after the service has started, please allow our ushers to assist you with seating. We ask that you avoid entering during the confession, prayers, or Bible readings as these are quiet and meditative moments.

For Parents with Small Children...We love and want children in our services as a part of God's family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We want you and your children to experience our Lord's love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior's name.

**Music of Preparation,
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting**

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare for worship this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "Built on the Rock"

LSB, hymn #645

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;
Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest,
But above all the souls distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

Surely in temples made with hands
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands,
All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above
Chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies His temple.

We are God's house of living stones,
Built for His own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
With all His grace and His favor.

Here stands the font before our eyes,
Telling how God has received us.
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice
And what His Supper here gives us.
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim
Christ yesterday, today, the same,
And evermore, our Redeemer.

Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come
Where Christ His message is bringing:
"I know My own; My own know Me.
You, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Name: Nathanael Richard Engel

Parents: Kurt & Rachael Engel

Sponsors: Ross & Alisha Engel, Kara McHugh, Jonathan Arnholz

Pastor: Rev. Roger A. Drinnon

Date: February 23, 2025

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

The 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.

OUR TESTIMONY OF BAPTISM

P: Because this child cannot answer for himself, we shall all together with the parents and sponsors, faithfully speak on behalf of this child in testimony of the forgiveness of sins and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows in and through Holy Baptism, the faith that we express in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C: **I do renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

C: **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

C: **Yes, 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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: **Yes, 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.**

WELCOME OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

P: Dear members of God's family, in Holy Baptism God the Father has made Nathanael Richard Engel a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

C: **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis ~Glory to God in the Highest

Luke 2:14, John 1:29

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: **(Sung) Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: **(Sung) And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . . O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 45:3-15

(God Is In Control)

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father

to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

Stand *(as you are able)*

Alleluia and Verse - Common *John 6:68*

C: (Sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 6:27-38 *(Love Your Enemies)*

[Jesus said:] "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will

be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: "In Christ Alone" *241 One and All Rejoice Hymnal*

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of Love and Righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground, His body lay
Light of the world, by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Sermon: "Forgive As We Are Forgiven"

Genesis 45:3-15

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

OFFERTORY - Create In Me

LSB, Divine Service 3, pg 192-193

C: (Sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . . O Lord, we pray for the church, Your people gathered around Word and Sacrament. For those who serve professionally that they reflect the Gospel they proclaim, and those who serve their family and friends quietly, that God remind them that they are indeed His children. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God, we pray for the nations of this world and their leaders, that You would use them for the good of all and that they serve both those with power and those who have been forgotten by society. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, we pray for artists and craftspeople, musicians and actors, that they use their gifts to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, we pray for troops deployed and police at home, for first responders and health professionals and volunteers that their efforts bring about healing and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, Show Your healing grace to the sick, Your comfort to the suffering, and Your peace to the dying. We lift up before You those hospitalized this past week (*Epecially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). Strengthen them with Your gracious hand and with Your unwavering presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For ourselves and our congregation, that God refresh and renew our resolve to spread the Gospel, love the people around us, and serve Him with all the resources He provides. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: (Sung) Amen

Closing Hymn: "Take My Life and Let It Be"

LSB, hymn #783

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

See You In Worship Next Week!

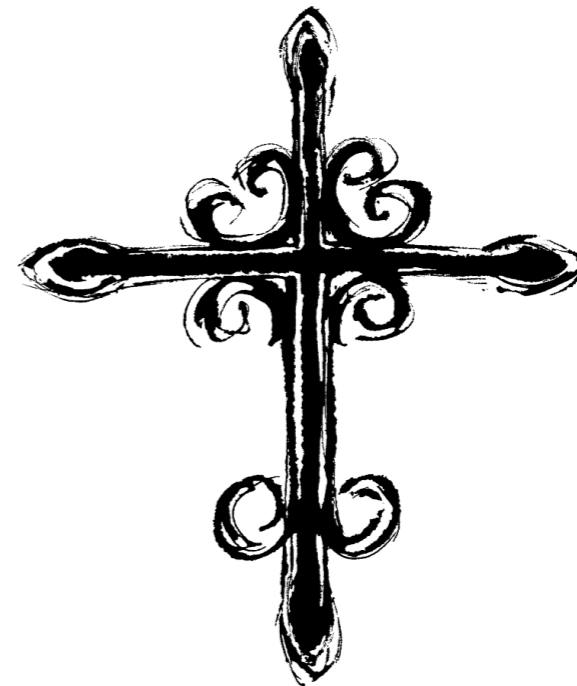
After worship prayer

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers The altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my wife, Cathy, on her birthday, by Robert Wood; also in loving memory of Richard Mossman, in honor of his birthday on February 22nd, by Jim & Jenny Mossman.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Roger A. Drinnon Associate Pastor
Mr. Brian Porter Principal

Rev. David Baker Missionary to Mongolia
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