

# Luther Memorial Church and School

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran  
Confession

January 16, 2011

Epiphany 2

Today's Focus:

**Joy is Possible for God's Children!**



*His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP:** *(Outline follows, Epiphany liturgy in hymn rack)*

**Pre-service meditation:** Read Psalm 146 in front of hymnal p. 156

## **I. WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD**

Bells – Opening Prayer (Pastor)

**OPENING HYMN: 3** *(Red Hymnal)* Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

### **Invocation:**

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

### **Our Confession/Absolution of Sins:**

*We come before our Holy God recognizing that we sin daily and need His forgiveness.*

## **II. WE PRAISE OUR LORD**

*Responsive Reading: Psalm 36:5-10*

**Congregational Praise (sung): Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P: Your mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the great mountains; Your judgments are a great deep; O LORD, You preserve man and beast.

**C: How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.**

P: Oh, continue Your lovingkindness to those who know You, And Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

**C: Let not the foot of pride come against me, And let not the hand of the wicked drive me away.**

P: There the workers of iniquity have fallen;

**C: They have been cast down and are not able to rise.**

### **III. OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD**

**Isaiah 61:1-3**

***The Old Testament***

**Lesson**

**Congregational Welcome (sung): Glory be to You, O Lord!**

The *Old Testament* Lesson pictures the Messiah as coming to make joy possible. Note that Jesus read this lesson in the synagogue at Nazareth (Luke 4:16ff) describing His Messianic Office. We remember that He shares His Word of comfort with us and wants us to share it with others also.

1 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, 3 To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

**John 2:1-11**

***The New Testament Lesson***

**Congregational Response (sung): Praise be to You, O Christ!**

In the Gospel, John recounts the story of Jesus' first miracle, a miracle of joy in which He changed water into wine as a gift to a young married couple. There was no dire need, no hurt or pain, simply an occasion where people celebrating in a God-pleasing way would have been embarrassed by a shortage. Jesus' response indicates that God is concerned with our joy in this life. Although we are not to seek the pleasures of this life as all-important, we know that He is concerned with our enjoyment of life and will provide what we need to live for His glory.

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 3 And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." 4 Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." 6 Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons

apiece. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take *it* to the master of the feast." And they took *it*. 9 When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. 10 And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!" 11 This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

### **Our Confession of Faith, Apostles Creed**

*The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.*

**EPIPHANY HYMN OF THE DAY: 132** (Red) O God of God, O Light of Light

### **Children's Sermon:**

*"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.'" ~Matthew 19:14*

**SERMON (NKJV) James 1:17-18** Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. **18** Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

Theme: ***Joy in Knowing Your Heavenly Father***

## **IV. WE OFFER OURSELVES TO OUR LORD**

### **The Offertory:**

*In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.*

**SERMON / OFFERING HYMN: 567** (Red Hymnal)

O Lord, Whose Bounteous Hand Again

**OUR OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7**

*"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."*

**SPECIAL PRAYERS - EPIPHANY GENERAL PRAYER - LORD'S PRAYER**

## **V. OUR LORD BLESSES US!**

### **Benediction:**

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

**CLOSING HYMN: 714** (Tan WS) Break Forth, O Beauteous Heav'nly Light

~ Silent Prayer ~

## **Announcements**

Welcome to all! Guests, please sign our guest book in entryway and we hope you will come and join us again! Visitors and members: feel free to speak with the Pastor after the service, or call: (920) 922-7421

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

## **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**TODAY:** 1:00 pm Annual Voters' Meeting

**MON:** 6:30pm Discussion Group: *Already Gone* – Ken Ham

**TUES:** 6:30pm Chimes Choir

**THURS:** 9:00 am Women's Bible Reading

**FRI:** 7:00-8:00 pm Family Gym Night at Theisen

**TV CHURCH** – Today's Service replayed on Cable TV Channel 21

**Tuesday at noon, Thursday at 4:00 pm**

**BULLETIN/LITURGY** This past week our church council considered the ongoing considerations and thoughts and ideas of many individuals as to the format of the worship service. As we follow the church calendar seasons (order shown on top of liturgy in pew racks), the hope is to have a slight variation of the hymnal liturgy which focuses on the whole council of God's Word. Your feedback is very important during this tryout period! Please speak to Pastor or any of the councilmen your thoughts about today's service.

**WOMEN'S INVITATION** The Christian Women's Retreat, sponsored annually by our sister congregation, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, is being held Friday through Sunday, April 8-10 at Days Inn Hotel & Conference Center in La Crosse, WI. All the women of Luther Memorial are encouraged to consider attending this spiritually uplifting event. More information and registration forms are available in the yellow flyer by the registry table. The theme this year: "Faith in Action" based on Hebrews chapter 11:1, "**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.**"

**USED CHRISTMAS CARDS** If you're throwing out Christmas cards, please drop them off in the red baskets by the doors. The covers are used and very much appreciated in our foreign mission fields. Thank you!

**CLC NEWS** St. Stephen Lutheran, Mountain View CA, has called the Rev. Terrel Kesterson, Spokane WA.

**HOT LUNCH** will be served again this coming Wednesday, at school (Still \$1.50 each!). Come on over and get to know the LM kids better and show them your support!

**UN-DECORATING THE CHURCH** Thank you all who were able to stay and help!

**THIS SUNDAY** Usher Team 3/ Organist: Rhoda Eserhut

**NEXT SUNDAY** Usher Team 4/ Pianist: Anita Meyer