

APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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The community of Apostles Lutheran Church warmly welcomes you to worship today!

As Lutheran Christians, we proclaim that there is nothing, no human action that we can undertake, to earn God's love or the gift of God's grace. It is a gift promised and given to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Word of God made flesh. It is a gift given to everyone regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or background. This Easter promise, this gift of grace, frees us from the fear of having to earn God's love and it moves us to simply try to love our neighbor as best we can. We have been blessed to be a blessing to others and proclaim that there is a place for you at Christ's table.

Welcome, celebrate this good news with us!

Pastor Peter Edwardsen

APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH
Service of Holy Communion
The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany
February 5th, 2023

A Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + One God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's mercy, shown to us in Christ Jesus, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

ALL: We confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves because the truth is not in us. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another as you reconcile yourself to us. We ask this in the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God proclaims to us: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior. **All: Amen.**

Gloria

(pg. 176)

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!
Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

Prayer of the Day

P: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together the prayer of the day for February 5th, the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gathering Hymn: "God Whose Almighty Word" #673 ELW

Please be seated.

WORD

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

R: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112;1-9 [10]

112:1 Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments.

112:2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

112:3 Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

112:4 They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

112:5 It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

112:6 For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

112:7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

112:8 Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

112:9 They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

112:10 The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-6]

R: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Anthem: “Drawn to the Light” #593 ELW.
Performed by Apostles Choir and Phyllis Griffiths.**

Please rise, if you are able, for the Gospel reading.

Gospel Acclamation

pg. 179 ELW

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia!

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the fifth chapter.

All: Glory to you O Lord.

After the reading

P: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word, this is the Gospel of our Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: The Rev. Peter Edvardson

Please rise if you are able.

Hymn of the Day: “Lord Whose Love in Humble Service” #712 ELW

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

Apostles Creed (pg. 105 ELW)

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 and Concerns of the Community
“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” #752 ELW
(Sung three times)

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.

D: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

D: Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God, **All: Receive our prayer.**

Deacon or worship assistant continues with the prayers of intercession.

D: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting in your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **All: Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ

Offering

P: As a people of God we have been named and claimed through our waters of baptism into the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. From those waters we are called into community with one another and called to share abundantly from those gifts that God has first given us.

Offertory music: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord” #184 ELW

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory prayer:

D: God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **All: Amen**

The Meal

The Great Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks
and praise.**

Preface: 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:

(#190 ELW)

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

Eucharistic Prayer:

P: 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.

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 life 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:

P: And now let us pray as our Lord Jesus has taught us.

(pg. 154 ELW)

All: 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.

(#199 ELW)

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

Communion Hymn: “We Come to the Hungry Feast” #479 ELW

Please stand if you are able.

Table Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep in you in his grace, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Canticle: “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” 207 ELW

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to love one another, to do justice, to love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **C: Amen.**

THE SENDING

Blessing

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and mercy and who breaks the oppressor’s rod +, bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn: “Christ Be Our Light” #715 ELW

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Follow in the way of Jesus.
C: Thanks be to God!

**The flowers on the altar are given by Paul Goley,
In Honor of his Grandchildren.**



We pray for those celebrating Birthdays:

2/5 Gene Abel, 2/7 Elaine Osterman, 2/8 Garrett Arneson



Please keep in prayer

. . . all communities suffering and mourning due to natural disasters.

. . . all areas of the world living under threat of violence and war.

. . . all communities and peoples that suffer from intolerance, injustice, racism, and violence. We pray that the Holy Spirit brings comfort to those who mourn, strength to those who advocate for change, and peace to those who struggle to make sense of the senseless. We stand with those communities and organizations, faith-based and secular, that work towards healing, justice, and peace.

God's purpose for the church is to witness to God's grace, forgiveness, compassion, and justice. We fulfill this promise by serving and caring for your local and global communities.

Today's Altar Volunteers:

Deacon: Mark Leipert, ***Acolyte:*** Nicole Goldstein,
Greeter: Joan Tartamosa, ***Usher:*** Barb Marlow,
Readers: Sandy Pagano, Mark Leipert,
Set Up: Barb Marlow, ***Clean Up:*** Sylvia Dennis

February 12th Altar Volunteers:

Deacon: Barb Marlow, ***Acolyte:*** Nicole Goldstein,
Greeter: Paul Goley, ***Usher:*** Fred Stoll,
Readers: Connie Troilo, Barb Marlow
Set Up: Sylvia Dennis, ***Clean Up:*** Connie Troilo

**THERE ARE OFFERING ENVELOPES IN THE NARTHEX FOR THE
START OF 2023.**

**PLEASE USE THEM UNTIL OUR NEW ENVELOPES ARRIVE!
(There is a shipping problem with our supplier.) Thank You!!**

The 2023 Flower Chart is in the Narthex.

Please put your name on the Chart for your chosen Sunday.

****There are Dedication forms with the flower chart; please return your completed form to the office to ensure your flower dedication will be listed in the bulletin.****

- **The Vanco system for online giving can be found on the Apostles' website. Any questions, please see Frank or Nick. Thank you.**
- **We are collecting** Linens: Towels, sheets, and blankets. Medical supplies: Alcohol wipes, infusion set-ups, non-expired medications, dog food, tubing, syringes, etc... Empty ink cartridges of all types. Pull tabs from aluminum cans for dialysis credits.
- **If you wish to bring snacks for the Sunday Coffee Fellowship, the sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you.**