

We Join Together in Worship

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church – Dickinson, ND
Sunday, January 2, 2011 – 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Gathering

Prelude, Welcome, Announcements, Introduction of the Day

Confession and Forgiveness – ELW Page 116


Opening Hymn – ELW #510

Kyrie & Canticle of Praise – ELW Page 120 (*Glory to God... Page 121*)


Prayer of the Day

Word

Scripture Readings – see insert (*response: The word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.***)

Psalm Tune: 

Gospel Acclamation – ELW Page 124 (*repeat the Alleluias after the verse*)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verse: **All the ends¹ of the earth... have seen the victory¹ of our God.**

Gospel (*before reading: **Glory to you, O Lord.** after reading: **Praise to you, O Christ!***)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – ELW #292

Nicene Creed, Prayers, Peace – ELW Page 126

Meal

Offering

Offertory Hymn – ELW #294 *(verse 3) “In the Bleak Midwinter”*

**What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man I would do my part. Yet what can I give Him? Give my heart.**

Litany

We are Christmas people. As Jesus was born in the stable, we are born again to everlasting life.

We come to worship and bow down, to kneel and give thanks. We have come to worship Jesus.

In this family meal we celebrate the gift God has given to us.

In the sharing of the bread and wine, we find forgiveness of sin and God’s resurrection presence.

God has given us this gift to share.

We come to take part and be changed.

Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer, “Lamb of God” Hymn – ELW Page 134-5

Distribution of Bread and Wine – **Hymns #275, #487, #298**

All the baptized are welcomed to receive the bread and wine offered in our Communion Meal.

Communion Blessing and Prayer – ELW Page 136

Sending

Blessing

May Christ, born into time to bring endless peace, guide your days and years in righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

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.

Hymn – ELW #501 *Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus*

Dismissal – ELW Page 137 *(response: **Thanks be to God!**)*

Postlude

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

146 Sixth Ave. West – Dickinson, ND 58601

701-225-6747

Website: StJohnELC.org

Mission: “Living in Service to Christ”

Worship: 7 p.m. on Thursday // 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. on Sunday
(10:30 a.m. Sunday Service Broadcast on KDIX Radio)

For Thursday, December 30 2010 and Sunday, January 2, 2011

Presiding Minister: Pastor Lisa Lewton
Assisting Ministers: Sandy Beaudoin (Thursday)
Tim Thiel (8:00 a.m.)
Chip Poland (10:30 a.m.)
Deacons: Steve Lervik and Rita Dvorak (8:00 a.m.)
Tim Lantz and Nate Shilman (10:30 a.m.)
Pianist: Margaret Marcusen (Thursday)
Organist: Cheryl Hewson (Sunday)
Cantor: Kathi Nygaard (10:30 a.m.)
Servers: Katrina Johnson (Thursday)
Sheena Biel & Drew Heiser (8:00 a.m.)
Stetson Pedersen & McKenzie Mortensen (10:30 a.m.)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP: All the baptized people of God are invited to the Lord’s Table. You may stand or kneel to receive the elements. Children who commune should extend their hands to receive the elements. Children who are not communing are asked to have hands folded to receive a blessing. *You may ask a server to provide a gluten-free wafer or grape juice if needed.* Come to the table; all are welcomed!

WORSHIP INFORMATION: Attendance last week was 1,129 . . . Transmitters are available for the hearing impaired. Ask an usher for help . . . If it is uncomfortable for you to stand during the service, please feel free to remain seated . . . If you are a visitor, or if you simply forgot your offering envelope and wish to designate your contribution, please use a **pew envelope** . . . The nursery is located in the Commons Area. Children’s **worship bags** are available during worship in the Commons Area and in the church entry.

9:15 ADULT FORUM – There is no adult class on Jan. 2.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

(Check out our website for more information at www.stjohnelc.org)

Monday: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. Quilting
7:00 p.m. Yoga Class / upstairs
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Angel Children's Choir
6:45 p.m. Hand bell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Carol Children's Choir
Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Midweek Worship
Friday: 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast / Bible Study at Ramada
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. Altar Guild

ORGAN RENOVATION FUND: Thank you to **everyone** who has contributed to the campaign to renovate the organ. Each and every gift is important and appreciated. Because of your faithful stewardship; the goal of raising \$50,000 during Advent was met and surpassed. Over \$90,000 has been contributed to the organ fund in 2010. Thank you for giving your gifts of time, talent and treasure, not because God needs them, but because of your overwhelming need to show love and gratitude to God. As we find ways to live as God's faithful and generous stewards, we can join St. Paul in saying, "*Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice.*" (Phil 4:4)

HEARTLAND HOSPICE benefit breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 9 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church.

BELL CHOIR CELEBRATION: St. John congregation and friends are invited to help the bell choir celebrate 25 years of making music on Sunday, Jan. 9 at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. There will be a rededication of the bells and the service of the ringers. A reception will follow the concert.

WINTER WEAR COLLECTION: We will be collecting new winter hats and new or gently used boots, gloves and scarves for children in the Dickinson Public Schools. Items may be dropped off in the baskets in the Commons Area and the Narthex and will be delivered at the end of January.

EARLY CONFIRMATION for 4th graders will be on Sunday, January 16, 23 & 30 at 9:15 a.m. in the basement. Students and parents will learn about the sacrament of Holy Baptism and continue learning the books of the Bible. All students must bring a parent or significant adult with them to complete this class.

VISITATION TEAM: Members of the Visitation Team assist the pastors in offering spiritual comfort and support to the hospitalized and homebound. We are currently looking for a visitor to check the hospital on Saturdays and someone to serve as a substitute visitor. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer visitor, contact a pastor. Training is provided for new members of the Visitation Team. The hours required varies but averages two hours per month.

MINISTRY SITE PROFILE: *Place Some of YOUR Ideas About the “Mission Site Profile” Onto the New Website*

In his recent visit to St. John, Bishop Narum was clear that the next step for St. John in the Call Process is to complete a Mission Site Profile, a document of about 15 pages. *(Note – At this writing three people have offered replies or comments; nothing else has started yet on creating/writing a Mission Site Profile.)* YOU can help to begin writing this document by offering your ideas and responses about the profile’s various questions. You can ask in the office for a listing of the questions. Better yet, you can go to a new website at: StJohnELC.wordpress.com (or click the button under my name on the congregation’s website: StJohnELC.org). (You can use a “nick-name” on replies and email addresses are not shown.)

“WRITING PARTY” – Wednesday Evening: January 5

Join us at the church on Wednesday evening (Jan. 5) to contribute to writing the congregation’s Ministry Site Profile. We’ll start about 6:00 or 6:30 p.m. (come anytime) and continue until folks head home. Some refreshments will be available... just to make it more of a “party”. Help us move the call process forward to the next step.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL will be held on Jan. 9 in the basement at 9:15 a.m. for Sunday School families. The parts of worship will continue to be the focus, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Jan. 9.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will resume on Jan. 16 for preschool – 6th grade.

From the Desk of Pastor Ted...

CONTACT INFO: Cell: 920-573-1604 Email: PadrePoint@gmail.com
Website: PadrePoint.org

(emails to PadrePoint also go my phone) My wife, Joan: 715-344-1387

ORGAN RENOVATION PROJECT – PHASE 3

We met the challenge/goal of Advent's Phase 2: *to receive ten \$5,000 gifts* for this renovation project. The project's January and February "Phase 3" will offer a similar challenge (but sort of *reversed*) in terms of its goal: *to receive five-thousand \$10 gifts*.

Look for the Phase 3 "thermometer". It symbolizes a chest of organ pipes with each space signifying a rank (a rank of organ pipes gives the same sound over 5 octaves – 60 notes). The chart represents about 5,000 notes or pipes, a number close to what the new organ console will bring to the congregation's existing organ. Each note will represent a *\$10 gift* for the Organ Renovation Project received since December 21. Let's "build" the organ with our many smaller gifts over the next couple of months.

Consider how you might contribute to this project. The Organ Committee intentionally developed Phase 3 to provide several very different giving levels that could provide many meaningful contributions. How might you challenge your own giving?

- A gift of: \$10 adds a...Note (pipe) to the "Organ Chest"
- A gift of: \$120 adds an...Octave (12 notes) to the "Organ Chest"
- A gift of: \$600 adds a...Rank (60 Notes or 5 Ranks) to the "Organ Chest"
- A gift of: \$2,400 adds a...Mixture (4 combined Ranks) to the "Organ Chest"

Individual gifts will be combined as needed to build each rank. A Rank symbol (five pipes) will be placed into one of the spaces each time a rank is built. Watch the growth and development of the chart as we move from week to week. All gifts marked "Organ Fund" will be folded into this project. Let's have some fun "building" the pipe chest!!

A MUSICAL FOR ALL AGES IS BEING PLANNED

Watch for information about a musical adventure for people of all ages... "Come Together in Jesus' Name."

"LECTURE SERIES" (Quite a Catchy Name, Don't You Think?)

I will be viewing and listening to a number of lecture series throughout January and February... the Season of Epiphany. You are welcomed to join me. I need to begin someplace, so I choose the first date to be Thursday morning, January 6 beginning at 10:00 a.m. (Jan. 6 is the Day of Epiphany which means "new insight" or "oh, I get it!") Those who attend the first gathering will help to set the rest of the schedule. Be part of these thought-provoking presentations.

Sunday, January 2, 2011 – Second Sunday of Christmas

INTRODUCTION

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872

A nineteenth-century German Lutheran pastor, Loehe worked to enliven the church with the eucharist at its center, from which would flow evangelism and social ministry. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine.

GREETING

Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia!
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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW)

Almighty God,
you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word.
By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7–14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

⁷For thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,

and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.\

PSALM (ELW): Psalm 147:12–20

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (Ps. 147:12)

¹²Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem;
praise your | God, O Zion,
¹³**who has strengthened the bars | of your gates
and has blessed your chil- | dren within you.**
¹⁴God has established peace | on your borders
and satisfies you with the | finest wheat. **R**
¹⁵**God sends out a command | to the earth,
a word that runs | very swiftly.**
¹⁶God gives | snow like wool,
scattering | frost like ashes.
¹⁷**God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?**

¹⁸The LORD sends forth the ¹ word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the ¹ waters flow.

¹⁹**God declares the ¹ word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- ¹ ments to Israel.**

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any ¹ other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. ¹ Hallelujah! **R**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3–14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

GOSPEL: John 1:[1–9] 10–18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with wonder and joy that God's gift of grace has been given in the Son born for us, let us pray for the church, the good creation, and the needs of all.

A brief silence.

Holy Wisdom, gather and deliver your people. Guide your church according to your will in the coming year. Mend our divisions and unite the baptized, that the world may know the light of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Divine Mystery, you spoke and the world was created. Breathe restoration and healing upon the damaged earth; preserve the life of endangered creatures; cleanse the skies and seas; and make all things new. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Radiant Light, bring hope to those who struggle for justice in every nation (*especially*). Where there is war and violence, establish your peace; where there is famine or disaster, send swift relief. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abiding Spirit, you are near to all in need. Console those who are grieving, lonely, isolated, or far from home (*especially*). Bless them with your tender care and turn their mourning into joy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious Giver, enrich this congregation with grace upon grace in the new year, and sustain us as we are living out our baptismal calling. Open our hearts to welcome all people into life with you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered. Lover of souls, we praise you for the faithful who have gone before us as witnesses to your goodness (*especially Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church*). Grant that we also might receive our inheritance

as your children. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into the manger of your love, holy God, we lay our prayers, trusting in your promise made known to us in Jesus the Christ, our brother and Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

Good and loving God,
we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.
As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be blessing for others.
With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,
we shout for joy at the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The bread of God comes down from heaven
and gives life to the world.
Come, eat, and live.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Great and saving God,
you have gathered your scattered people
around gifts of grain and wine,
the body and blood of our Savior Christ.
As we, like the shepherds, return on our way,
may we proclaim all we have heard and seen,
praising you in word and loving deed
for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The holy Three, holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love,
and + grant you peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 2, 2011

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872

A nineteenth-century German Lutheran pastor, Loehe worked to enliven the church with the eucharist at its center, from which would flow evangelism and social ministry. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine.

Sunday, January 9

Adrian of Canterbury, teacher, died around 710 (TFF)

African by birth, Adrian (or Hadrian) worked with Theodore, archbishop of Canterbury, in developing the church in England. He was director of a school at which church leaders were trained.