

*"Today this
Scripture has been
fulfilled in your
hearing!"*

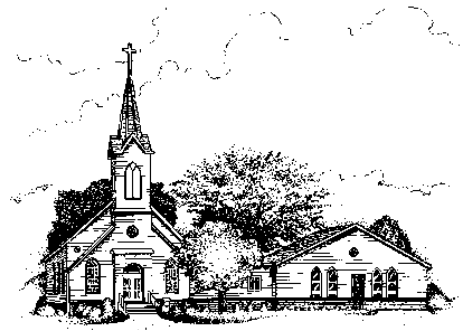
Luke 4:21

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 23 / 26, 2025

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D Allenton, Wisconsin 53002
Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
Steven D. Bode, pastor 6438 Hwy. D Allenton, WI
Church Office: 262-629-5914 / website: www.zionallenton.org
Pastor cell phone: 262-483-0407 / e-mail: revsdb@aol.com



Welcome to God's House

When you are trying to share some important information with someone, but they refuse to listen or perhaps totally reject what you are saying, it feels like you have failed. This is especially true when someone rejects the gospel! We proclaim the good news because we want others to know the love of Christ. When people are disinterested in God's Word, we feel like we've failed.



So here's this week's epiphany moment: Rejection is not proof of failure. God's Word offends like an unwelcome diagnosis from the doctor. When someone rejects God's Word (including us), that rejection is proof that God's Word powerfully cuts straight to the heart of mankind's biggest problem—sin. Yet, what causes Jesus's words to hurt is what gives them power to heal. That reality encourages us to receive God's Word with joy and to proclaim it boldly to others.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness #517

Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the Father's word of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong, yet gentle, word;
praise the one who drove out demons with the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand;
from this well comes living water, quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done;
let us praise the true Redeemer, praise the one who makes us one.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession of Sins

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

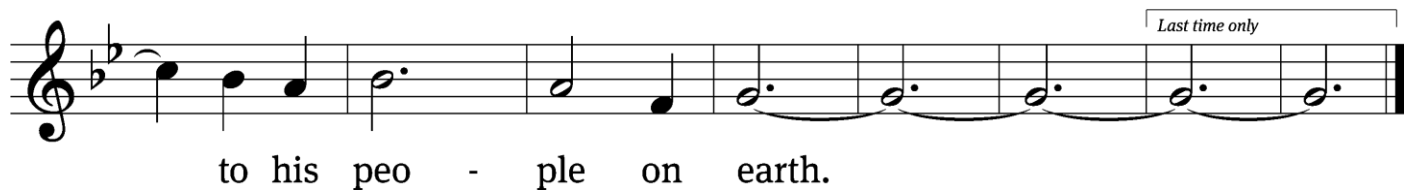
CW 176

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace

The musical notation is a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. The final note, C4, is a half note with a fermata above it. The lyrics are placed below the notes: 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace'.



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

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. Amen. **Refrain**

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-6

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
the oil of joy instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.
⁴ They will rebuild the ancient ruins
and restore the places long devastated;
they will renew the ruined cities
that have been devastated for generations.
⁵ Strangers will shepherd your flocks;
foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.
⁶ And you will be called priests of the Lord,
you will be named ministers of our God.
You will feed on the wealth of nations,
and in their riches you will boast.

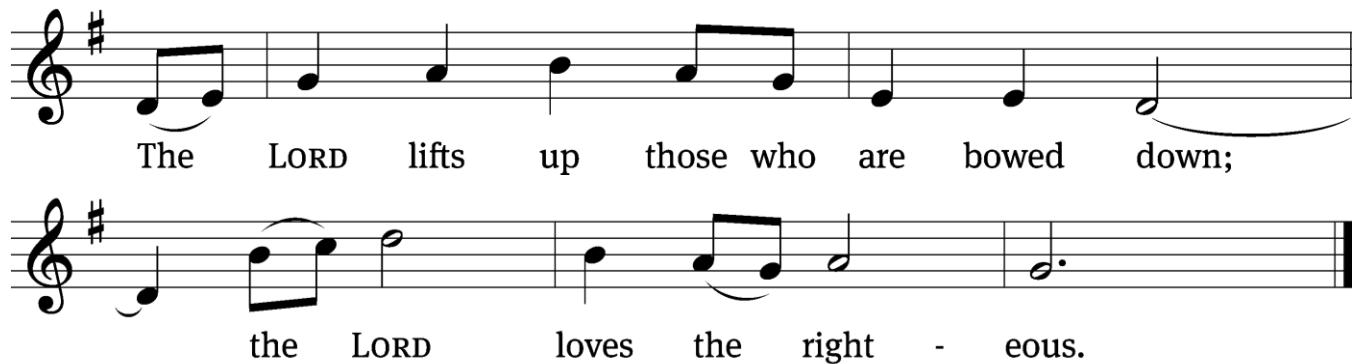
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

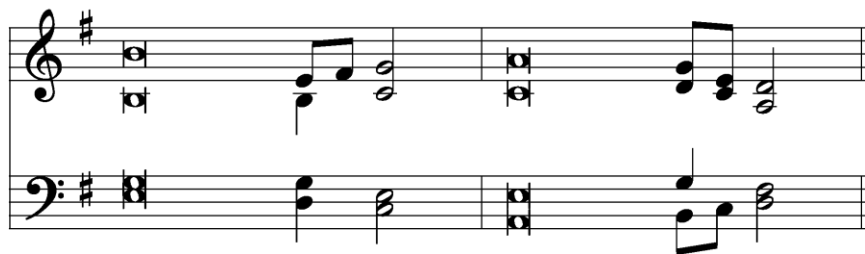
I Will Praise the Lord All My Life - 146A

Refrain



The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the right - eous.

Tone



I will praise the Lord / all my life;

I will sing praise to my God as long / as I live.

Do not put your trust in / princes,
in human beings, who / cannot save.

Blessed are those whose help is the God of / Jacob,
whose hope is in the / Lord their God. **Refrain**

He upholds the cause of / the oppressed
and gives food to the / hungry.

The Lord sets / pris'ners free,
the Lord gives sight / to the blind.

The Lord reigns for- / ever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations. / Praise the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. **Refrain**

Second Reading

Acts 4:23-31

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

“Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together
against the Lord
and against his anointed one.’

²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 4:18

Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. Alleluia.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

²⁴ “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

Hail to the Lord's Anointed #384:1, 2, 4

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!

Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever—that name to us is Love.

Sermon

Luke 4:16-30

Please stand

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all

things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Father of glory, you are the Lord of light. Banish the darkness of sin, guilt and fear from our lives and let your light shine forth.

We will praise you, O Lord, all our lives. We will sing praise to you as long as we live.

Your Son, Jesus, has done and spoken all things well. Open our ears and minds that we take his Word to heart and apply it to ourselves. Create us anew in your image.

We will praise you, O Lord, all our lives. We will sing praise to you as long as we live.

Enable your servants to speak your Word with great boldness. Bring your Word of judgment and of forgiveness in Christ to those who have not heard it. Change hearts and create faith through the name of your holy Servant

Jesus.

We will praise you, O Lord, all our lives. We will sing praise to you as long as we live.

We give you thanks for the gift of life. Move our hearts to mercy for the helpless, the unborn, the sick and the aged. Let your peace guard our hearts and minds, and let your love move us to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

We will praise you, O Lord, all our lives. We will sing praise to you as long as we live.

Give your guidance and blessing to those who teach your Word, pastors and teachers in Christian schools and Sunday schools. Give them skill to proclaim your Word plainly, and to draw people to yourself.

We will praise you, O Lord, all our lives. We will sing praise to you as long as we live.

You uphold the cause of the oppressed, give food to the hungry and sustain the helpless. Hear our prayers for those in need, or who struggle with health [especially...]. Stretch out your hand to heal. Lift up those who are bowed down.

We will praise you, O Lord, all our lives. We will sing praise to you as long as we live.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayers and special intercessions may follow

Merciful Lord, Comforter and Teacher of your faithful people, increase in your Church the desires you have given. Strengthen the hearts of those who hope in you, and show them the depth of your promises. Lead all your adopted children to see with the eyes of faith, and help them wait patiently for the light that is now hidden; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God of might. Heav-en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na in the high - est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

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

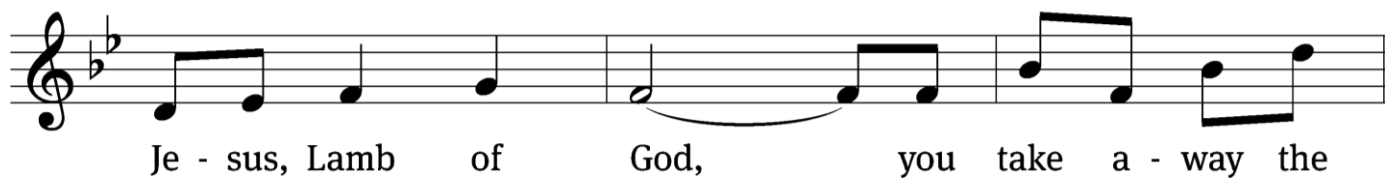
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Jesus, Lamb of God CW 186



sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Distribution Hymn Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared #667

Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared this feast for our salvation;
it is your body and your blood, and at your invitation
as weary souls, with sin oppressed, we come to you for needed rest,
for comfort, and for pardon.

Although you did to heav'n ascend, where angel hosts are dwelling,
and in your presence they behold your glory, all excelling,
and though your people shall not see your glory and your majesty
till dawns the judgment morning,

Yet, Savior, you are not confined to any habitation,
but you are present ev'rywhere and with your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, unmoved by any daring hand
or subtle craft and cunning.

We eat this bread and drink this cup, your precious Word believing
that your true body and your blood our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true, and there is naught you cannot do,
for you, Lord, are almighty.

Though reason cannot understand, yet faith this truth embraces:
your body, Lord, is even now at once in many places.

I leave to you how this can be; your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.

Lord, I believe what you have said; help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust, and let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears refreshes me and stills my fears
and is my priceless treasure.

Grant that we worthily receive your supper, Lord, our Savior,
and, truly grieving for our sins, may prove by our behavior
that we are thankful for your grace and day by day may run our race,
in holiness increasing.

For your consoling supper, Lord, be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place the world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be a blessed comfort unto me
when living and when dying.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

May the Peace of God #929



1 May the peace of God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther,
2 May this peace which pass - es un - der - stand - ing,



and the grace of Christ the ris - en Son,
and this grace which makes us what we are,



and the fel - low - ship of God the Spir - it
and this fel - low - ship of his com - mun - ion



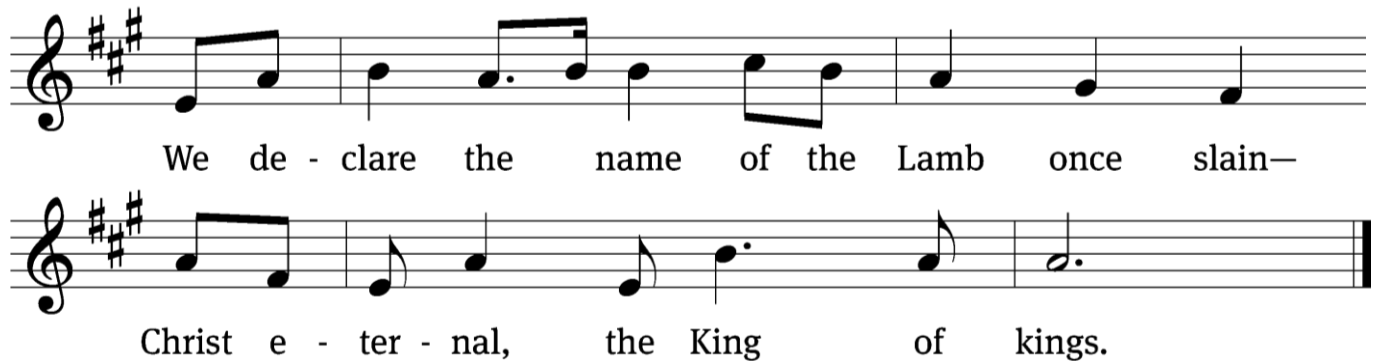
keep our hearts and minds with - in his love.
make us one in spir - it and in heart.



And to him be praise for his glo - rious reign



from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.



We de - clare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ e - ter - nal, the King of kings.

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517 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness *CW 517*

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146A I Will Praise the Lord All My Life *Psalm 146A*

Tune: Henry V. Gerike Setting: Henry V. Gerike

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Holy, Holy, Holy *CW 184*

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Jesus, Lamb of God *CW 186*

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929 May the Peace of God *CW 929*

Text / Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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This Week at Zion

Today:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study
	6 – 8:00 p.m.	WELS Youth Night at WLC
Mon:	7:00 p.m.	OWLS Meeting at Peace, Hartford
Tue:	2:30 p.m.	KM Gardens Devotion, Kewaskum
Wed:	6:00 p.m.	Catechism instructions
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Sun:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Adult Bible study

Holy Communion We believe that gathering together at God's altar to receive the Lord's Supper is a testimony of the confession, commitment and unity we share as members of the Lutheran Church. We ask guests who are not members of our Lutheran denomination to speak with the pastor before joining us at the altar so all may have a clear understanding of our faith and practice.

Congratulations to Leah Resch and Austin Kirchoff who were married yesterday May God bless them as they begin their married lives together.

Council Installation At the annual meeting this past Monday evening, Kevin Bartelt and Jeff Wade were elected to serve on the Council. They, along with the rest of the Council, will be installed today (Sunday) in the early service. The Council for 2025 consists of the following: Kevin Bartelt – treasurer; Lester Hahn- evangelism; Adam Janz - stewardship / endowment; Rick Meier - financial secretary; Mike Pamperin – elders; Jeff Karch – secretary; Tom Schulz – president; Jeff Wade - building and grounds. We thank them for their willingness to serve the Lord and our congregation.

We also thank Keith Bartelt and Dan Ehlke, whose terms have come to an end, for their years of faithful service.

We thank Barb Olsen for serving as our organist for all the services this weekend.

February calendars and copies of the new *Forward in Christ* are available in the entry-way. Please take one before you leave. Annual reports will be available next weekend.

Contribution Statements / Church Envelopes The contribution statements from 2024 have been placed in your church mailboxes. Please take yours before you leave today. If you haven't picked up your 2024 church envelope boxes, they should also be in your church mailboxes. If you have any questions about them, please text or e-mail our financial secretary Rick Meier at 262.909.1069 or rrrick4919@yahoo.com.

Camp Phillip Summer Sessions—Registration for Camp Phillip's summer programs opens February 3rd. Pick up a postcard from the cabinets in the entryway for a listing of the various camps and specialized camps or go to www.campphillip.com.

Men of His Word Conference The 16th annual Men of His Word Conference will be held Saturday, February 8 at the Oshkosh Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center. This year's theme is *Forge Ahead in Faith*, from Philippians 3:14. Choose from 14 breakout sessions. More details and registration can be found at www.menofhisword.org.

WELS Youth Night Wisconsin Lutheran College is hosting another "youth night" this evening (Sunday), January 26 from 6-8 p.m. in the Center for Arts and Performance (8815 West Wisconsin Avenue). The night will feature games, snacks, worship, a keynote address from Pastor Ben Blumer, and small group discussion. All students in 9th – 12th grade are invited to attend. You can register at <https://tinyurl.com/YNWLC>. Free parking will be available in the Parking Center, 8701 West Wisconsin Avenue.