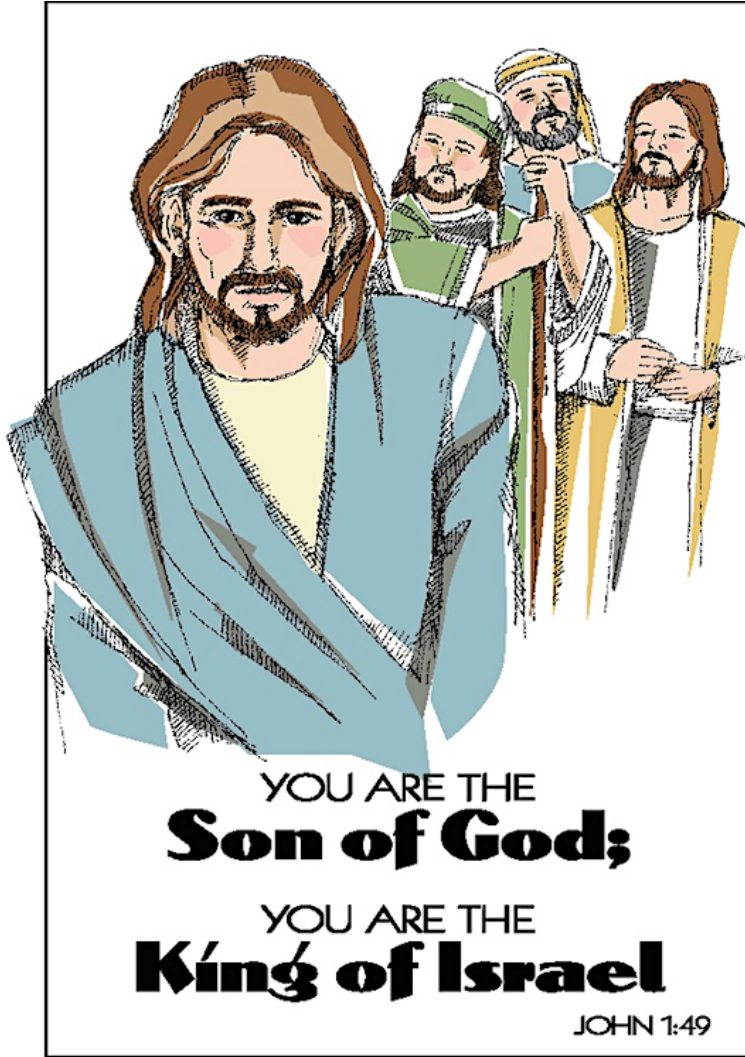


ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 17, 2020

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)
www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)
Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 117 (pew bible, p.544)
- ◆ The Hymns: 396, 718 (tan hymnal), 554, 526
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 67

Sermon Text – John 1:43-51

JESUS & NATHANAEL – AN EPIPHANY STORY

1. How Nathanael found Jesus.
2. How Jesus found Nathanael.

- ◆ Altar Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (526)

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Large print bulletins are available on the shelf by
the tract rack or by request from an usher.

You may contribute an offering for God's kingdom work by
putting it in the collection plate located by the back pew.
There will be no offering collection during the service.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – 1 Samuel 3:1-10

1 The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions. 2 One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." 5 And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. 6 Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 8 The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. 9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 67

P May God be gracious to us and bless us:
C **And make his face shine upon us.**
P May your ways may be known on earth:
C **Your salvation among all nations.**
P May the peoples praise you, O God:
C **May all the peoples praise you.**
P May the nations be glad and sing for joy:
C **For you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.**
P May the peoples praise you, O God:
C **May all the peoples praise you.**
P Then the land will yield its harvest:
C **And God, our God, will bless us.**
P God will bless us:
C **And all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

Second Lesson – 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

12 "Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything. 13 "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food"—but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Sermon Text – John 1:43-51

43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also

wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip. 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false.” 48 “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49 Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.” 50 Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that.” 51 He then added, “I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

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A WARM WELCOME IN CHRIST TO OUR WORSHIP GUESTS. We’re glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus! Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He would be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

SERVING US AT GOD’S HOUSE TODAY
Organist: Carly Meyer; Usher: Bob Rankin

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

| | | |
|--------------|----------|--|
| Today (1/17) | 9:30 am | Worship Service |
| | 10:45 am | Sunday School (The Boy Jesus, NT 5) |
| | 10:45 am | Annual Meeting of the Congregation |
| Tues | 9:00 am | Pastoral Study Conference at Lakewood |
| Sun (1/24) | 9:30 am | Worship Service |
| | 10:45 am | Sunday School (John the Baptist, NT 6) |
| | 10:45 am | Bible Class |

UPCOMING ON THE JANUARY CALENDAR
Church Council Installation: Sunday, January 24

IN OUR PRAYERS: The family and friends of Steve Rogers (son-in-law of Georgia Waters, husband of Patty Rogers) who was called home to heaven last Friday. <> Mike Sprengeler, who tested positive two weeks ago for Covid and is recovering from mild symptoms. <> John Sprengeler, who also has tested positive and has experienced mild symptoms (his return to school in Eau Claire has been delayed but thankfully he has been able to take classes online).

CALL NEWS: Pastor David Ude has returned the call extended to him by Redeemer Lutheran, Cheyenne. <> Teacher Paul Tiefel III, Messiah, Eau Claire, WI has accepted the call to serve as principal and upper grade teacher by Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI. <> Teacher Joshua Ohlmann, Grace, Sleepy Eye, MN has accepted the call by Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC to be upper grade teacher and principal.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
JANUARY 18-23

Mon 1 Samuel 3:1-10 We're not surprised; when God's Word becomes obscure, the clergy sink into degeneracy—for that's cause and effect. So God acted: "I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind" (2:35). That was Samuel, a miracle baby. We assume that his parents shared God's Word with their child, and Samuel was ready to absorb more. God set him up for lifetime epiphany.

Tues John 1:43-51 God finds us—just as Philip found Nathanael and shared the good news: "We have found Him of whom Moses and the prophets wrote." Nathanael questioned whether anyone from Nazareth could be the Messiah, and our answer is "Yes!" Not only does Jesus know our human psyche (47-50), He also opens heaven's front door, and angels from heaven attend Him on Earth. Yes, Jesus finds doubters and can change their doubts into affirmations (49)! We praise the Lord for such epiphanies.

Wed 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 We hardly need to be reminded that we are lustful by nature, but perhaps we do need to be reminded that we belong to Jesus—in both our body and our soul. Here the Holy Spirit lays it out in a logical manner—so that after our mind has absorbed the facts, our heart will become convinced that we are so special to God that we cannot desecrate His property with sexual immorality. Epiphany flavors our everyday life.

Thurs Psalm 67 opens with God, God's mercy, and God's mercy on us (1)--for the good purpose of enlightening [epiphany] others, so that humans all over the world will understand what God has done for them, and they will let loose with loud praises (2-4). In this electronic age God has salvaged many souls from Satan via the internet. Who knows when such epiphanies will be superseded by Jesus' final Epiphany (6-7)? Lord, have mercy on our nation!

Fri Matthew 24:29-31 On the subject of the final Epiphany, let's remind our-selves of the facts: The tribulation of those days and the return of Jesus seem to be joined in a time warp; Jesus will preside over the Universe's chaos; humanity in general will tremble in fear (30) as He gathers together His elect from all over this planet. Hallelujah for His Appearing!

Sat Acts 20:1-16 God's faithful spokesman Paul was well aware that Jesus could return at any moment, so he re-visited young congregations in Greece and Macedonia on his route to Jerusalem. At the stopover in Troas/Troy, God used Paul to restore life to dead Eutychus; then he hop-scotched southward along the coastline of modern Turkey, avoiding trouble from idolaters but spending time with his fellow believers. Paul had much to share with his dear friends in the Ephesian congregation. Stay tuned for further details. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS

JANUARY 11-16 (catching up from last week)

Mon Isaiah 49:1-6 The speaker in verses 1 and 2 (and again in verses 5 and 6) is Jesus, while the speaker in verses 3 and 4 is Isaiah. It figures, for Jesus is the Light of the Gentiles, salvation unto the ends of the Earth, and Jehovah's Son (5). Moreover, God wanted ancient Israelites to know that He had prepared Jesus deliberately and generously (1-2) to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel (6). God is generous!

Tues Mark 1:4-11 takes us to the Jordan valley, and we watch from the side-lines while John baptizes Jesus. Now, for what purpose or function was Jesus baptized? Well, a) the Spirit's descent, b) God the Father's blessing, and c) the baptism all work together for Jesus' inaugural ceremony as God's chosen Servant for the public good. [The current Presidential inauguration pales in comparison—and that's understandable—for many reasons.]

Wed Acts 16:25-34 We see a deeper meaning—when other doors were opened and other chains loosed, for those miracles opened human hearts to God. Which led to the question, “What must I do to be saved?” and to the answer, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ!” Next came a Bible class (32), then conversion (between verses 32 and 33) marked by Christian baptism and humble service given lovingly to God's spokesmen (33-34). Praise the Lord!

Thurs Psalm 2 provides perspective as our generation slides downhill—and that's hardly due to the pandemic. “Why?” is a good question. For what good reason do people rebel against God and choose their own downfall? None at all! Now then, since Jehovah is still God, and Jesus is still His Son, dominant over Earth (8-9), it would be better for humans to seek His favor (10-12).

Fri Matthew 3:13-17 For what good purpose did Jesus meet up with Baptizer John? Since Jesus was sinless (14), remission of sins couldn't be the point of His baptism. Rather, this baptism would fulfill a specific and special factor in God's great salvation enterprise; we see that the time had arrived for Jesus to become inaugurated into His public ministry, with Holy Spirit support and the Father's benediction. Timing is important in everything.

Sat Acts 19:33-41 There was/is nothing trivial about Christian witnessing, especially when the apostles were under attack by religious fanatics who staged a street riot (33-34). Since the timing was right, God made use of a city official (even though he was an idolater) to put a lid on it. He presented the fair assessment that the missionaries were not criminals, and if someone wanted to press charges, lawyers and courts were available. Evidently nobody put God to the test—and we come full circle back to Psalm 2. Amen.