

East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN

January 22, 2023: Third Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion

Pastor Paul Thompson Organist: Pat Nelson

INTRODUCTION: *Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross – as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may, from the bottom of our hearts love and praise you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

As God’s beloved daughters and sons, let us call to mind our need for reconciliation with God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

God of the nations,

In baptism you anoint us to be your holy people in the world, yet we have not been faithful to you. We have not loved and accepted one another. We have not reached out to the poor,

hungry, or lost. Forgive us, and fill us with your light, that we may delight in your goodness and serve you with joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In Christ the grace and mercy of God are revealed; in Christ your sins are forgiven. Walk then as children of the light.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *I Love to Tell the Story* (ELW 661)

GREETING (ELW p. 184)

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.

KYRIE (ELW p. 184)

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 185)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 188)

Let us pray.

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 9:

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —

on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be
afraid?

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my
life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the
temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me
high upon a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who
surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of
rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message – “Seek my face.”
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant
in anger.

Cast me not away – you have been my helper; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

*Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the
unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we*

belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

A reading from 1st Corinthians, chapter 1:

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the

Gentiles –

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers,
Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net
into the sea – for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them,
“Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately
they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he
saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother
John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets,
and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their
father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues
and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every
disease and every sickness among the people.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult* (ELW 696)

CREED (ELW p. 189)

**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 OF INTERCESSION

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

... Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

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

Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY (ELW p. 190)

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.*

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 190)

Let us pray.

God of Glory,

With great joy we worship you and lay before you these gifts, which you have first given us. Let our lives serve you only, and lead us always to our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, the bright and morning star. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

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.

BLESSING (ELW p. 192)

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.

SENDING SONG *Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons* (ELW 798)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim Christ!

Thanks be to God.

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WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE VISITING:



If you're visiting, please sign our guestbook in the narthex.

Worship times rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.

Offering: You may place your offering in the offering plate as you leave (*plates are not passed at this time*).

JANUARY WORSHIP TIMES



EAST 9:00 am worship (*coffee always after church*)

BOTH 10:00 am West JAM/ East Sunday school

WEST 11:00 am worship (*coffee before church at 10:00 am*)

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

Note: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild

Altar Guild: Jan. - Dan Ziemann

Deacon: Jan. - Jane Williams

Reader: Jan. 22- Mike Senjem

East Acolytes: Ushers are covering

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

EAST ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK TODAY!

Everyone is invited for the potluck and the annual meeting.

SNOW TUBING!!! Calling All Kids!

West invites all East Sunday School and Luther League kids to a snow tubing adventure! It will be on Sunday, February 5th from 2 to 4 pm at Camp Victory, 58212 403rd Ave, Zumbro Falls, MN. *A free will offering is welcome but not required; West St. Olaf is covering the cost for all kids and adults.*

Note to East Members: If there are any members who are ill or in need of a card from the congregation, please contact Jane Williams at (507) 271-2272.

Contributions

(01/15) Current \$1,960, Education Aid \$44, and Reimbursement \$475. Also, In Memory of Margaret Senjem \$20 Undesignated, and In Memory of Julie Andreason \$60.

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

Deadline for bulletin information – Wednesdays by 7:30 pm.
Submit any newsletter info by the 20th of each month.

TODAY	9:00 am	East church, then <u>Annual Meeting and potluck dinner</u> <i>(East backup date will be Feb. 5, if needed due to bad weather)</i>
	9:00 am	West church/ <u>Comm.</u> - Pastor Jim Rushton
	10:00 am	West JAM/East Sunday school
	2:00 pm	<u>West CLASS for 1st Communion</u>
Monday	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Tuesday	9:00 am	West quilting /sack lunch
	10:00 am	East quilting /sack lunch
Wednesday	9:00 am	West quilting /sack lunch
	7:00 pm	BOTH Confirmation at West
Thursday	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Friday	-----	Pastor's day off-work
Sun. 01/29	9:00 am	EAST worship... then coffee after church
	10:00 am	West JAM/East Sunday school
	10:00 am	West coffee before church
	11:00 am	West worship
	2:00 pm	<u>West CLASS for 1st Communion</u>

COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

Jan. 31 (Tue.) 10:00 am East quilting / sack lunch

FEBRUARY

WEST 9:00 am *Worship / Coffee after church at 10:00 am*

BOTH 10:00 am *West JAM / East Sunday school*

EAST 11:00 am *Worship / East coffee always after church*

Feb. 1 (Wed.): 7:00 pm Confirmation class at East

Feb. 2 (Thu.) 9am-Noon Pastor at office

Feb. 3 (Fri.) ----- Pastor's day off-work

Jan. 29 (Sun.) 9:00 am WEST worship / comm.- with Rite of First Holy Communion for West Students ... AND during service, the Installation of West Officers

10:00 am West coffee after church

10:00 am West JAM/East Sunday school

11:00 am EAST worship / comm. AND during service, the Installation of East Officers

Feb. 6 (Mon.) 9am-Noon Pastor at office

Feb. 7 (Tue.) 10:00 am East quilting / sack lunch

Feb. 8 (Wed.) 7:00 pm Confirmation class at East

Feb. 9 (Thur.) 9am-Noon Pastor at office (*but at 10am he goes to Kasson ministerial meeting*)

Feb. 10 (Fri.) ----- Pastor's day off-work

BOTH TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

East Prayers: Verla Holman (*friend of Marilyn Carlson*), Orillie Iverson, David Tvedt, Dawn Hugeback, Debra Moekel (*daughter of Audrey Carlson*), Keith Roeder (*Paul Jordan was his father-in-law*), Dalton Mansfield (*currently serving aboard ship*), John (*cousin of Pat Nelson*), Bill Fritts, Sylvia Torstenson, Heidi Guenius (*cousin of Becky Brakke*), David Distad, and John Heydt (*brother of Pat Nelson*).

West Prayers: Gloria Pew, Kelly Pratt (*Ginny's daughter*), Nancy Jensen, Loretta Himle, Gloria Brown, Ginny Hyland, Aloma Eastlee, Dawn Hugeback, Martha Beaver, Darlene Hanson, Kelly Keckhafer, Boyd Pew, Cindy Senjem, Philip Senjem, and Matt Miller (*nephew of Carma Bjornson*). Those serving in our military:

Patrick Reynolds (*grandson of Sue Hyland – deployed overseas*), Erika Smith (*granddaughter of Carma & Ardean Bjornson*), and Tully Hovda (*son of Todd & Cathy Hovda*).

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

Cell Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday and Thursday

9:00 am–Noon... OR by appointment (*Day off-work is Friday*)

SECRETARY Gina Moser: (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

Office Phone: 507-365-8222 **Cell Phone:** 507-951-4964

Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com

Please send all emails for Gina to both of her email addresses.

Office Hours: Tues. & Thursdays 10:00 am–Noon

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

OUR JANITORIAL SERVICE: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Gary Kearns - Home: 206-3158, Cell: 254-5285

Bryan DeCook - Cell: 208-1590 [*President: No candidate this year.*]

EAST: VISITS FOR OUR MEMBERS

If you know of anyone who may like a call or visit from Pastor Paul or from another member, please contact an East deacon:

Jane Williams: 507-271-2272 or Pat Cahill: 507-365-8766.