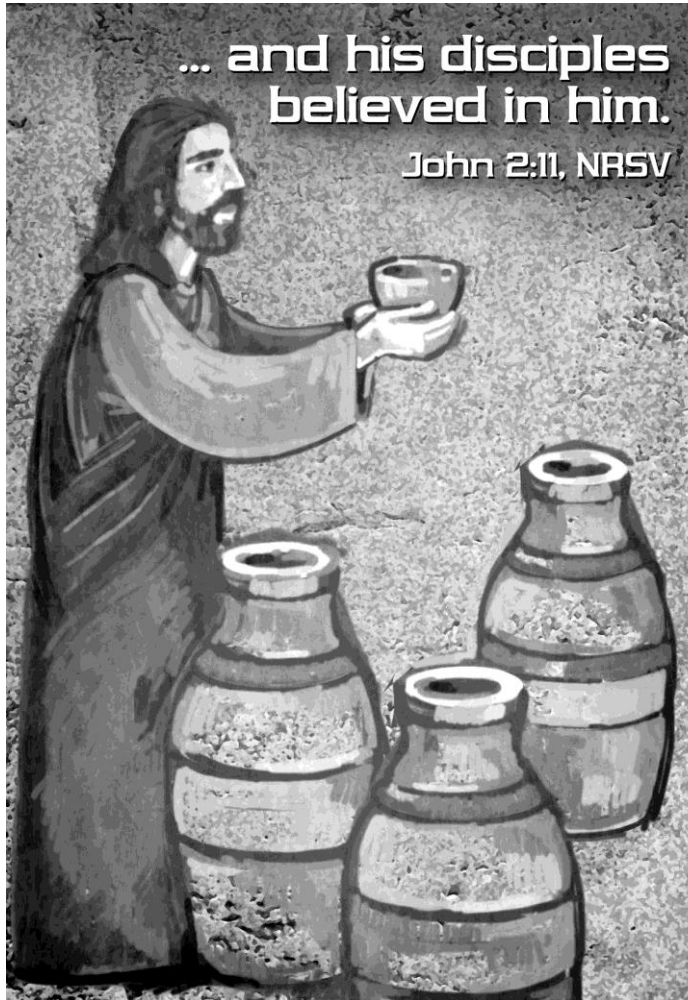


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



DELIGHT UNCOVERED:
GOD DELIVERS MORE THAN WE ASK, NOT LESS
Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 16, 2022



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. If you have any questions, just ask an usher or other volunteer. Please also fill out our Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY



Are the pursuit of God and the pursuit of pleasure two separate paths? Many make that assumption — that life with Jesus is a boring, sterile experience. To put it plainly, they are wrong. Jesus came to undo everything that is wrong with our world as a result of sin's curse. He also came to multiply our joy and deliver delight beyond our wildest dreams.

Note that when Jesus begins to reveal his glory, it isn't by going to a hospital to cure every ailment. Instead, he starts at a local wedding, one of the greatest sources of joy in this life. The truth uncovered for us this week is that life with Jesus is not a life with less delight, but infinitely more.

Today's service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using the Questions for Examination on page 7 of this service folder or Christian Questions on page 295 of the blue hymnal.

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THE SERVICE: SETTING THREE

Starting on page 188 of the blue hymnal

Please understand that there have been some unexpected delays with the release of the Service Builder. This software would help us create a more complete service folder like we have grown used to. Until we have access to that, we will be producing service folders that rely much more heavily on using the hymnal as part of the worship experience.

All hymns and page numbers, unless otherwise noted, correspond to the blue hymnal.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Rise Up and Shine | 376

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION

on page 188
Beginning with "If we claim..."

LORD HAVE MERCY

on page 190

GLORY BE TO GOD

on page 191
The pastors will lead the singing. Please join as you feel comfortable.

The Word

The service continues on page 193.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:1-5

Isaiah pictures the Church's relationship with the Lord as an infinitely happy marriage.

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 145 (in the front of the hymnal)

The service continues on page 194.

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 3:14-21

God wants us to have a life that is fuller than we could possibly imagine.

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

on page 194

GOSPEL

John 2:1-11

In this first of his miracles, he also begins to reveal himself as true God.

After the reading of the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Your Boundless Love to Me | 714

SERMON

The Messiah Is Here!

Stand

CREED

Nicene Creed on page 196

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ, Lord of glory, you delight in making yourself known to us and others. In love you chose to exercise your greatest strength to serve us in our greatest need.

Bring us to recognize and rejoice in your majesty and your ministry.

You called ordinary men to do extraordinary things as your disciples and apostles. You also call us confidently to follow you, diligently to learn from you, and lovingly to imitate you. Equip and empower us to serve you and our neighbor faithfully.

Use us as your witnesses to bring many throughout the world to the light of your gospel.

You revealed your glory through mighty signs and wonders. In wise compassion you often exercise your power to help and heal people with physical and emotional needs. Give us courage and compassion to relieve the distress of the hurting, to pray for all according to their needs, and to be content and cheerful when in your wisdom you ask us to endure hardship.

Assure us that you still rule all things to serve our eternal good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer.

Preserve your truth among us, and by that truth preserve us until you appear in dazzling splendor to bring us to the glory of heaven. Let our anticipation of the heavenly kingdom ennoble our thinking and speaking, enrich our conduct, and increase our joy in all aspects of earthly life.

Hear us, Light of the Gentiles and Glory of Israel. Amen.

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Christ Begins

The Sacrament

Stand

PREFACE

on page 199

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

on page 200

The pastors will lead the singing. Please join as you feel comfortable.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

on page 201

LORD'S PRAYER

on page 201

WORD OF INSTITUTION

on page 202

LAMB OF GOD

on page 202

The pastors will lead the singing. Please join as you feel comfortable.

DISTRIBUTION

Be seated and await the direction of the ushers.

QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION

- † *Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness?*
- † *Do I believe that Jesus died on the cross to win forgiveness for me?*
- † *Do I believe that Jesus offers his true body and blood with the bread and wine in this sacrament?*
- † *Do I believe this sacrament strengthens my faith and strengthens me to live a God-pleasing life?*
- † *Am I a member of a church that belongs to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)?*
- † *If you answered “no” to any of these questions, please hold off on communing with us today. Following worship, one of the pastors would be happy to explain why we ask you to do this.*

For further examination questions, see page 295 of the blue hymnal.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

To be sung during the Distribution
Joyously I'll Praise My Savior | 611
Draw Near and Take the Body of Your Lord | 661

Stand

RESPONSES

on page 203

BLESSING

on page 203

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Loves Me | 584



TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. Make a list of all the names we will be called or the things we will be from Isaiah 62:1-5. What do these names and things tell us about our relationship with God? How do they all affect our attitude in this life?
2. Make a list of all the things Paul is praying for in Ephesians 3:14-21. What are some things this tells you about what Paul found important for the believers in Ephesus? In what ways can we enrich our prayer life by looking at his prayer?
3. At the wedding in Cana, Mary asks Jesus to step in and fill an immediate need. However, Jesus has a different, larger purpose in mind—wanting to strengthen the faith of the disciples. (2 Corinthians 4:18 teaches this distinction.) In what ways do we, like Mary, often look to Jesus to only fill earthly holes instead of fixing our eyes “on what is unseen?”
4. It’s easy to think that a life of pleasure is incompatible with a life with God. However, it’s just the opposite. In what ways do all three readings reveal that life with Jesus is a life filled with more delight than we could ask?

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY:

Called to Serve

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM

For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

CALLED TO SERVE

Sundays | 9:15-10:15 AM

St. Paul's has gone through the calling process quite a bit. But what exactly is happening each time we extend a divine call to someone, whether it be as a pastor, teacher, or staff minister? Why do we do things the way we do them? Over the course of the next couple of weeks, this Bible study, crafted by the leadership of our synod, is intended to provide an overview of the biblical doctrine of the divine call, as well as information regarding how the calling process is carried out in our synod. The call itself is something established by God in love for his church. The process of applying that doctrine in a practical way is a matter that God has left to his church to determine. We pray that addressing both of these aspects of the call and the call process will lead to a better understanding of the doctrine and of the process we have agreed to use.

VOTERS MEETING THIS TUESDAY

Jan. 18 | 6:30 PM

Our regular quarterly voters' meeting will be held this Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 PM. A packet of reports can be found in your mailslots.

DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR MATCH FOR ORGAN FUND

This is the last weekend for the dollar-for-dollar match on gifts to the Organ Fund. Our donor will match up to \$10,000 received. To give a gift to be matched, please use the envelopes on the tree in the Welcome Center, the Organ Fund envelopes on the Ministry Table, or mark Organ on your regular offering envelope.

HELP UNDECORATE TODAY

Jan. 16 | 11:45 AM

Our Christmas decorations will be coming down this Sunday after the second service. Your help would be appreciated. No special skills are required.

2021 OFFERING STATEMENTS

A statement of your 2021 offerings to the church can be found in your mailslots. If you feel an error has been made in reporting your offerings, please contact the church office.

FRESHMAN REGISTRATION AT NLHS

Feb. 18 & 19 | 4:00-8:00 PM

Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) is holding freshman registration this Tuesday & Wednesday for 8th graders and their parents. During registration, parents and students will discuss the student's four-year academic plan, choose classes, receive all registration paperwork, ask questions about student life and academics, and learn how NLHS will work together with parents and so many others to train students. All 8th graders are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please email NLHSoffice@NLHS.org or call Debbie Price at 715-370-5596 to set up a time for registration, request an alternate time, or receive more information about Northland's premier Christ-centered education.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IS COMING

Jan. 24-31

St. Paul's Lutheran School will hold a Scholastic Book Fair Jan. 24-31. Volunteers are needed to help children select books and to act as cashier. To volunteer, please contact Mr. Fiecko (dfiecko@stpaulswr.org or 715-421-3634 ext. 1110) or use the link on the book fair's homepage (<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stpaulslutheranwr>). You can browse or shop the book fair online using the same link. The book fair will be open for congregation members on Sunday, January 31 after each service. If you don't want a book, but would like to support our school library, you can make a cash donation.

CREATED FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

The WELS Coulee Women's Retreat will be held on Saturday, April 2 in West Salem, WI (about 1-1/2 hours away). In addition to speakers, there will be time for collaboration and application. Learn more at facebook.com/groups/WCWRetreat or from the church office.

SPECIAL PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

- Bob Hetzel passed away. His funeral is on Tuesday.
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CALENDAR

January 16-23

- SUNDAY** 8:00 AM Worship
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing
 9:15 AM Sunday School (grades 3K-6)
 10:30 AM Worship
 12:00 PM Take down Christmas decorations
- MONDAY** 6:30 PM Worship
- TUESDAY** 6:45 AM Men’s Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 9:45 AM Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
 6:30 PM Quarterly Voters’ Meeting
- WEDNESDAY** 8:55 AM School Chapel Service
 6:30 PM Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
- THURSDAY** 7:00 AM Men’s Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 1:00 PM Newsletter Assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
 2:00 PM Willing Workers in the Cafeteria
 6:30 PM Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Cafeteria
- SUNDAY** 8:00 AM Worship – Installation of Leaders
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing
 9:15 AM Sunday School (grades 3K-6)
 10:30 AM Worship – Installation of Leaders

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last Week’s Attendance: 183
Financial reporting for 2022 is under review.
Watch for a revised format soon.
Total given to the Organ Fund: \$ 66,402
Thrivent Choice this Month: \$337

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 17-21 St. Paul’s Serving
 at SWEPS Food Pantry
Jan. 23 Installation of Leaders
Jan. 24-30 Scholastic Book Fair
Jan. 30 Christian Education Sunday



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Pastor Peter Plagenz | 920-689-3036 | pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org