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Pastor Wayne C. Eichstadt

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CLC

Gethsemane is a member congregation of the Church of the

Lutheran Confession (www.clclutheran.org).

Volume 71, No. 3

January 15, 2023

Epiphany 2

Serving Us Today

Organist: Gretchen Peters
Trumpet: Carl Dautenhahn

Usher: Mike Lueck / Video: Anna Eichstadt

Greeters: Bob & Mary List

We Enter God's House and Prepare for Worship

Pre-service Meditation: Psalm 40 (pew Bible, p. 553)

Pre-Service Prayer

LORD God, what amazing, abundant, and undeserved love You have shown to this world of sinners. Thank You. Let Your overflowing love and a gratitude for my salvation from sins always move me to serve You joyfully and cling to You firmly in faith. Come and bless all who worship You this morning. Amen.

Order of Worship (WS2000 pp. 12ff)

When the congregation is asked to stand, please do so only if you are able.

You may remain seated if standing is difficult.

Welcome to Worship

Hymn: O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

(Please stand for the final verse)



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

Congregation



Confession and Absolution

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

(Worship Supplement p. 13)

Congregation (sings):

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise; Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing. We worship You, to You our hearts we raise, Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son, You bore for us the load of this world's sin. O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won, Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord, at God's right hand in majesty most high: Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored, With all the heav'nly host we glorify.

P: Let us pray... (Prayer of the Day)

Congregation





Epistle Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (p. 1131 in pew Bible)

In greeting the Corinthian
Christians, Paul gave thanks to
God for all that He had done for them
and worked in their hearts by faith.

Seeing the blessings of God's grace to his fellow Christians led to a heart overflowing with thanksgiving.

[The text of the reading is printed on the back page of the bulletin]

Responsive Reading: Psalm 40:1-5,16

Pastor: I waited patiently for the LORD;

Cong: he inclined to me and heard my cry.

P: He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog,

C: and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

P: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

C: Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

P: Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust,

C: who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

P: You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you!

C: I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

P: But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

C: may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"

Gospel Reading: John 1:29-42a (p. 1053 in pew Bible)

John the Baptist was sent to prepare hearts for Jesus and to direct people to Him. John did exactly that for his disciples when Jesus came to him.

[The text of the reading is printed on the back page of the bulletin]

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and treasure it!

C (sings): Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Confession of Faith: The Apostolic Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into Hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Hymn: 388 — Just as I Am, Without One Plea (Please rise for the last verse)

The Sermon

Text: *Isaiah 49:1-7* (pew Bible p. **724**)

The text of the sermon is printed on the back page of the bulletin

"Anything Less Is Not Enough"

I. A Savior for the World

II. An abundance of Grace

Congregation (sings): Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

Hymn: 245— God Love the World So that He Gave (*Please rise for the last verse*)

Prayer



Thank-offerings may be left in the offering plate in the narthex, mailed to the church, or made electronically via the link on our website home page.

Offering Prayer (Congregation sings)

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright, So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee!

As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King!

(TLH 127:1,3)

The Lord's Prayer

Children's Sermon

Benediction

Congregation



Hymn: 652 (1-3) — I Lay My Sins on Jesus (*Please rise for the last verse*)



Guests and Visitors — Please sign our guest book in the narthex. We look forward to meeting you and visiting with you.

This Week at Gethsemane

If the Lord wills, we will do this or that.

Today

Coffee Fellowship, Open Library

10:15 a.m. Sunday School, No Bible Class

11:00 a.m. Church Choir



Bible Study (pre-read Judges 3-5) 1:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m. Bible Study at Anderbergs'

Thursday

West Coast Warrior BB Practice 5:00 p.m.

Friday

4:00 p.m. West Coast Warrior BB Practice

Saturday

10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

Next Sunday (January 22)

9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

Usher: Mike Meagley / Organist: Jarrod Lentz

Video: Shay Albrecht / Greeters: Lists

Coffee Fellowship—with New Member Reception / Open Library

Sunday School, Annual Voters Meeting 10:15 a.m.

11:45 a.m. Winter Potluck Meal and Fellowship

Hospitalized: Bob Bryans (released to Sunshine Gardens)





Birthdays this Week: Linda Mace (Today), Susan McComas (16), Bob Morgan, Van Scott (20)

News & Notes

Pastor Eichstadt will be conducting the service at Trinity this morning. There is no Bible Class today.

Sunday Morning Greeters: If you would like to volunteer or get more information about being a greeter, please speak to Pastor Eichstadt or Jerry Lueck.

Pastor Eichstadt has received a divine call from Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, WI to serve as one of its pastors. More information about the call and the call process is included in the Annual Meeting Information packet (see below). As Pastor Eichstadt deliberates this call in the coming days, your thoughts and input are welcome, and your prayers are requested. There will be an opportunity for a congregational discussion, asking questions, etc. prior to the annual meeting next Sunday.

Annual Voters Meeting Next Sunday: A packet of reports and information for the annual meeting is in the mailboxes this morning. While this is particularly helpful for voters in preparation for the meeting, everyone is encouraged to review the reports and if you are not a voter share any thoughts with a voter prior to the meeting. Some reports aren't in the packet but will be available next Sunday. The meeting takes place in the sanctuary following coffee fellowship. We encourage all to stay and voters to participate.

Our Winter Potluck/Fellowship follows the Annual Meeting next Sunday, approximately at 11:45 a.m.

New Member Welcome: Next Sunday we will be formally welcoming several new members. While many of these individuals have been members for quite some time, we haven't yet had the opportunity to formally welcome them. A cake reception is planned during the fellowship time after the services.



National Women's Retreat (Virtual)—

You're Invited! A women's event is planned for two hours on Saturday, January 28, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (Pacific Time), via Zoom. The event theme is: "Press Pause: Our God in All Seasons."

The two hours will include speakers from CLC congregations in a panel session highlighting God's guiding hand across the seasons of life. Breakout groups will be included for discussion and sharing.

Register at: https://tinyurl.com/PressPause01282023 This is a free event. You can participate from home via Zoom or at church with Gethsemane participants. Not good with Zoom? Not to worry, help is available!

Contact Tina Eichstadt (<u>teichstadt@gmail.com</u>, 651-398-2386) with questions. See you (virtually) there!



The Gethsemane Seniors meet on

Wednesday, January 25 at 1:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share, or if you prefer, bring your own sack lunch.

The church phone line (926-3317) is currently out of order. Service is scheduled for later this week. Please use Pastor Eichstadt's cell phone or the parsonage phone to reach him until the line is restored.

Contact Information Update: In the coming weeks a 2023 edition of the membership directory will be produced. If you have new contact information (new number, removal of landline, new email, etc.) or would like to change/add to what is in the directory, please share that information with Pastor Eichstadt.

GLCW Call List: The GLCW maintains a call list with volunteers who call or email when there is a need to contact all Gethsemane members. Most often this is used for prayer chain requests, but sometimes also for other information that needs to be shared quickly, e.g. the postponement of the Christmas Eve service last

month. The update of contact information in the directory (see above) assists this effort. The GLCW is in need of an additional volunteer (or more than one) to help with the notification in the Call List. To volunteer or to get more information, please speak to Emily Hagen.

A Gentle Reminder to please check to make sure you lock exterior doors in the church/school facility that you unlock.

DVD copies of the Christmas Eve service—the pre-service choir concert and the Children's service—are available on the narthex counter. If they run out, more can be made.

News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

Appreciation (from Pastor John Hein): Janelle and I desire to convey our deep appreciation for all the wonderful support we have received since my cancer diagnosis. Many of our fellow Christians, known and unknown, have sent us cards, letters, emails, etc., with edifying reminders from Scripture and letting us know they are praying for us. These and the generous outpouring of financial support sent to us and to Grace Lutheran in Fridley, MN, have been absolutely incredible. We stand in awe at how the LORD uses our challenges to remind us what a gracious God He is in our lives, even as He moves hearts to such expressions full of Christian love. Our cup overflows! May the LORD be glorified during my treasured time of grace as I face what lies ahead according to His good pleasure. In Christ, Pastor John Hein (www.caringbridge.org/visit/pastorjohnhein)

Our Response To God's Love

At Jesus' Feet

"But Mary sat at Jesus'
feet and heard His Word"

(Luke 10:38)

OFFERING SUMMARY 01/08/23

General \$3,179.60

Missions \$25.00

\$3,204.60

January 8 Attendance Worship: 84