

Zion & St. James Lutheran Churches of Martin County, Minnesota



Pastor John Henry

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2024



Regarding Membership and the Holy Communion:

We believe that, in the Holy Communion, the bread is truly Christ's Body and the wine is truly His Blood, given to us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. As we receive this gift individually, we profess that we are truly one body in Christ—that we are united in one faith and teaching (doctrine). Ordinarily, full participation in this Holy Communion is reserved for those who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. *Any visitors or guests who desire to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ are asked to please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service.*

*A warm welcome to all!
May you know the fire of God's love as we worship
in the name of Jesus, who showed us how to love.*

SJL Opening Hymn *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* **901**

Zion Opening Hymn *Jesus is God's Living Vine* **(See insert)**

Invocation, Confession & Absolution

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P ...I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

First Lesson

Jonah 1:1—2:1

¹Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” ³But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

⁴But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up.

⁵Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. ⁶So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.”

⁷And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” ⁹And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” ¹⁰Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

¹¹Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. ¹²He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” ¹³Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. ¹⁴Therefore they called out to the LORD, “O LORD, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.” ¹⁵So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

¹⁷And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

¹Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish,

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm

from Jonah 2



*I called out to the LORD, out of my distress,
and he an- | swered me;**
**out of the belly of Sheol I cried,
and you heard | my voice.**
³*For you cast me into the deep,
into the heart of the seas,
and the flood su- | rrounded me;**
**all your waves and your billows
passed | over me.**
⁴*Then I said, "I am driven away
| from your sight;**
**Yet I shall again look
upon your holy | temple."**
⁵*The waters closed in over me to take my life;
the deep su- | rrounded me;**
**weeds were wrapped a- | bout my head
⁶at the roots of the mountains.
I went down to the land
whose bars closed upon me | forever;***
**yet you brought up my life from the pit,
O | LORD my God.**
⁷*When my life was fainting away,
I remem- | bered the LORD;**
**and my prayer came to you,
into your holy | temple.**
⁸*Those who pay regard to | vain idols;**
forsake their hope of | steadfast love.
⁹*But I with the voice of thanksgiving
will sacri- | fice to you;**
**what I have vowed I will pay.
Salvation belongs | to the LORD!**

Second Lesson

Colossians 1:13–23

¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the

body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

²¹And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia & Verse

LSB pg. 156

C *Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Holy Gospel

John 9:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a

man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn *Entrust Your Days and Burdens* **754**

Sermon

Apostles' Creed *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Prayers

Offering

Offertory for Epiphany

LSB pg. 537

C *Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.*

*Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!*

The Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary [...] evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB pg. 161

C *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

The Lord's Prayer *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Consecration

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB pg. 163

C *Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.*

Communion Hymns

If God Himself Be for Me 724

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me 761

Jerusalem the Golden 672

Nunc Dimittis

LSB pg. 165



C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Thanksgiving & Benediction

P Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

Let Me Be Thine Forever

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Acknowledgments

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A Guide for Daily Devotions

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, use this bulletin for daily devotions. On these days, pray the Collect of the Day each day, and reread the Lessons as follows: Monday, First Lesson; Tuesday, Second Lesson; Wednesday, Gospel Lesson. You may also want to pray or sing one of the hymns from the previous Sunday.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, follow this plan to prepare for the coming Sunday.

Each day, pray:

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

On Thursday, read:

Jonah 2:10-3:10

On Friday, read:

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

On Saturday, read:

John 9:17-34

You may also want to pray or sing the Hymn of the Day for the coming Sunday:

Hymn: 726 Evening and Morning

Lutheran Schools in Martin County
St James Lutheran School
Martin Luther High School, & the Calling Committee
All Schools and places of learning



St James

Baptism Birthdays: Mike Egeness, Cindi Tomlinson
Sick & In Distress: Rochelle Franzen, Marilyn Borkenhagen,
Marianne Hagen, Tom Koeritz, Sandy Kurseth, Myla Roskop
Homebound: Carl Luhmann

Zion

Baptism Birthdays: Mercedes Moeller
Seminary Student: Peter Preus
Serving our Country: Ben Peymann, Dalton Fette, Kory Brown,
Jesse Peterson, Lili Bulfer
Sick & In Distress: Greg Wallace, Lynn Schwieger, Caleb Roiger,
Marsha Peterson
Homebound: Dale Schwieger, Lenore Wendt, Norma Patsche,
Violet Lueth, Yonsey Karasek

Bulletins are emailed weekly. If you are not on the list and would like to be, please contact the office. **Bulletins can also be found on the website sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com.** Contact the office if you have questions.

You can sponsor the bulletins (\$10 per congregation) or **online broadcast** (\$25) anytime throughout the year, in honor of a special event or giving thanks to God. Call the church office with your request.

Lasagna Potluck at Zion after church today, Sunday, January 21st.

Pancake Breakfast to celebrate Lutheran Schools Week. Please join us after church at SJL on Sunday January 28th (10-Noon) for Pancakes (Gluten-free available), sausage, applesauce & beverages. Free-will donations will support our bus replacement fund.

LYF Egg fundraiser continues. Eggs will be available at SJL after most services or you can call/text Lynn Becker at 230-2700 to arrange a pick up from the farm. 100% of proceeds goes to LYF for expenses and future trips. Please keep returning cartons and leave in the SJL narthex.



St James Lutheran School is excited for our Accreditation Team to visit January 31st -February 2nd. The BOCE, Pastor Henry, teachers and other committee members have put in numerous hours to prepare and submit all the required documentation. The visiting Accreditation team members are coming from other Lutheran Schools and SJLS is responsible for covering the costs of their transportation, meals, lodging and classroom substitutes. SJL Board of Christian Education is asking for donations towards these expenses, expected to be between \$1,700-2,000. Donations can be placed in the offering plate (clearly marked for accreditation), given to Pastor Henry, Paul Tomlinson or Kelsey Murphy. **Thank you!**



MARTIN LUTHER JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL
SJL & Zion are full association members

Prayers are requested during the search for a new principal at MLHS. The committee is currently in the interview process with potential candidates. We pray for the committee and for the candidates. We pray that the transition will be a blessing to everyone involved and God's will be done, all to His Glory.

National Lutheran Schools Week will be celebrated at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop on January 21-27, 2024. The theme is "Connected" based on John 15:1-5. Early bird student enrollment discounts for the 2024-2025 school year will apply until February 1st. All students are welcome to enroll and be blessed by what Christ in the curriculum gives. Call 507-436-5249.

All families are invited to The Children's Winter Carnival sponsored by the Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop National Honor Society and Student Council on Sunday, January 21st from 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$5/child or \$15 per family. Parents are free. There will be Games, Prizes, Bouncy House, Snacks and a Parent Lounge.

Everyone is welcome to a fascinating history presentation on the Civil War by Arn Kind at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop on Tuesday, January 23. (Snow date is January 25.) History will come to life through this interactive lesson. Times are 9-11:15 a.m. for grades 5-8 and noon to 2:15 p.m. for grades 9-12. The event is sponsored by the MLHS Parent/Teacher League. For more information go to www.martinlutherhs.com.



SPIRITUAL EDUCATION

Adult Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class.

- **Zion:** 8:45am, Narthex. Please join us as we study topics in The Lutheran Witness. Please bring your Lutheran Witness magazine if possible. Extra copies are available.
- **SJL:** 9:45am, Fellowship Hall. The adult Sunday morning Bible class is learning about the apostle Paul's ministry in Philippi and Thessaloniki. These are places we will most likely never visit, and even if we did, would we know what to look for, to understand how God built a foundation for his church? We visit these sites and many others, led by renowned Bible historian Ray Vander Laan, through the video series "That the World May Know" from Focus on the Family. Each lesson gives us a better understanding of God's plan to restore the family he paid such a high price to redeem. The lessons are truly enlightening and don't require any previous lessons to understand. Bring your coffee and join us. We wrap up at 10:30.

Friday Morning Bible Study at 8am in the Fellowship Hall at SJL.



Issues, Etc.

Sundays on KSUM 1370AM - 9 am

Jan 21 Pastoral Visitation - Dr. Tyler Arnold

Jan 28 Witnessing to LGBTQ People - Dr. John Bombaro



THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY:

Sundays on KSUM 1370AM- 11 am

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"The Battleground of Forgiveness" God's forgiveness covers our sins-but it's not a coverup! (Psalm 32:1)

Those Serving our Lord			
		Greeters	Acolyte
SJL	1-21	Jeremy Scheff & Robin Scheff	_____
	1-28	Greg & Lori Schock	_____
ZION	1-21	Kristi Prafke & Mitchell	Luke Henry
	1-28	Cody & Morgan Roberts	Alex Pittman

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD:		Jan 21-28, 2024
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:		Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - Noon
Office phone: 436-5289		Pastor phone: 219-713-1604
Email: sjlnorthrop@gmail.com		Website: sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com
Sunday	National Lutheran Schools Week	
	Divine Worship	(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM
	Sunday School	(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM
	Zion Lasagna Potluck	(Z) 11:00 AM
Tuesday	February Newsletter Deadline	
	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
Wednesday	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
	Confirmation Class (6th & 7th grades)	(SJ) 4:00 PM
	Confirmation Class (8th grade)	(SJ) 5:00 PM
	Board of Christian Education Meeting	(SJ) 7:00 PM
Thursday	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
Friday	Morning Bible Study	(SJ) 8:00 AM
Sunday	Divine Worship	(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM
	Sunday School	(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM
	Pancake Breakfast	(SJ) 10:00 AM - Noon

Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			Jan 7, 2024
Attendance	103 (HC 75)	Home	\$3,065.90
Loose Plate	\$41.42	Missions	\$325.00
SJLS	\$115.00	Epiphany	\$555.27

Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			Jan 14, 2024
Attendance	54 (HC 38)	Home	\$1,630.00
Loose Plate	\$22.87	Missions	\$50.00
MLHS	\$65.00		

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			Jan 14, 2024
Attendance	69 (HC 58)	Home	\$7,540.00
Loose Plate	\$83.00	Missions	\$50.00
Online	\$1,743.25	Tuition Angel	\$200.00
Tuition	\$4,675.00	SJLS Misc	\$1,231.00
Memorial	\$30.00		