

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



Pastor John Henry



Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 2, 2025

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.*

Traditionally, the church on this day remembers the presentation of Jesus by his parents in the temple. We too present ourselves to God: our praise, petitions, sorrows and joys.

Welcome.

Opening Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* 411

The Rite of Holy Baptism *LSB pp. 268-271*

St. James: The Holy Baptism of Stella Marie Manzke

Zion: The Holy Baptism of Noah Rae Thisius

Invocation, Confession & Absolution

- 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.

Entrance Psalm

Psalm 107:1-2



¹*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!*

²*Let the redeemed of the LORD | say so,*
whom he has redeemed from | trouble*

***Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.***

Kyrie

LSB pgs. 152-153

Repeated 4 times:

P *...pray to the Lord.*

C ***Lord, have mercy.***

P *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*

C ***Amen.***

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB pg. 154

P *Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.*

C ***Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.***

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P *The Lord be with you.*

C ***And also with you.***

P *Let us 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.

C ***Amen.***

St. James School Kids Sing

Zion only

For the Presentation of Christ

Celebrated February 2nd

Almighty and ever-living God, as Your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in the substance of our flesh, grant that we may be presented to You with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C *Amen.*

First Lesson

Isaiah 55:1-7

- ¹“Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
³Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 112:4–9



⁴Light dawns in the darkness for the | upright; *
he is gracious, merciful, and | righteous.

⁵It is well with the man who deals generous- | ly and lends; *
who conducts his affairs with | justice.

⁶For the righteous will nev- | er be moved; *
he will be remembered for- | ever.

⁷He is not afraid of | bad news; *
his heart is firm, trusting | in the LORD.

⁸His heart is steady; he will not | be afraid, *
until he looks in triumph on his adver- | saries.

⁹He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
 his righteousness endures for- | ever; *
his horn is exalted in | honor.

Second Lesson

1 John 5:13–21

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

¹⁶If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. ¹⁷All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

¹⁸We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

¹⁹We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

²⁰And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

²¹Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

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 5:2–18***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifth chapter.**G** *Glory to You, O Lord.*

²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” ⁷The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” ⁸Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” ⁹And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” ¹¹But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” ¹²They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk’?” ¹³Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. ¹⁴Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” ¹⁵The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. ¹⁶And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

¹⁸This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.**G** *Praise to You, O Christ.***Sermon Hymn***Evening and Morning***726****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 also with you.*

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

<i>Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior</i>	619
<i>Lord Jesus, Think on Me</i>	610
<i>The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want</i>	710

Nunc Dimittis

LSB pg. 165

- C** *Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:
A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

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 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 *I Leave All Things to God's Direction* **719**

Acknowledgments

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Bulletins and Broadcast

- **Dorie Schwieger and Family** are sponsoring the bulletins and broadcasts for the month of February to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bob Schwieger who passed away 20 years ago on February 28th. May God continue to bring you comfort and peace.
- **Larry & Linda Becker** are sponsoring the bulletins and broadcast this week in honor of Larry's 80th birthday on January 31st. They are also serving treats after church at SJL. Happy Birthday Larry!

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.

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



St James

Baptism Birthdays: Stella Manzke, Hudson Howe, Jordan Leimer,
Ashley Burkey

Serving our Country: Sean McCroskey

Sick & In Distress: Rochelle Franzen, Tom Koeritz, Myla Roskop,
Bryce Grefe, Jeff Roskop, Webb Quade, Ronald Schultz,
Dennis Hagen

Homebound: Carl Luhmann

Zion

Baptism Birthdays: Noah Thisius, Ellis Thisius, Angie Brown,
Carson Glidden

Seminary Student: Timothy Schleusener

Serving our Country: Ben Peymann, Kory Brown, Jesse Peterson,
Lili Bulfer

Sick & In Distress: Greg Wallace, Lynn Schwieger, Caleb Roiger,
Marsha Peterson, Mike Sandersfeld, Duane Behrens, Myrna Behrens

Homebound: Norma Patsche, Violet Lueth, Yonsey Karasek, David Hinz

Large Print Hymnals are available at SJL on the right side of the bulletin boxes, and at ZION on the back table by the communion cards.

Large print bulletins are also available by contacting the office.

The windows in the parsonage need to be replaced. Donations toward the parsonage windows are welcome at this time and going forward, as the cost will be approximately \$42,000 with up to 50% required up front. Thank you.

All Zion Ladies are invited to lunch at the Bean Town Grill, Wednesday, February 12, 11:30am. Please RSVP to Lori Behrens by February 8th, 507-995-6692.



- **Have you moved? Changed your phone number? Cancelled your landline?** Please review the information in the annual report and contact the office with your updated information.
- **2025 Contribution Envelopes and 2024 Annual Reports** are available in the Narthex.
- **Strategic Financial Planning Committee reports** are available in the office.

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:

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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

Isaiah 43:15-25

On Friday, read

Ephesians 5:5-21

On Saturday, read

John 6:12-21

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

Hymn: 754 Entrust Your Days and Burdens

We welcome today through Holy Baptism



SJL: Stella Marie Manzke, daughter of Britany Egeness and Derek Manzke, and sister of Oakley. Mike Egeness is her sponsor with Ryan & Anugrah Manzke as witnesses.

ZION: Noah Rae Thisius, daughter of Dylan & Kristeena Thisius. She has two brothers, Ellis & Milo. Her sponsors are Cadence & Jady Montgomery.

THIS SUNDAY AT SJL! If you've ever considered seeing what the Adult Bible class is studying, today is the day! Our video series has many good lessons that connect Old and New Testament people and places to our lives in ways that may surprise you. In my opinion today's lesson is in the top ten of the entire series. Powerful stuff! Come and see. We meet in the sanctuary at 9:50 and finish at 10:30.



Super Bowl Pizza Pickup Saturday February 8th.



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

Enrollment for students in grades 7-12 for 2025-2026 at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School opens during Lutheran Schools Week on January 26. **Early bird discounts** apply until March 1st. Principal David Stuckwisch is available any time by appointment. Call 507-436-5249.

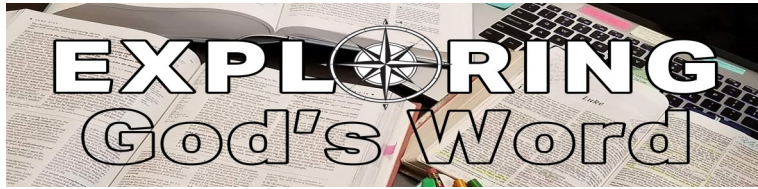
The MLHS Junior Class will host a Waffle Feed on Sunday, February 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. They will be serving all-you-can-eat waffles and all the trimmings. Cost is a free-will donation.

New students and their families are invited to "Getting to Know You Night" at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School on Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m. Students will give tours, current parents will be on hand to answer questions, classrooms will be open, teachers will be available for questions, and a light supper will be served. Everyone is welcome.

TUITON ANGEL EGG FUNDRAISER: the NEW LB Chickens are finally laying eggs (pullet eggs so "smaller" for a little while but still tasty!). Look for eggs in the Narthex at SJL after most Sunday's moving forward! The previous flock "raised" over \$3,000 over 2.5 years of your generous contributions and helped fund LYF Higher Things trips and expenses...LYF funds are in pretty good shape now so switching to TUITON ANGEL...Call/Text Lynn Becker 507-230-2700 if want direct from the farm...Thanks!

LYF members (grades 7-12) are invited to Immanuel Lutheran of Fairmont for an evening of fun with other area youth groups. Sunday, February 16th, 5-8pm. We will have pulled pork, a brief devotion, play Werewolf, and then have a Nerf war.

Those Serving our Lord		
	Greeters	Acolyte
SJL 2-2	Larry & Linda Becker	Christian Drayer
2-9	Bryan Simmering & Judi Polzin	Alex Egeness
ZION 2-2	Bob & Viv Traetow	Max Wirth
2-9	Brad & Deb Wallace	Harper Armbrust
SJL Ushers: Mike Steuber, Lonny Becker, Chase Hillmer, David Rode		
Elders: Kevin (Z), Daryl (SJ) SJL AG: Cheryl Becker, Dar Quade		



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, Sanctuary. Bring your coffee and join us as we use the “That the World May Know” video series to discover how God guides His people to a specific place to impact the world, both in ancient times and today.

Thursday Adult Bible Class at 7pm in the church basement at Zion. Zion and SJL members are invited to participate.

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

 **Issues, Etc.**

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 9 am

- 2/2 Listener Email and the Issues Etc Comment Line
- 2/9 Your Unanswered Bible Questions - Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller and Pastor Brian Kachelmeier
- 2/16 The Creation Account and Lutheran Theologian Hermann Sasse - Dr. Ben Mayer
- 2/23 The Ash Wednesday Hymn of The Day “From Depths of Woe I Cry To Thee” - Dr. Arthur Just



THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 11 am

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"Do the Things That Make for Unity" Jesus crosses borders and even breaks down the barrier of death to do the things that make for unity: shared worship, shared mission, shared harvest. (John 4:9)



The Joint Strategic Planning Financial Committee is interested in your ideas for fundraisers or ways to increase donations/contributions to help support SJL School. You can talk to one of the committee members, (Alan Wille, Gary Peymann, Isaac Wallace, Bart Johnson, Lynn J Becker, and Jennifer Luhmann) or place your idea in the suggestion box found in the Narthex.

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD:		Feb 2-9, 2025
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - Noon		
Office phone: 436-5289 Pastor phone: 219-713-1604		
Email: sjlnorthrop@gmail.com Website: sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com		
Sunday	Divine Worship	(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM
	Sunday School/Bible Class	(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM
Tuesday	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
	Joint Elder's Meeting	(SJ) 7:00 PM
Thursday	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
	Joint Adult Bible Class	(Z) 7:00 PM
Friday	Joint Morning Bible Study	(SJ) 8:00 AM
Saturday	LYF Pizza Day	(SJ) 8:00 AM
Sunday	Divine Worship	(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM
	Sunday School/Bible Class	(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM
	NFL	(SJ) 7:00 PM

Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			Jan 26, 2025
Attendance	98 (HC 73)	Home	\$5,101.17
Loose Plate	\$79.00	Missions	\$210.00
Windows	\$100.00	SJL School	\$50.00
Bulletins	\$20.00		
Parsonage Window Total Donations: \$27,270.00			

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			Jan 26, 2025
Attendance	134 (HC 84)	Home	\$7,410.00
Loose Plate	\$150.00	Missions	\$455.00
Online	\$846.70	MLHS	\$175.00
SJL School	\$2,758.79	Tuition Angel	\$50.00
SJL Church	\$2,059.60	Tuition	\$5,100.00
Christmas Bag	\$150.00		
Annual Operating Expense: \$580,000.00			
Giving to date: \$51,094.56 Projected Shortfall: (\$)			