

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



*Pastor John Henry*

**Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany**

*February 16, 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.*

*Welcome to worship.*

*God plants us like trees beside streams of living water,  
provided by Jesus himself (Psalm 1:3; John 4:14).  
All who are thirsty, come and drink!*

**Opening Hymn**    *This Is the Day the Lord Has Made*                      **903**

**The Holy Baptism of Kaia Evelyn Poppe (Zion)**    *LSB pp. 268-271*

**Invocation, Confession & Absolution (S JL)**

**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.

## Entrance Psalm

Psalm 56:13



<sup>13</sup>For you have delivered my soul from death,  
yes, my feet from falling,\*  
that I may walk before God  
in the light of life.

**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.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**First Lesson**

*Isaiah 65:17–25*

<sup>17</sup>“Behold, I create new heavens  
and a new earth,  
and the former things shall not be remembered  
or come into mind.  
<sup>18</sup>But be glad and rejoice forever  
in that which I create;  
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,  
and her people to be a gladness.  
<sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem  
and be glad in my people;  
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping  
and the cry of distress.  
<sup>20</sup>No more shall there be in it  
an infant who lives but a few days,  
or an old man who does not fill out his days,  
for the young man shall die a hundred years old,  
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.  
<sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
<sup>22</sup>They shall not build and another inhabit;  
they shall not plant and another eat;  
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.  
<sup>23</sup>They shall not labor in vain  
or bear children for calamity,  
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,  
and their descendants with them.  
<sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer;  
while they are yet speaking I will hear.  
<sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall graze together;  
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,  
and dust shall be the serpent’s food.  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain,”  
says the LORD.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 18:25–30



<sup>25</sup>With the merciful you show yourself | merciful; \*  
**with the blameless man you show yourself | blameless;**  
<sup>26</sup>with the purified you show your- | self pure; \*  
**and with the crooked you make yourself seem | tortuous.**  
<sup>27</sup>For you save a humble | people; \*  
**but the haughty eyes | you bring down.**  
<sup>28</sup>For it is you who | light my lamp; \*  
**the LORD my God lightens my | darkness.**  
<sup>29</sup>For by you I can run a- | gainst a troop; \*  
**and by my God I can leap o- | ver a wall.**  
<sup>30</sup>This God—his way is | perfect; \*  
**the word of the LORD proves true;**  
**he is a shield for all those who take ref- | uge in him.**

Second Lesson

1 John 2:21–25

<sup>21</sup>I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. <sup>22</sup>Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. <sup>23</sup>No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. <sup>24</sup>Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. <sup>25</sup>And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.

**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 12:27–43

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

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

<sup>27</sup>“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast

out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. <sup>34</sup>So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” <sup>35</sup>So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. <sup>36</sup>While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. <sup>37</sup>Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, <sup>38</sup>so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,  
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

<sup>39</sup>Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

<sup>40</sup>“He has blinded their eyes  
and hardened their heart,  
lest they see with their eyes,  
and understand with their heart, and turn,  
and I would heal them.”

<sup>41</sup>Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.

<sup>42</sup>Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; <sup>43</sup>for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** *Praise to You, O Christ.*

**Sermon Hymn**     *Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower*     **694**

**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

*Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord*      **637**

*Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice*      **556**

## 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

*Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go*

**920**

### 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.
- **Webb & Dar Quade** are sponsoring the bulletins and broadcast this week in thanksgiving for Webb's successful heart surgery. Thank you to Pastor Henry and our church family for all the love, prayers and support. May God bless you all.

**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:* Larry Becker, Lance Becker, Jonah Luhmann

*Serving our Country:* Sean McCroskey

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

*Homebound:* Carl Luhmann

**Zion**

*Baptism Birthdays:* Kaia Poppe, Nita Dobson, Isaac Wallace,  
Myla Murphy, Greg Wallace

*Seminary Student:* Timothy Schleusener

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

*Sick & In Distress:* Greg Wallace, Marsha Peterson, Mike Sandersfeld,  
Duane Behrens, Myrna Behrens

*Homebound:* Norma Patsche, Yonsey Karasek, David Hinz

**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.



**We welcome today through Holy Baptism at Zion - Kaia**

**Evelyn Poppe**, daughter of Brandon & Marissa Poppe. She has two brothers, Keenan & Kailer, and a sister Kayvry. Her sponsors are Tyler & Mercedes Moulton and Mayson & Monica Sands. May God continue to bless the Poppe family.

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

*Online giving is an easy and reliable method to contribute to your church while you are out of town, or if you are interested in eliminating the need to remember your envelope on Sunday morning. You can make a one time donation or save time and schedule recurring contributions. This option is available for either congregation through the website; [sjlnorthop.com](http://sjlnorthop.com) or [zionfraser.com](http://zionfraser.com), or through the [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) church app.*



### 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 God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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**

*Genesis 1:1-13*

**On Friday, read**

*1 Corinthians 4:1-5*

**On Saturday, read**

*John 12:27-43*

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

**Hymn: 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light**

**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!

**If you wish to use the fellowship hall at Zion,** please: 1. Contact one of the elders for permission, and 2. Contact Heather in the office to make sure the day and time you want are free. Both of these steps need to be done to complete a reservation. Thank you.



**Zion Members:** We would be honored if you would celebrate with us at our wedding dance on March 1, 2025, 8-11pm, at the Best Western, 1201 Torgerson Dr, Fairmont.  
~Amanda Fehr and Brandon Steuber



**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 is open. **Early bird discounts** apply until March 1st. All students are welcome to enroll no matter what religion they are. Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School is focused on Generating a JESUS Generation “preparing students for discipleship until Christ’s return.” Choose now to place your student in a school where they will flourish for the next school year and beyond. [www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com). Principal David Stuckwisch is available any time to answer any questions. Call 507-436-5249.

**The MLHS Junior Class will host a Waffle Feed** on Sunday, February 23 (**NOTE change of date from 2/16**) 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.

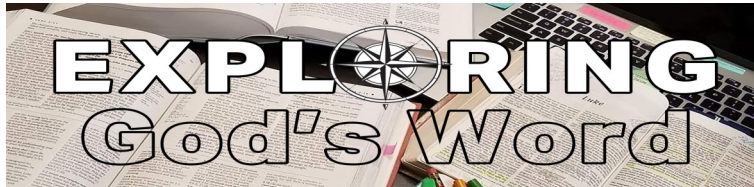


**The Joint Strategic Planning Financial Committee** is interested in your ideas for fundraisers or ways to increase donations/contributions to help support SJL School. You can talk to one of the committee members, (Alan Wille, Gary Peymann, Isaac Wallace, Bart Johnson, Lynn J Becker, and Jennifer Luhmann)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

Everyone is invited to open the **2025 LWML prayer service** available at <http://www.LWML.org>. You will be encouraged by scripture readings and prayer. The LWML group from St. Paul-Fairmont invite you to view the replay from their February 6 livestream. To view, click on their website: <http://www.splfairmont.org>. Dear Lord, Grant us Your Holy Spirit that in gentleness, we may love one another as You have loved us, so that all people know You, the eternal lover of humanity; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

**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.



**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 “discover how the events of Jesus’ day impacted his life, ministry and communication. Then let them impact yours.”

**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**

- 2/16 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**

**Guest Speaker:** Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

**"The Bread of Our Lives"** Jesus gives us Himself as the Bread of Life so that everything we need can be filled by Him and His gifts. (John 6:35)

| <b>Those Serving our Lord</b>  |                        |                |
|--|------------------------|----------------|
|  | <b>Greeters</b>        | <b>Acolyte</b> |
| <b>SJL 2-16</b>  | Mike & Heidi Steuber   | Kimi Hansen    |
| <b>2-23</b>  | Paul & Cindi Tomlinson | Oakley Bohlsen |
| <b>ZION 2-16</b>   | Isaac & Tania Wallace  | Luke Henry     |
| <b>2-23</b>  | Alan & Peggy Wille     | Lydia Murphy   |
| <b>SJL Ushers:</b> Mike Steuber, Lonny Becker, Chase Hillmer, David Rode     |                        |                |
| <b>Elders:</b> Kevin (Z), Daryl (SJ) <b>SJL AG:</b> Cheryl Becker, Dar Quade |                        |                |

|  |                                       |                                   |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD:</b>  |                                       | <b>Feb 16-23, 2025</b>            |
| <b>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - Noon</b>                           |                                       |                                   |
| <b>Office phone: 436-5289 Pastor phone: 219-713-1604</b>                       |                                       |                                   |
| <b>Email: sjlnorthrop@gmail.com Website: sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com</b> |                                       |                                   |
| <b>Sunday</b>  | Divine Worship                        | <b>(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM</b> |
|  | Sunday School/Bible Class             | <b>(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM</b>  |
|  | LYF @ Immanuel Fairmont               | <b>5:00 - 8:00 PM</b>             |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | March Newsletter Deadline             |                                   |
|  | Chapel                                | <b>(SJ) 8:40 AM</b>               |
| <b>Wednesday</b>   | Chapel                                | <b>(SJ) 8:40 AM</b>               |
|  | Confirmation Class (6th & 7th grades) | <b>(SJ) 4:00 PM</b>               |
|  | Confirmation Class (8th grade)        | <b>(SJ) 5:00 PM</b>               |
|  | SJL Council Meeting                   | <b>(SJ) 7:00 PM</b>               |
|  | BOCE Meeting                          | <b>(SJ) 7:30 PM</b>               |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Chapel                                | <b>(SJ) 8:40 AM</b>               |
|  | Joint Adult Bible Class               | <b>(Z) 7:00 PM</b>                |
| <b>Friday</b>  | Joint Morning Bible Study             | <b>(SJ) 8:00 AM</b>               |
| <b>Sunday</b>  | Divine Worship                        | <b>(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM</b> |
|  | Sunday School/Bible Class             | <b>(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM</b>  |
|  | MLHS Waffle Breakfast                 | <b>(ML) 10:00 - 1:00 PM</b>       |
|  | SJL Family Fun Day                    | <b>(SJ) 2:00 - 4:00 PM</b>        |

| <b>Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion</b>             |            |            | <b>Feb 9, 2025</b> |
|--|------------|------------|--------------------|
| Attendance   | 99 (HC 62) | Home       | \$2,915.00         |
| Loose Plate  | \$91.25    | MN South   | \$150.00           |
| Windows  | \$700.00   | SJL School | \$170.00           |
| United Insur   | \$922.00   |            |                    |
| <b>Parsonage Window Total Donations: \$28,070.00</b> |            |            |                    |

| <b>Reflecting our Stewardship – St James</b>            |            |            | <b>Feb 9, 2025</b> |
|---|------------|------------|--------------------|
| Attendance  | 79 (HC 62) | Home       | \$3,745.00         |
| Loose Plate   | \$128.00   | Memorials  | \$25.00            |
| Online  | \$355.00   | Tuition    | \$2,100.00         |
| SJL School  | \$620.00   | SJL Church | \$157.50           |
| Tuition Angel   | \$50.00    | Missions   | \$65.00            |
| <b>Annual Operating Expense: \$580,000.00</b>           |            |            |                    |
| Giving to date: \$73,250.05 Projected Shortfall: ( \$ ) |            |            |                    |