

WELCOME

To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to the stranger, we extend our sincere greeting. If you are a visitor, please understand that you are our guest and we want you to feel welcome and comfortable. We are happy you chose to be with us in this service, and pray you have been blessed by our Lord today as He has blessed us by your presence.

THOSE WHO SERVE US

Each Member of St. John's	A Minister
Rev. Mike Burdick.....	Pastor
Rev. Gary Fortkamp.....	Visitation Pastor
Mrs. Sandy Esker	Preschool Director
Mrs. Dana Keller.....	Organist
Mrs. Erin Wendling	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band.....	10:30AM Music
Mr. Todd Zeigler.....	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Mr. Jeff Stremming	8AM Elder on Duty
Andrew Lotz	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Howard Janis	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Aiden Hanks.....	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Chris Niebrugge 217-821-8854	Elder on Duty for Feb. 10 – Feb. 14, 2020
Sister Congregation.....	in Blidene, Latvia
Chatelain School & Baja School.....	Our Schools for feeding in Haiti
Mrs. Julie Scott	(217-343-3047) Prayer Partner Coordinator
State, National & International Missions.....	through our District and Synod

CHRIST is important to us
in our worship
in our study
in our fellowship
in our lives.

YOU are important to us
in our worship
in our study
in our fellowship
in our lives.

HIS VISION FOR US:

St. John's will be known for being involved in our changing community, for providing leadership in our changing world, and for serving others in Christian love.

We will welcome our diverse guests with open arms. Our friendly, loving and accepting people will engage our guests, mentor them in the faith, and inspire many to become members.

Our members will be motivated by the cross to be actively engaged in ministry, showing love and care to others. We will encourage one another, nurture one another, and enthusiastically serve our God together!

HIS GOAL FOR US:

We will pray and work with singleness of purpose to expand the impact of our ministry to God's children of all ages, with special emphasis on young families, by developing new ways to strengthen the relationship between St. John's, our members and our community, providing the facilities and resources to involve more people in ministry and outreach.

WELCOME CENTER

Greeters are present at the Welcome Center in the atrium adjacent to our sanctuary before and after the service to answer any questions you may have, provide directions to restrooms, classrooms, etc. If you are a first time guest, we also have a gift for you. If you live in our community or surrounding area and you do not have a church home, we welcome your consideration. We offer true fellowship with the living Savior and membership in His Church.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Kindly fill out a registration card (welcome side) located in the pew rack. Our guests are also asked to complete the address and phone number portion. Please pass your card to the center aisle to be gathered during the offering.

CELL PHONES

Please turn your cell phones off before the service begins.

AS WE GATHER

We consider today that Jesus calls Himself the light of the world and also calls us the light of the world in the Holy Gospel. While Jesus shines His grace upon the earth, He also calls upon us to shine our light throughout the entire world, so that many come to know Him as their Savior. How blessed are we to be the light of the world with Jesus!

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Light of the World

CALL TO WORSHIP - BELLS

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

“Christ the Eternal Lord”

#829 (vv.1-4)

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Blessed are those who fear the Lord,

People: **who greatly delight in His commandments.**

Pastor: Light dawns in the darkness for the upright.

People: **God is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

Pastor: You are the light of the world,

People: **a city on a hill that cannot be hidden.**

Pastor: Let your light shine that others may see and give glory to God.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus does indeed call us the light of the world and tells us to let our light shine, but there have been times when we have hidden His light. We come before our heavenly Father to ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we confess that we have not always walked in Your light. We have hidden Your light from others. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive our sins. Illumine and energize us once again to shine Your light to the ends of the earth.

Pastor: Even though we fail to act as the light of the world, Jesus never failed to shine His light. For our sins, Jesus, the light of the world was extinguished on the cross, yet He is risen from the dead never to die again. Because of His death and resurrection, darkness flees and sins are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are the light of the world. We are forgiven in Christ.

HYMN OF PRAISE: “Christ the Eternal Lord”

829, V. 5

**Christ the ascended King
Exalted high above,
Whose praise unending ages sing,
Whom yet unseen we love;
When mortal life is past
Your voice from heaven’s throne
Shall call Your children home at last
To know as we are known.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son into this world of darkness and death to be our light and our life. Strengthen us so that we share and shine the light of Christ throughout the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 58:3–9a

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?” Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

BELL CHOIR (8:00 & 10:30)

“Speak, O Lord”

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 2:1–12

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

Matthew 5:16b

P: Alleluia. Let your light shine before others,

C: **So that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.**
Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13–20

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“How Shall They Hear, Who Have Not Heard”

#831

CATECHISM

The 6th Commandment & Meaning

pg. 321

SERMON

“City On A Hill”

CREED

Nicene Creed

People: **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,**

**the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Dear heavenly Father, You sent Your Son to be the light of the world. Send out messengers and missionaries to share the light of Christ in every corner of the earth, that people from every tribe, nation, and language would follow Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, there are many in this world who live in the darkness of depression, anxiety, and mental illness. Help us to be light to those in dark places, to encourage them to seek medical assistance, and to accept them as Your beloved children. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord of the nations, bless the mission work of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Thank you for this important work, and help us to partner with them for the sake of the Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, shine Your light upon all those in public office. Enlighten them with Your wisdom and keep them from the darkness of the evil one. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, strengthen all those who are poor, homeless, hungry, oppressed, or in need in any way. Help us to see these people as Your creations in need of Your mercy and light, just as we are. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Have mercy upon them and heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we commend all of these things to Your infinite mercies, which are new every morning. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



5:30PM & 8:00AM

For the Sacrament of The Altar, please turn to pages 208-212 in your hymnal.

Distribution Hymns:

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

#637

“Lift High the Cross”

#837

BENEDICTION

HYMN “On What Has Now Been Sown”

#921

POSTLUDE

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