

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

WATERTOWN, MN

Pastor: Rev. Paul Krentz

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CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL Principal: Jeff Boehlke 952-955-1419

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2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 20, 2008

WELCOME to all who are visiting today! Our greatest desire is to share that wonderful message of forgiveness and eternal salvation for all in Jesus' name. We pray you will be drawn closer to Christ today as the Holy Spirit nurtures us through God's Word. Please, take home any of the material found on the tables in the entrance, and we hope you will join us every week for worship in Jesus' name.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC + WELCOME

HYMN: "Breathe My Name" (Tune: Ode to Joy)

1. God the Father, You have known me from creation of the earth, Searched me, Lord, completely knowing of the moment of my birth, Fashion'd me within my mother, with Your hands You knitted me, Breathed into my life Your breath a living soul I came to be.
2. Dearest Jesus, You have known me on the cross of Calvary, Searched my soul completely saving, breath'd your last in place of me, Through the water and the Spirit washed away my life of sin, Crucified together with You, Lord in me You breathe again.
3. Holy Spirit, You have known me all my days before they came, Nowhere can I flee Your presence in the womb You knew my name, By your power, through Your working, You have breathed my name again That through faith it shall be written in the book of life, in heav'n.

INVOCATION

P. In the name of God the Father,

C. WHO CREATED LIFE WITH HIS HANDS.

P. In the name of God the Son,

C. WHO REDEEMED LIFE WITH HIS HANDS.

P. In the name of God the Holy Spirit,

C. WHO HOLDS LIFE IN HIS HANDS.

P. In the name of the Triune God,

C. THE LORD OF LIFE! AMEN.

CONFESSION OF SIN:

P. God tells us to "lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely" (*Heb 12:1*)

C. SIN CAN WEIGH SO HEAVILY UPON US AND CLING SO CLOSELY THAT IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE TO LAY IT ASIDE. SIN CAN MAKE US FEEL SO FAITHLESS.

P. But we depend upon God's faithfulness, not ours!

C. HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST AND HAS ASSURED US AS WE CONFESS OUR SINS, TRUSTING IN CHRIST, HE WILL CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

P. Let us then confess our sins before the Lord.

C. FATHER, WE CONFESS OUR SINFUL NATURE CLINGS CLOSELY TO US. IT PRODUCES SINS OF THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED. THINGS WE HAVE DONE, THINGS WE HAVE FAILED TO DO, SECRET THINGS NO ONE KNOWS - THESE WEIGH DOWN UPON US. THE WORK OF OUR HANDS CAN NEVER FREE US FROM THIS BURDEN. BUT YOU CAN! FORGIVE US FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SON JESUS, AND THE SACRIFICE HE MADE FOR US ON THE CROSS. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE:

P. God has had mercy upon us!

C. JESUS, "FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS!" (*Heb 12:2*)

P. The hands of God that created you stretched out in love upon the cross to pay the price for all your sins!

ABSOLUTION

HYMN OF PRAISE: (*Sung, LW p. 161*)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, *2* To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours: *3* Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *4* I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. *5* For in him you have been enriched in every way—in all your speaking and in all your knowledge— *6* because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. *7* Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. *8* He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *9* God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

GOSPEL READING: John 1:29-42

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! *30* This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ *31* I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.” *32* Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. *33* I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ *34* I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God.” *35* The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. *36* When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!” *37* When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. *38* Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” *39* “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour. *40* Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. *41* The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). *42* And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).

CONFESSION OF FAITH: “The Nicene Creed”

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 worshipped 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.

“The Potter’s Hand”

Verse: Beautiful Lord, wonderful Savior, I know for sure, All of my days are held in Your hand, crafted into Your perfect plan. You gently call me into Your presence, guiding me by Your Holy Spirit; Teach me, dear Lord, to live all of my life through Your eyes. I’m captured by Your holy calling, set me apart; I know You’re drawing Me to Yourself. Lead me, Lord, I pray.

Chorus: Take me, mold me, use me, fill me; I give my life to the Potter’s hand.

Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me; I give my life to the Potter’s hand.

You gently call me into Your presence, guiding me by Your Holy Spirit; Teach me, dear Lord, to live all of my life through Your eyes. I’m captured by Your holy calling, set me apart; I know You’re drawing Me to Yourself. Lead me, Lord, I pray. (*Chorus x2*)

(Integrity Hosanna Music Used by permission CCLI # 1561573)

SERMON: Isaiah 49:1-6 "Why a Womb?"

(*A sermon outline with the Scripture reading is printed on the back of the bulletin to aid your meditation on God's Word*)

THE OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP

(*Please sign book at end of pew*)

Anthem: “Write Your Word Upon My Heart” (Words printed to follow along) Adult Choir 8am
Ev’ry word that You have spoken, each command You give today, holy vows that can’t be broken; Lord, please write upon my heart, write Your word upon my heart. Ev’ry grace that You have granted, each small thing Your hand supplies, ev’ry seed of faith You’ve planted; Lord, please write upon my heart, write Your grace upon my heart. Love the Lord with all your strength, cherish God with all your heart. Bind His wisdom to your spirit, from God’s Word do not depart. Ev’ry love that You have given, each compassion You bestow, ev’ry sin that You’ve forgiven; Lord, please write upon my heart, write Your love upon my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. In my heart, in my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. Write Your word upon my heart.

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER FOR BLESSING: *(Sung, LW p.168)*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HYMN OF ASSURANCE: *(Sung, LW p. 172)*

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.

THOSE DESIRING COMMUNION: *The Bible teaches under the bread and wine of Communion Jesus gives His real body and blood to assure us of forgiveness. (Mt 26:26-28) It also teaches in receiving this meal together, we are by that act professing a unity of faith with the church at whose altar we commune. (1 Cor 10: 16-21) While Communion is meant as a blessing, we can however misuse it to our harm. Those who eat without repentance or recognizing the presence of Jesus' body and blood sin against the Lord. (1 Cor 11:27-29). Also, when fellowship at this meal is practiced with others who hold beliefs contrary to God's Word, the church is weakened and the truth God tells us to guard is compromised. (Ro 16:17, 2 Thess 3:14) In an effort to avoid these sins and follow God's Word, before communing anyone we first seek to teach them about Christ's meal, and have them make a public profession of their agreement with us in the faith. As a matter of loving spiritual care then, not judgment, we invite to commune with us today confirmed members in good standing of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, or the American Association of Lutheran Churches (AALC) who have received instruction, and by current membership in one of these sister churches confess a unity of faith with us here at St. Paul's.*

NON-ALCOHOLIC COMMUNION WINE: *Out of consideration for those who have difficulty with alcohol a few glasses in the center ring of each Communion tray contain non-alcoholic white wine.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN OF THANKS: *(Sung, LW p. 173)*

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

BLESSING: *(Adapted from Ephesians 3:16-20)*

P. May the Lord strengthen you out of his glorious riches, with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

C. SO THAT CHRIST MAY DWELL IN OUR HEARTS THROUGH FAITH.

P. May the Lord root and establish you in His love,

C. THAT WE MAY HAVE POWER, TOGETHER WITH ALL THE SAINTS, TO GRASP HOW WIDE AND LONG AND HIGH AND DEEP IS THE LOVE OF CHRIST,

P. And to know this love that surpasses knowledge,

C. THAT WE MAY BE FILLED TO THE MEASURE OF ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.

P. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,

C. ACCORDING TO HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITH US, BE GLORY, HONOR, AND PRAISE. AMEN.

Anthem: *"Star of the East"* (words printed to follow along) *Adult Choir 8am*

Star of the East, lead us on, 'til we reach the house of Messiah. There we'll lay our gifts at His feet and worship Christ, the Lord. We will worship Christ, the Lord. Star of the East, lead us on, 'til we reach the house of Messiah. There we'll lay our gifts at His feet, and worship Christ, the Lord. We will worship Christ, the Lord. We'll cry, "Holy," "holy," we'll cry, "Worthy is the King." We'll cry, "Holy," "holy," we will bow and worship Him. As the wise men came from afar, so, too, have we been drawn near. We await Your grand return; from the sky You shall appear! Light of the World, lead us on, 'til we reach the throne of the Savior. There we'll lay our crowns at His feet and worship Christ, the Lord. We'll cry, "Holy," "holy," we'll cry, "Worthy is the Lamb!" We'll cry, "Holy," "holy," we will bow and worship Him. We'll cry, "Holy," "holy," we'll cry, "Worthy is the Lamb!" We'll cry, "Holy," "holy," we will bow and worship Him. We will worship Christ the Lord! Amen

HYMN: #127 *"As With Gladness Men of Old"* vs.1-4 10:30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF JANUARY:

January 27th – 10:30 Service

Isaiah 49:1-6

"Why a Womb?"

1 Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name. 2 He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. 3 He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." 4 But I said, "I have labored to no purpose; I have spent my strength in vain and for nothing. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God." 5 And now the LORD says— he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength— 6 he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

1. To our human minds, God coming to us in a womb seems _____.

2. What was provided for Jesus in the womb to equip him as our Savior?

3. What did taking on a human nature in a womb make possible for Jesus?

4. When does our human sinfulness begin?

5. To take our place under sin Jesus' perfect life had to begin _____
_____.

6. In what two ways does God work to accomplish his will?

A.

B.

7. How does Jesus coming in a womb help identify him as the Savior for all people?

8. What message does the gospel proclaim about those who are yet unborn?

WELCOME