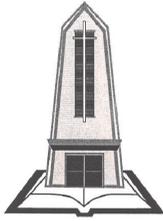




FEBRUARY 3 & 4, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
**REVEALED AS THE ONE WHO
HEALS AND HELPS HIS PEOPLE**



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

www.stjohnsbc.org

Church:
706 W. Jane Street
Bay City, MI 48706
(989) 684-6791

School:
210 S. Alp St.
Bay City, MI 48706
(989) 684-6442

WELCOME

We welcome all of you as we gather to celebrate the good news of how Jesus Christ made it known that he is the Son of God and Savior of the world. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us for worship. We ask that you join us in signing the Friendship Register (the red folder in the pew). We look forward to having you join us for worship again.

SEASONAL THEME: REVEALED

EPIPHANY 1: Revealed as our Substitute at his baptism.

EPIPHANY 2: Revealed as the Messiah who calls for us to follow him.

EPIPHANY 3: Revealed as the Messiah through the ambassadors he calls.

EPIPHANY 4: Revealed as the Prophet with authority.

EPIPHANY 5: Revealed as the One who heals and helps his people.

TRANSFIGURATION: Revealed as the Son of God in his glory.

Throughout the season of Epiphany, we see Jesus revealed as the promised Messiah. Last week, Jesus showed his authority in teaching and driving out demons. Today, the truth highlighted in all our readings is that Jesus heals and helps his people. He shoulders all the effects of the Devil, from weariness and weakness to anxiety and stress to disease and ignorance. He never wearies and always has strength for us. He strengthens us when the roaring lion prowls and anxiety looms. Our Gospel shows him healing, driving out demons, and spreading his preaching. With his power over demon and disease and his message of repentance, Christ is revealed.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist

Preacher

Music

Cantor

Pastor Paul Schaeewe

Pastor Jacob Reich

Hymnsoft

Mr. Klay Gillham (10:30 am)

THE SERVICE

Service of Word & Sacrament (Red Hymnal pp. 26-37)

THE GATHERING

OPENING HYMN

431 *I Walk in Danger All the Way* (st. 1,2,5,6)

CONFESSION OF SINS

(p. 26)

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD HAVE MERCY

(p. 27)

O LORD, OUR LORD

(p. 28)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, keep your family continually in true faith, so that those who rely only on the hope of your heavenly grace may be protected by your mighty power; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:27-31

The untiring Lord gives strength to the weak and weary.

²⁷Why do you speak, O Jacob?

O Israel, why do you say,

“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and justice for me is ignored by my God”?

²⁸Do you not know? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the eternal God.

He is the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired, and he will not become weary.

No one can find a limit to his understanding.

²⁹He is the one who gives strength to the weak,

and he increases the strength of those who lack power.

³⁰Young men grow tired and become weary.
Even strong men stumble and fall.

³¹But those who wait for the Lord will receive new strength.
They will lift up their wings and soar like eagles.
They will run and not become weary.
They will walk and not become tired. ^{EHV}

PSALM HYMN

238 *Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul*

SECOND READING

1 Peter 5:6-11

Our enemy the Devil may stalk us like a hungry lion hunting prey, but the God of all grace cares for us and promises deliverance.

⁶Therefore humble yourselves under God's powerful hand so that he may lift you up at the appointed time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Have sound judgment. Be alert. Your adversary, the Devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him by being firm in the faith. You know that the same kinds of sufferings are being laid on your brotherhood all over the world.

¹⁰After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you. ¹¹To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen. ^{EHV}

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Pastor speaks the appointed verse.

Isaiah 40:31

Alleluia. Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

Because of sin, God's people experience sickness and suffering in their lives. But Jesus helps and heals his people.

²⁹They left the synagogue and went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was lying in bed, sick with a fever. Without delay they told Jesus about her. ³¹He went to her, took her by the hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, when the sun had set, the people kept bringing to him all who were sick and demon-possessed. ³³The whole town gathered at the door. ³⁴He healed many people who were sick with various diseases and drove out many demons. But he did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew who he was.

³⁵Jesus got up early in the morning, while it was still dark, and went out. He withdrew to a solitary place and was praying there. ³⁶Simon and his companions searched for him, ³⁷and, when they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is looking for you!"

³⁸He told them, “Let’s go somewhere else, to the neighboring villages, so that I can preach there too. In fact, that is why I have come.” ³⁹Then he went throughout the whole region of Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons. ^{EHV}

HYMN OF THE DAY

428 *Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me*

SERMON TEXT

1 Peter 5:6-11

THEME: STAND FIRM IN FAITH!

NICENE CREED

(p. 31)

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(p. 32)

LORD'S PRAYER

Traditional (p. 32)

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

(p. 33)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(p. 34)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(p. 35)

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

(p. 35)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

422 *Jesus, Lead Us On*
333 *Abide, O Dearest Jesus*

THANKSGIVING

THANK THE LORD

(p. 36)

BLESSING

(p. 37)

This Week at St. John's		
Sunday	4:00 pm	Kevin Peil's Presentation/Pizza Dinner
Monday	6:00 pm	No School - Pastor/Teacher Conference Trustees
Tuesday	5:30 pm & 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Pastor Conference Boy's Basketball @ Trinity Elders
Wednesday	10:00 am 11:15 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Midweek Bible Class Event Group Board of Ed Midweek Bible Class
Friday	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Boy's A-Team MLS Basketball Tournament School's Daddy/Daughter Dance
Saturday	6:00 pm	Boy's A-Team MLS Basketball Tournament Worship Service/WELS Connection
Sunday	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Worship Service/WELS Connection Coffee Hour/Bible Study/BIC/Sr. Choir Practice Worship Service/Staff Choir sings/WELS Connection

Announcements

Do you love a good book? So do the students of St. John's! During February, help support the prize patrol for the Accelerated Reading program by dropping your extra change in the jars outside the church and school offices. The classroom who collects the most change will win a pizza party and you will receive that warm, loving feeling of donating to a great cause! This year we will be sharing the profits with the "playground replacement fund" so please, "Bee generous!" Thanks!

Service times for our Ash Wednesday and Midweek Lenten Services are on Wednesdays, 3:15 and 6:00 pm. This year we will once again have the area WELS pastors rotating around the churches to conduct the services.

Our Wednesday Lenten Dinners will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. As in the past we are asking for desserts for the dinners; there is a sign-up sheet on the hall table. Dinners will be served after the 3:15 pm services, 4:15 pm until 5:45 pm. We are asking everyone

attending for a free-will donation for their meal. We also have a sign-up sheet for volunteers willing to help with the clean-up.

Scheduled Dinners:

February 14 th (Ash Wednesday)	Hot Dogs/Sloppy Joes, chips, veggie tray, dessert
February 21 st	Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert
February 28 th	Ham, Macaroni & Cheese, rolls, salad, dessert
March 6 th	Soup, chili, crackers, corn bread, veggie tray, dessert
March 13 th	Taco bar, dessert
March 20 th	Fried chicken, scalloped potatoes, salad, dessert

A new *Grow with Me* class, taught by our preschool director, Mrs. Laurie Peil, will be held February 19th - March 18th (no class on February 26th). These classes are for 2 and 3-year-olds and an accompanying adult (Dad, Mom, Grandparent, etc.) This session will be held in the gym on Monday evenings from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm; use the Alp St. doors. The cost is \$25 for 4 weeks; application forms are available in the church and school offices.

Coming Up: Family Game night! Our Event Group is having a game night for families on February 23rd, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring your favorite board game(s) or cards and an appetizer to pass. Beverages will be provided. To help us with set-up, please let us know you are coming; a sign-up sheet is on the hall table.

Call Updates: We have extended a call for the 7th/8th Grade Teacher/Principal position to Mr. Rick Zimmerman. He currently serves at St. John-St. James, Reedsville, WI. We have also extended a call for the 5th/6th Grade Teacher position to Mrs. Megan Spaude. She currently serves at MLS in Saginaw. If you would like to reach out to Mr. Zimmerman or Mrs. Spaude to introduce yourself or offer words of encouragement, you can call Mr. Zimmerman at 608-350-6646 and Mrs. Spaude at 651-447-9348. Please keep these called workers in your prayers.

The latest edition of *Speaking Up*, the newsletter of the Pregnancy Care Center in Saginaw, is available and on the table outside the church office. They need donations of various items. If you would like to donate, the items may be brought to the church office.

Items most needed are:

- Gently used, or new, clothing (especially sizes 0-3 months, 6-9 months, 2 & 3 T).
- Car Seats Strollers High chairs Bassinets
- Cribs Potty chairs Pack n Plays

They are also in need of volunteers to serve as Mentors, Receptionists and Helpliners. If you have any questions, please call or text Gail McFarland at 989-225-0041.



Volunteers Needed!!!

St. John's is hosting the Boys A-Basketball Tournament Friday, February 16th and Saturday, February 17th and we need all hands on deck! We will need help in the following areas:

- Running the Clock/Scoreboard during the games
- Keeping the book for each of the games
- Admissions (taking money for admittance into the tournament)
- Concessions Sales
- Concessions Food Prep
- Making Popcorn
- Cleaning up Concessions after the last game
- Cleaning up the Gym after the last game

There is no experience required and we have instruction sheets for many of the jobs so that you can review to see what is entailed. We will have a poster in the hallway next weekend with a sign-up sheet.

I know we can count on our Wildcat families to help us put on a FANTASTIC tournament!! Please come out, get involved and support your school!!

Worship Service Attendance	2024	2023
Worship Service Attendance, 1/27 & 1/28	201	188