



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S Main St
Charles City, Iowa 50616
641-228-3397
www.stjohncharlescity.org

Rev. Russ Leeper, Pastor
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

January 24, 2021: Third Sunday after Epiphany



Mark 1:14-20

Prelude:

“Think About His Love”
“The Love of God”

Welcome

Announcements

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Dennis & Jan Brinkman in memory of loved ones

Gathering Hymn:

“Arise, Your Light Has Come”

Hymnal #314

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
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Apostolic Greeting:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: **And also with you.**

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

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Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Reading:

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Read by Lydia Johnson

³The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Reading:

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

.Gospel Acclamation:

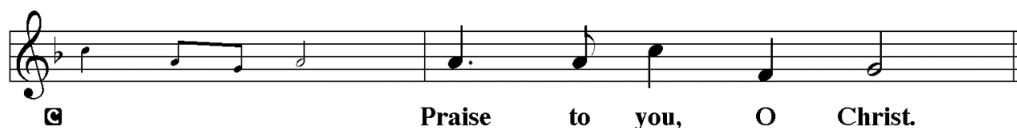


P: *The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:14-20*



¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” ¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

P: *The Gospel of the Lord...*



Sermon

Pastor Russ Leeper



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -
 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
 2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther
 3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing
 4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly
 trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my
 love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's
 long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.
 ask - ing for me to fol - low.
 fish nets and will for work - ing.
 will - ing to go on lov - ing.
 Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,
 Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi
 you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.
 small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

The Creed

The Apostles' Creed
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
our Lord, who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

The Prayers (P): Lord in your mercy,
Response: **hear our prayer**

Please Keep the following in prayer:

Natasha Beller	Angie Hansen	Steven Patten
Sondra Coen	Ellen Hobb	Yolanda Van Ausdall
Norm Bauer	Sandra Link	Ann Voelker
Dan Carey	Mary Obermeier	Bill Wohlers Jr.
Alan Farmer		

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Alex Buenger, Kim Hall, Dalton Schutjer, Robson Shankland, Elliott Sinnwell

The Prayer List: Names will be kept on the list for 3 weeks. Family members can request a name be left on longer. The office number is 228-3397.

Family of Norma Jean Kamin Kamm

Family of Margaret Edith Stohr

Special Music:

“Siyahamba”

Lydia Johnson & Susan Leeper, Melanie Johanningmeier, piano

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

The Benediction

P: Let's hold each other in prayer & stay safe!

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

From the Congregation President,

Welcome to 2021! As we begin a new year, we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. The St. John Church Council has been discussing the pandemic at each month's council meeting since last March, deliberating our next steps, monitoring the numbers in Floyd County and the 7- and 14-day rolling positivity averages, and if there is a post-holidays surge in January before reaching a decision on reopening. At this month's meeting, the Council recommended starting in-person services again on January 31. That could be adjusted depending upon what happens in the next weeks. We have been trying to balance reopening for in-person church activities with keeping everyone safe. Our hope is that vaccinations will keep moving forward and offer additional protection for those most susceptible to the virus. We know that we have members who are very hesitant to return to in-person activities and we have members who are very eager to return to in-person activities. Our thinking through all of this has been to make sure we open safely so our members will be comfortable returning to in-person services.

It hasn't been easy to strike a balance between being overly cautious and not cautious enough. The St. John annual meeting has typically been held in January when the congregation approves the 2021 ministry support plan, new board members, and conducts other church business. Due to the current state of the pandemic, we are postponing the annual meeting until it is safe for us to meet as a congregation and allow as many members as possible to participate. The St. John Church Council has reviewed and approved the 2021 ministry support plan and new board members in the interim, pending final congregational approval at the annual meeting. The annual report is being prepared and should be available soon. We ask for your understanding and your prayers—prayers not only for our church staff and Council but for our congregation members (especially those who are most vulnerable to the virus and to the effects of the on-going isolation being caused by the virus) and our community. Please let me know if you have any concerns or comments.

In Person Worship...

St. John will resume in-person worship on Sunday, January 31st at 9:00 a.m. Reservations will NOT be required. Masks & distancing will be required. On entering a Deacon will sign you in for attendance & contact tracing purposes.

Worship & Communion February 7th

During in-person worship we will be celebrating communion. For those watching online the all-in-one communion cups St. John uses can be picked up to use at home. Your own bread & wine/juice can also be used.

“Drive Through Communion”

On February 7th between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m. we will have “Drive Through Communion. We will ask that you enter the parking lot at the top. You will proceed down to the canopy where you will be handed a disposable communion cup with wafer. Next you will proceed to the pastor to partake of communion. Gluten free cups will be available.

Cookies & Cocoa!

The St. John Youth board
will be offering homemade cookies &
cocoa

**February 7th during the Drive
through Communion**
to those who would like to have a treat!



2021 Offering Envelopes: Are available.
Call the office at 228-3397 to arrange
picking yours up.

**SHARE THE LOVE DRIVE-THRU MEAL
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021
Beginning 11 a.m. – Until food is gone**

ALL ARE WELCOME/FREE WILL DONATION

MENU: Lasagna, Breadstick, Scotcheroos Bar
Catered by: U2BBQ

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH PARKING LOT
200 S. Main St. Charles City, IA**

**FOR HOME DELIVERY CALL: 641-228-3397
(Please call by Friday, noon, February 12, 2021)**

Altar Flower & Radio Sign-up: If you would like to sign up to sponsor the Altar flowers &/or the radio broadcast contact Kathy in the office at 641-228-3397! We will continue to have flowers as they are on the online service & the radio broadcast reaches many of our at home congregation!

Though the St. John building is closed to the public, you can call the office with any questions or concerns. Kathy is in the office from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. You can also reach her by emailing khoeft@stjohncharlescity.com.

**Offering from the week of
January 17, 2021**

General Receipts	\$	16,116.04
Designated offering		400.00
<i>General receipts of \$9,757.00 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget</i>		

Prayer Shawl & Blanket Ministry.

As an addition to the Prayer Shawl Ministry we have now included fleece blankets. The Blanket Ministry started with giving fleece blankets to patients at the hospital at Christmas. We think we should continue this ministry. Blankets can be given to the same people that prayer shawls are appropriate for, stocked in the clothing room for needy people and possibly as something the pastors could use for people that might be blessed by one at a visitation.

This ministry does come with a cost, however. **The St. John Church Council approved an account being set up for monetary donations for fleece. Any amount you could donate would be appreciated.** It can be designated as a memorial too. You could also make a donation of a 2-yard section of fleece, or if you wish you can make one yourself. Instructions for making these single layer blankets can be found on the St. John website: www.stjohncharlescity.org. I strive to make them for \$7.00 or less, so we have to be on the lookout for sales. *Note: a 2.5-yard piece of fleece can also make 2 youth-size blankets if the pattern allows for a sideways print.*

I am interested in hearing from people willing to sew. I have purchased several yards of fleece and am willing to share with anyone willing to sew a few up. Please contact me at petefishj@mchsi.com.

We can always use Prayer Shawls. So, if you knit, crochet, sew, or quilt you can make a prayer shawl. You can drop a completed one off or pick one up at the church office.

**Your offering can be mailed to St. John Lutheran, 200 S Main St, Charles City, IA 50616
OR...**

Electronic Giving – this is an option that has been added to the St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church website in recent months. You can use this option to set up your giving on a weekly, monthly or yearly plan. But it is also convenient if you want to use it for one-time transactions – to give to specific funds, events, or memorials for instance. You can give through your personal accounts or credit cards. Just remember that if you use your credit card, unless you specifically indicate the service charge be taken from your account, St. John will be assessed that charge. This means of giving has seen some activity and we are really excited to be able to give you this option. Please keep in mind electronic giving as you plan your budgeting needs. At <http://www.stjohncharlescity.org/>, you will find Digital Simply Giving on the blue menu bar at the top of the page; that is your link to electronic convenience!

“We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Cherie Schafer for the recent memorial she gave to St. John in memory of Helen Marie Nysven Goplerud. Thank you!”

“We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Cherie Schafer, Kay Tjaden, Arlene Thomas, Mike & Clarice Leraaen, Lynn & Peg Poppen, Tilleen Litterer for the recent memorials they gave to St. John in memory of Helen Irene Lewison Peterson. Thank you!”

“We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Cherie Schafer, Al & Betty Manning, Kay Tjaden, Bruce & Brenda de Buhr, Lynn & Peg Poppen, Mary Ann Townsend, Dave & Lorna Scrimger, Edna Stott, Paul & Yolanda Van Ausdall, and Gladys Kellogg for the recent memorials they gave to St. John in memory of Sue Claire McDowell Baron. Thank you!”

“We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Kurt & Kathy Hoeft for the recent memorial they gave to St. John in memory of Norma Jean Kamin Kamm. Thank you!”