



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 31, 2021: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with **authority!**” Mark 1:27



Mark 1:21-28

Prelude: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"/"Thou Art Worthy, Great Jehovah"

Welcome

Announcements

The flowers on the Altar are from Jamie & Jesi Carolan in support of health care workers.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Lenis & Nadonne Buseman in memory of their son Steve Buseman & loved ones.

Gathering Hymn: "Arise, Shine"

Arise, shine, for thy light is come. Arise, shine, for thy light is come;
And the glory of the Lord is risen, the glory of the Lord is come,
the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Arise, shine, for thy light is come. Arise, shine, for thy light is come;
And the glory of the Lord is risen, the glory of the Lord is come,
the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

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.**

Hymn of Praise

"Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!"

Hymnal #875

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

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Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer of the Day

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Reading:

Isaiah 43:18-21

Read by Susan Leeper

8Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. 19I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. 20The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, 21the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

.Gospel Acclamation:

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

21They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. 22They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. 23Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, 24and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” 25But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” 26And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 27They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” 28At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P: The Gospel of the Lord...

Praise to you, O Christ.



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
 pre - cious in your sight.
 hill to val - ley flow.
 king - dom with - out end.

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	Paul Van Ausdall
Sondra Coen	Ellen Hobb	Yolanda Van Ausdall
Norm Bauer	Sandra Link	Ann Voelker
Dan Carey	Duane Ortmyer	Bill Wohlers Jr.
Alan Farmer		

Family of Steven Patten

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Makenzie Bilharz, 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.

Special Music:

“Beautiful Savior”

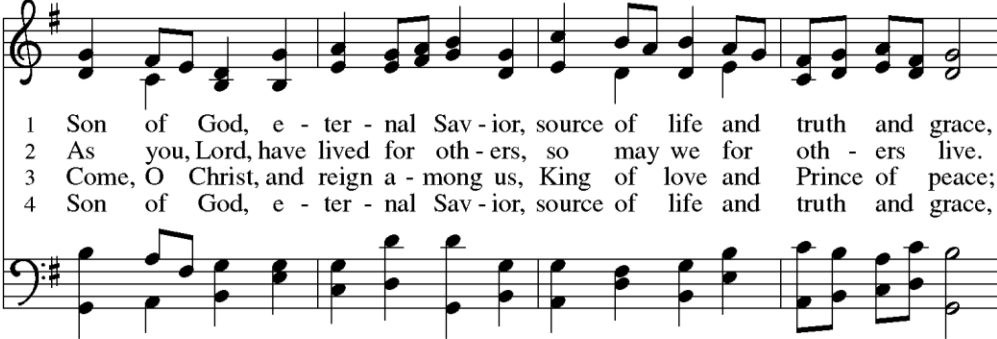
Cherie Schafer, piano/Melanie Johanningmeier, organ

The Lord's Prayer:

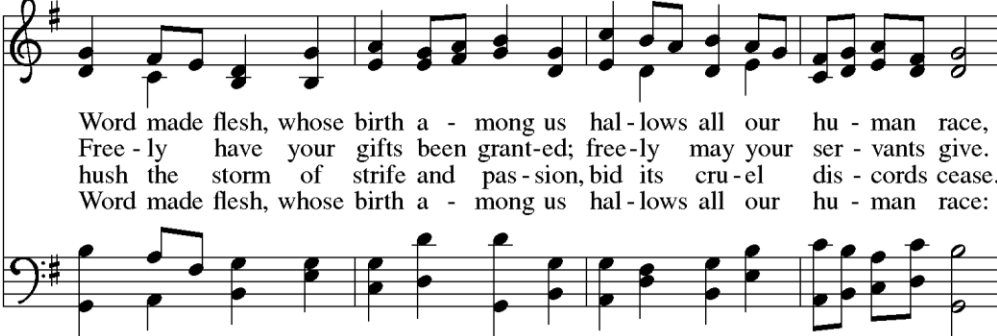
**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil. For thine is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

The Benediction

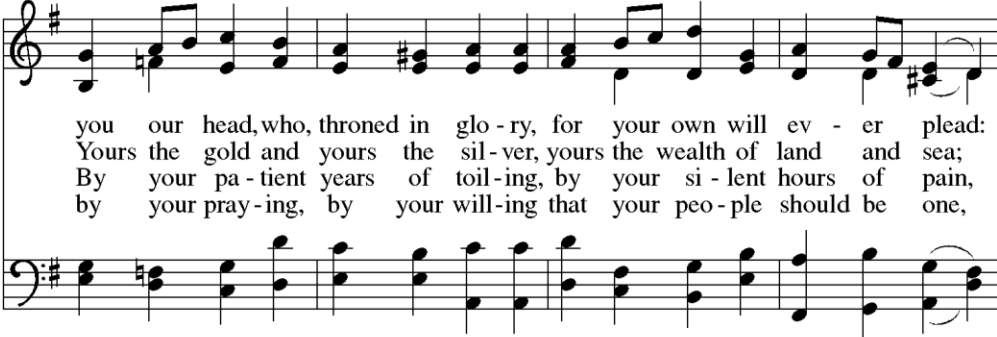
P: Let's hold each other in prayer & stay safe!



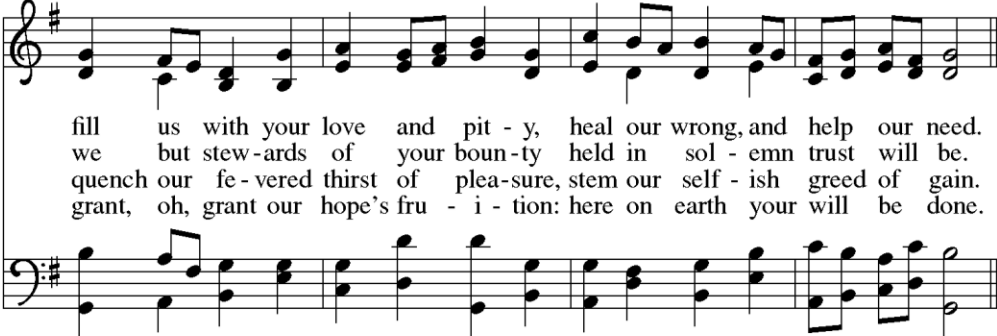
1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932
 Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

From the Congregation President,

At the January 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 available online at www.stjohncharlescity.org or at the church.**

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!



2020 Annual Reports are available online at www.stjohncharlescity.org and at St. John.

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 24, 2021**

General Receipts	\$	3,548.00
Designated offering		1,260.00
<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 Karen Streich and Cal & Joyce Wood for the recent memorials they gave to St. John in memory of Helen Marie Nysven Goplerud. Thank you!”

“We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Dale & Helen Bond, Georgie Miller, Ron & Connie Rasmussen, Leon & Jan Mulford, Kip & Judy Hauser, Karen Streich, Marilyn Isakson 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 Linda Hughes, Mary Jean Zilm, Karen Streich, Cal & Joyce Wood, Arlene Thomas, Marilyn Isakson, Barb Fuls 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 Dennis & Jan Brinkman and Cal & Joyce Wood for the recent memorial they gave to St. John in memory of Norma Jean Kamin Kamm. Thank you!”