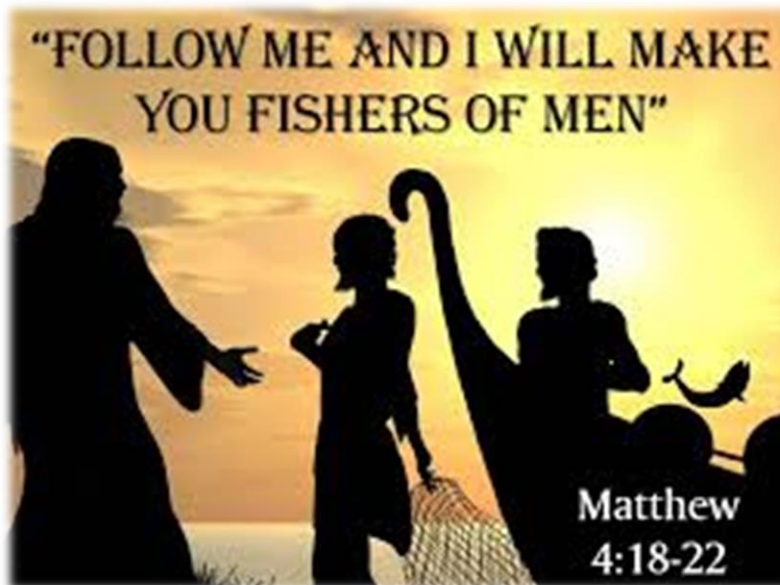




St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S Main St
Charles City, Iowa 50616
641-228-3397
www.stjohncharlescity.org

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

January 22, 2023; 3rd Sunday after Epiphany



Matthew 4:12-23

Prelude:

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Welcome

The flowers on the Altar are from Sandy Miller in memory of Dale Miller.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Susan Shankland in memory of parents

Gathering Hymn:

“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word”

520

1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and

gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:

and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on

es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

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.**

The musical score is arranged in four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are as follows:

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

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

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

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

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

*Scripture Reading***Isaiah 9:1-4***Read by Jeanne Hansen*

9But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. 2The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. 3You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. 4For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

“This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m goin’ a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I’m goin’ a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I’m goin’ a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev’ry where I go, I’m goin’ a let it shine:
Ev’ry where I go, I’m goin’ a let it shine:
Ev’ry where I go, I’m goin’ a let it shine:
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I’m goin’ a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I’m goin’ a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I’m goin’ a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Children’s Sermon

Gospel Song:

“Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 4:12-23



¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord...



Sermon

Pastor Russ Leeper

Song of the Day

“Follow Me”

Casting Crowns **Video**

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:

Sue Ayers Dave Hagen Randy Kreger Dennis Niezwaag Ron Venz
Joyce Boehmer Helen Hagen Jerry Meader Duane Ortmyer Marilu Wohlers
Rodney Ellis Shirley Hall Kathy Michael Calvin Schultz Bill Wohlers Jr.
Ruth Farmer Linda Hoy Leon Mulford Beverly Hinders Trost Carmen Wolf
Linda Girken

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Kaleb Bilharz, Mackenzy Bilharz, Alex Buenger, Tanner Evans, Kaylie Fox, Hannah Fox, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Drew Roethler, Robson Shankland

The Offering

The Offering Hymn

“Here I Am, Lord”

#574



1 “I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 “I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple’s pain.
3 “I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?”
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?”



Refrain
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

*Response

“Take Our Lives”

Take our lives and let them be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take our moments and our days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take our love, oh Lord, we pour at your feet its treasure store;
Take our lives and we will be ever yours eternally.

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 this is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

The Benediction

Sending Hymn:

“Christ, Be Our Light”

#715



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

P: Go in peace and share the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

CCLI #227-7055

Postlude:

“Toccatina in A Minor”



*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S. Main Street, Charles City, IA 50616; 641-228-3397*

January 22 - January 29

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:05 a.m.	Education Hour
Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Stewardship board
	6:30 p.m.	Preschool board
Wednesday	Newsletter Deadline	
	3:30 p.m.	After School
	5:00 p.m.	Supper
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	Trinity Choir
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Annual Meeting of the Congregation
		Youth brunch

**ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE CONGREGATION
JANUARY 29, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.
IN THE PARISH HALL**

The St. John youth will serve a breakfast of scrambled eggs, hashbrowns, ham & cinnamon rolls during the Annual Meeting on January 29th.

Free will donation goes to youth working at the brunch.

Beginning February 6th, the St. John office hours will be 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Other staff will be following their normal schedules. Phone calls will be answered, if possible, otherwise leave a message when prompted. Should you wish to email a message, the staff page on the St. John website lists our emails.

The Business Manager's hours are Fridays from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Dec./Jan. Council Highlights:

- We continue to average over 125 views per service on our virtual platform, with well over 300 viewing the Christmas Eve service!!
- Continuing to gather ideas of how our Council can continue to build our vision for God's Love in Action, we look forward to building off of the ideas presented at further council meetings.
- Based on the information collected and feedback from the NE Iowa Synod office, we approved an agreement with the NE Iowa Synod to join the Collaborative Learning Program. The two-year agreement centers around a student-intern working with our congregation and staff under Pastor Leeper's mentorship while she completes her programming to be ordained as a Deacon. The contract is for a 1/2 time basis and we look forward to welcoming the candidate in the near future as details are still being worked out on her start date.
- Excited to announce that the lift project is in motion. Based on feedback from the special meeting in November, Jaime, the Randall Construction team, our Buildings and Grounds board as well as others are looking at plans to adjust the project to a one-entry system to eliminate the need for a separate entrance for the lift. Thank you for the feedback at the meeting and we will keep you up with the details as they come in!
- Donated our Monthly Benevolence to jumpstart an exciting new opportunity. Pastor Russ and Susan brought a proposal to start a GriefShare program to the church. This program is specifically designed to help create support groups for those who have lost significant others. They have already secured some volunteers to get trained as facilitators, and these funds will help the program get started. Be on the lookout for more details to come!
- Big thanks to the efficient and effective work of the Nominating Committee, all board positions have been filled and we look forward to welcoming the new members during the February board meetings.
- For those of you who may not know, the Finance Board has a regular "Thanks" offering that is designated to help different people, programs, etc. We felt it was important to recognize this generosity as it is a testament to our mission of God's Love in Action. Most recently their donation put \$2,828 to pay off the Charles City schools lunch account deficit for families in need.
- Remind that the Annual Meeting is Sunday, Jan. 29th after service in the Parish Hall.

Thank you and please let us know if you have any thoughts, questions, concerns, etc.

-St. John Lutheran Church Council

After Worship Social Time! Coffee & a treat are served in the Parish Hall each Sunday! If you would like to volunteer to bring the treats, there is a signup on the treat table!

The Giving Statements for 2022 are in the Narthex on the same table as the 2023 Giving Envelopes.

Wednesday Night Supper

Menu for January 25:

Chicken bake with corn, salad & dessert

Supper is from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00 for adults, children through 12th grade free thanks to Kans for Kids

The Prayer Shawl Group is starting up again for 2023. We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month in the Fireside Room. That will be the 2nd and 16th in February. We could use some knit, crocheted, quilted or fleece shawls. It's time to get back in the swing and support this ministry. Please work on some at home if you can't attend the group. There will be coffee and conversation and all are welcome at any level of knitting ability. We are happy to help if needed. For questions contact Janet Petefish at petefishj@mchsi.com

Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast 2023

On the glass case in the Narthex are the 2023 signups for Altar flowers and radio broadcasts! The radio broadcast is enjoyed by many of our St. John members who cannot watch it on YouTube or attend in person.

REMINDER: Those students attending a Lutheran college who would like to receive an EPIC grant must notify the church by **May 1st**.

St. John scholarship applications for non-Lutheran colleges can be emailed to you and should be emailed to the office by **May 1st**.