

Sunday, February 1st, 2026
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany—First Communion

Welcome & Announcements

*Confession & Forgiveness

pg. 95 ELW

*Opening Hymn

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

ELW 310

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise; manifested by the star to the sages from afar, branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem: anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
2. Manifest at Jordan's stream, prophet, priest, and king supreme; and at Cana wedding guest in thy God-head manifest: manifest in pow'r divine, changing water into wine; anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
3. Manifest in making whole weakened body, fainting soul; manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might; manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill: anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
4. Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word; grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou; that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany, and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.

*Greeting

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

*Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray together,

C: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday School Singing

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³ “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.” ⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

Psalm 15 (read by half verse. Psalms can be found after pg. 338 and before the hymns.)

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the

strong;²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are,²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God.³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

***Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.¹¹ Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Brad

Sermon

Pastor Brad

***Hymn of the Day:**

"Softly and Tenderly"

ELW 608

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me. See, on the portal's he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me. "Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home." Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"
2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? "Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home." Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"
3. Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. "Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home." Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"

***The Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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:**

Each petition ends with: P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

***The Peace:**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

We invite you to share the peace in the manner you are most comfortable with. Please respect others, knowing that someone may not be comfortable sharing the peace with you in the same manner.

Offering

***Offertory Hymn:**

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

ELW 484

1. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat. As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice; so when you call your fam'ly Lord, we follow and rejoice.
2. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat. With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude that you should count us worthy Lord, to share this heav'nly food.
3. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat. Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ outpoured? Do not one cup, one loaf, declare our oneness in the Lord?

1. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat. The mystery of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell: whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell.
2. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat. You give your self to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be, to serve each other in your name in truth and charity.

***Offertory Prayer:**

P: Let us pray, Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***The Words of Institution**

***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.

Distribution of Communion

***Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer**

***Benediction and Sending**

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. C: THANKS BE TO GOD!

***Closing Hymn**

"Shine Jesus Shine"

ELW 671

1. Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory; blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light! Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining; Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me:
2. Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory; blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light! As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness, ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives tell your story. Shine on me, shine on me.

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to those receiving first communion today: Addy Argo, Charlee Dachel, Avery Debee, Owen Debee, Ellie Marek, Charlotte Mittlestadt, Bentley Reitz, Beckhem Swenby, Gemma Swenby, and Oliver Thomley

Annual Meeting is today, after service at 10 am

Pizza Orders are due today. Pick up date is next Sunday, Feb 8th

Crew is Wednesday, February 11th, 3:30-5:00pm for all 3rd-6th graders

Communion bread bakers needed for 2026. See sign-up on the table in the Narthex.

Winterfest, Sunday, February 15th, 1 pm till 3 pm. Food, sledding, games. All ages welcome.

February 18th is Ash Wednesday. Worship at Noon and 6:30 pm. Confirmation Youth serve Baked Potato Bar meal at 5:30 pm. Good will offering goes towards Luther Park Bible Camp.

Lagers with the Lord is Monday, February 23rd at Buckshots at 6 pm

Serving Our Lord and Church

Pastor: Bradley K. Peterson

Ministers: All Baptized Believers

Parish Manager: Andrea McVeigh

Ushers: Steve Stark, Dick Stark, Pat Gretzlock

Organists: Ginny Waller, Lee Peshaw

Altar Guild: Gail & Norma Stark

Reader: Dan Debee

Fellowship: Harper Humpal & Scott Kurschner

Greeter: Helen Rosen

Schedule For The Week of Feb 1-8

Sunday	9:00am	Worship
Monday	10:00am	Bible Study
Tuesday	9:00am	Quilting
Wednesday	5:30pm	Confirmation
	6:30pm	Worship
Thursday	10:00am	Card Club
Sunday	9:00am	Worship



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Our Prayer Concerns

Dick Clack

Saul Hedlund

Leona Steies

Kayden Ebensperger

Jennifer Marlett

Brad Stevens

Randee Mayer

Lynda Swenson

Tom Lohfink

Lynda Bird

Ashley Behling

Brian Moll

Jeanna Hollister

Shannon Bauer

Shirley Mittlestadt

Kasen Iverson

Kendra Kostman

Kathy Joles

Helen Rosen

Amy Frieburg

Ken Larson

Megan Vullings

Sunday: Psalm 122

Weekly Devotions

Wednesday: Psalm 125

Monday: Psalm 123

Tuesday: Psalm 124

Saturday: Psalm 128

Thursday: Psalm 126

Friday: Psalm 127

Sunday: Psalm 129

Pastor Bradley Peterson
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