

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31 - February 1, 2026

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IDENTITY REVEALED



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Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Heavenly Father, thank you for the blessing of this day and for the light of forgiveness given in your Word. Bless me as a pray and praise with my fellow saints in Jesus' name. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: You may not feel blessed when you are hungry or insulted or mourning the death of a loved one. You may not be in the mood to boast when you feel foolish, weak, or lowly. But knowing your difficulties, Jesus still chose you to be his own. He gives you many gifts, and he calls you blessed.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: "Epiphany" comes from a Greek word that means "reveal." In this season we see Jesus begin his public ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. During Epiphany, we come to understand that when the true identity of Jesus is revealed, we realize our own true identity as well.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Jon Enter

Piano: Paige Reiners

Choir Director: Luke Dorn

Choir Accompanist: Jessica Klatt

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him CW 619 sts. 1-2, 4



1 Praise the Al - might - y; my soul, a - dore him!
2 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,
4 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly



Yes, I will laud him un - til death. With songs and
par - don and peace from him ob - tain; ev - er the
of him who does such won - drous things! All that has



an - thems I'll come be - fore him as long as
wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, their faith - ful
be - ing, to praise him sole - ly, with hap - py



he al - lows me breath. From him my life and
God he will re - main. He helps his chil - dren
heart its a - men sings! Chil - dren of God, with



all things came; bless, O my soul, his ho - ly
in dis - tress, the wid - ows and the fa - ther -
an - gel host praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



name. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
less. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Ghost! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: **If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** *(1 John 1:8-9)*

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Holy God, gracious Father,**

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

(Sunday) Anthem: A Jubilant Song

Joseph M. Martin

Sing to the Lord, rejoice, alleluia. Sing to the Lord a jubilant song.

Give your praise to the Lord. Give your praise evermore.

Lift high a song and bless His name. All glory to the Lord.

For it is good to sing to the Lord a song. Let all with life God's work proclaim!

Sing to the Lord, rejoice, alleluia. Sing to the Lord a jubilant song.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on our weaknesses, and in all our dangers and needs stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

First Reading

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:11-13

The Lord promises that those who trust him will not be put to shame.

³Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, you who do what he commands.
Seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you will be sheltered
on the day of the LORD's anger.

¹¹On that day you, Jerusalem, will not be put to shame
for all the wrongs you have done to me,
because I will remove from you your arrogant boasters.
Never again will you be haughty on my holy hill.

¹²But I will leave within you the meek and humble.
The remnant of Israel will trust in the name of the LORD.

¹³They will do no wrong; they will tell no lies.
A deceitful tongue will not be found in their mouths.
They will eat and lie down and no one will make them afraid."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day: How Truly Blest Are They

Psalm 1B

The Choir sings verses 1, 3, and 5. The congregation joins for verses 2, 4, and 6.



1 How tru - ly blest are they who shun the
2 But make the law of God their stud - y
3 They like a tree shall thrive with wa - ters
4 The wick - ed are not so! They no such



sin - ners' ways, a - mong their coun - sels
and de - light a - mid the la - bors
near the root. Fresh as the leaf their
bless - ing find. Their hopes shall flee like



nev - er stand, nor take the scorn - ers' place,
of the day and watch - es of the night.
name shall live; their works are heav'n - ly fruit.
emp - ty chaff be - fore the driv - ing wind.

- 5 How will they bear to stand before that judgment seat
where all the saints at Christ's right hand in full assembly meet?
- 6 God knows and he approves the way the righteous go,
but sinners and their works shall meet a dreadful overthrow.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

God changes how we view ourselves by connecting us to Christ Jesus.

²⁶Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3



Refrain



Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **Refrain**

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, our Savior turns the ideas of the world upside down.

¹Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he ¹went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ²and he began to teach them.

He said:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Blest Are They

CW 690



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it, theirs is the
2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones, they shall in -
3 Blest are they who show mer - cy, mer - cy
4 Blest are they who seek peace, they are the
5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate all be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they,
her - it the earth. Blest are they who
shall be theirs. Blest are they, the
chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
cause of me. Re - joice and be glad,



full of sor - row, they shall be con - soled.
hun - ger and thirst, they shall have their fill.
pure of heart, they shall see God!
suf - fer in faith, the glo - ry of God is theirs.
yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.



Re - joice and be glad! Bless - ed are



you, ho - ly are you! Re - joice and be glad!



Yours is the king - dom of God!

- ¹Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
²but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.
- ⁴Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff that the wind blows away.
⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
- ⁶For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

Sermon Theme *“God’s Formula for Happiness”*

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn: Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

CW 849



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home.



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;
 so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
 so take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

WELS Connection

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday morning, children ages 3yrs to 6th grade are invited to learn more about Jesus in Sunday JAM, starting at 9:15am in the Kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at the same time in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Identity Revealed: Jesus Calls You Salt and Light

Bible Readings: Exodus 19:1-8; 1 Peter 2:9-12; Matthew 5:13-20

Hymns: 854, 630, 670, 697,

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- ✦ Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

