

St. John's Lutheran Church

The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany
February 5, 2012



Welcome to St. John's

If you are visiting with us this today, please take one of the visitor folders from the visitors' center. If you need assistance finding them please ask an usher. Thank you for worshipping with us.

At St. John's we are pleased to offer a variety of service formats on Sunday morning. In our 8:30 a.m. traditional service we offer familiar hymns and rich, traditional worship forms in a meaningful and inspirational setting. Our 11:00 a.m. contemporary service includes the same message as our 8:30 a.m. service but in an informal style, enhanced with contemporary music. We encourage you to try both worship styles and attend whichever meets your needs.

Contact Us

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St. John's Staff

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The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
8:30a.m.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

AS WE GATHER

Today we are challenged to see the bigger picture. In today's Gospel the apostle Peter was well- impressed with Jesus' power to heal the sick and His popularity was growing rapidly. But when Jesus seemed uninterested in capitalizing on that popularity but to continue on preaching elsewhere, Peter didn't understand. Jesus did not come only to heal or to make "a kingdom of this world" (*John 18:36*). He came to take our burdens and sins to the cross; to pay the price that delivers the whole world from sin and death. Likewise, the Prayer of the Church in the Divine Service is the place we see the bigger picture, praying not only for our own needs or only for those people we know, but for the whole Church, the whole world, for the enterprise of the entire kingdom of God. The goal of all our preaching and witness is nothing less that "to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." For by the cross and resurrection of Jesus the grace of God appears to all.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/GREETING OF ONE ANOTHER

Please take time to complete the appropriate side of the attendance registration cards. Once completed, pass the cards toward the center aisle. They will be collected during the offering.

OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

LSB 803

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

L: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family, the Church, continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power as we continue to proclaim the message of Your death and resurrection; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³ who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD *1 Corinthians 9:16-27*

16For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! 17For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. 18What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. 19For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21To those outside the law I became as

one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. 24Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

29And immediately [Jesus] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. 31And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. 32That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. 33And the whole city was gathered together at the door. 34And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. 35And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. 36And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, 37and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." 38And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." 39And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN

Lift High the Cross

LSB 837

SERMON:

Missing the Point

Mark 1:29-39

CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH THROUGH THE APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

GIVING TO JESUS THANKFULLY FROM THE HEART (*offerings and tithes*)

OFFERTORY

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Almighty and ever-living God, who by Your holy apostle has taught us to make prayers and supplications, we humbly implore You to hear our prayer which we offer to Your divine majesty. We ask You to continually inspire Your whole Church with the Spirit of truth, unity, and peace. Grant that all who confess

Your holy name may agree in the truth of Your Holy Word and live in unity and godly love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Heavenly Father, we pray that You would save and defend our country. Grant our president, our governor, the Congress and legislature, and all others who have authority over us wisdom and strength to know and to do Your will. Protect and guard those who serve in our military, especially..... Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all pastors and servants of Your Church that they may both by their life and doctrine proclaim Your true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer Your holy Sacraments. To all Your people, give Your heavenly grace that with a meek heart and due reverence they may hear and receive Your Holy Word, truly serving You in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For the Boy Scouts and their leaders, that You would use them to bring You glory and to share Your love. Guide them, protect them, and train them to be trustworthy and responsible leaders who seek to do Your will and bring You all honor and praise. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L: Lord God, bring comfort and help all those who in this life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any adversity, (special prayers.....)and all others who we name in our hearts this morning. We pray that, by Your grace, You would defend them from every evil to body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Keep us steadfast in faith that we may join those who have gone before us in the great joy of Your eternal presence in the day of resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 217

C 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 BLESSING

L: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING HYMN

Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go

LSB 920

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Five from Lutheran Service Book

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The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

11:00 a.m.

Please take time to complete the appropriate side of the attendance registration card. Once completed, pass the cards toward the center aisle. They will be collected during the offering. Please include your last name.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN JESUS' LOVE & FORGIVENESS

OPENING PRAISE SONGS

CONFESSION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN

SERMON

GIVING TO JESUS THANKFULLY FROM THE HEART

SONG DURING THE OFFERING

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING SONG

BLESSING

CHURCH



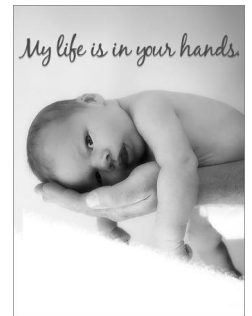
CHATTER

In Need of Prayer

Betty Salefski, Rose Strahle, Ruth Norris, Theresa Defend, Members in the Military

Pro-Life Corner

History shows that when civilizations degenerate morally, the strong and powerful begin to victimize the weak and defenseless. Abortion victimizes the most vulnerable of all, the unborn child.



Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend

God gave you each other...What have you done with His gift? Make it special...say "yes" to a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend date is: February 17-19, 2012 in Quincy, IL. For further information or to register call Dan & Charlotte Ricks at 309-682-7273 or dcrhme1094@comcast.net or www.godlovesmarriage.org



Find us on Facebook and share with your friends:
<http://www.facebook.com/stjohns.decatour.illinois>



Youth Corner



Senior High Springhill retreat was amazing. Seven youth and 2 adults went. Thanks for all who went, the drivers and chaperones.

Jr & Sr. High Youth Night!

When: Feb. 18

Time: 4:00-6:00

Where: The Y

Activities will include basketball, volleyball, dodge-ball, and the pool!!
Invite your friends and don't forget your towel and swimsuit if you'd like to swim!

Waivers will need to be signed, ahead of time, for those who are not YMCA members.

Social Service Ministry

Thank you to all that made donations of food and cash, for our food drives in November, to replenish the shelves at the Northeast Community Fund. Your continued generosity makes it possible to assist many families.

Our dates for 2012 to cook and serve at Good Samaritan Inn: TODAY, May 6, August 5, and November 4. Food preparation takes place between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and requires 6-7 volunteers. The meal is served between 11:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and requires 10 volunteers. We are in need of volunteers for our scheduled dates in 2012, so if you can help out on any of the dates for the preparation, serving, or both please call Gay Schmoldt 433-8500 or at schmoldt71@comcast.net with the date you would like to volunteer.

Got Fluff?



Help VBS soar SKY high with God's Word this summer by sending in donations of cotton balls to help set the scene with the theme throughout the church! We need a lot to make this happen. Bring in as many as you can. Drop donations off at the church office or in the education wing. Thank you!

If you have any questions about VBS please contact Melissa Saurmann melissa.saurmann@gmail.com or Kelly Smith kel_smith_5@yahoo.com

WORLD MISSION REPORT

“The Director of the “Voice of the Martyrs” went into a restricted country to encourage the Christians – an unusual group of young people - . These Christians travel to different towns and share the gospel in public through drama, song and a clown for children as they pass out gospel tracts.

In this particular country, the government has destroyed or closed 90% of all church buildings. So these courageous Christians minister in the streets, and many are won to the Lord through their work.

They have a unique approach to sharing the gospel. A different member of their group volunteers to walk ahead of the others as a decoy preaching to the people who will listen. After the police beat and drag away the “sacrificial lamb,” the police are gone and the rest of the group goes in to share the gospel. They large group listens to the gospel. The arrested member may have to spend a week to a month in jail being beaten everyday for sharing the gospel.

Please pray for the persecuted Christians around the world who are totally “ALL IN” for Jesus Christ.”

Thank the Lord for the freedom to assemble together to worship Him, our Savior and King.

Nursing Home Devotions

St. John's is continuing to work with Pastor Weseloh to deliver morning devotions the first Monday of every month to our brothers and sisters in local nursing homes. Vicar Adam and Pastor Weise will work together to deliver Monday afternoon devotions and Wednesday morning devotions during the month. A big thank you to Stu and Eileen Wolken, Arnie Gross and Bill Sipple who also help out with this ministry.

Last Week's Giving

General Fund.....	\$9037.00
Amount Needed To Meet Budget.....	\$17,646.00

Last Week's Attendance

8:30	221
11:00	197
Total	418
Sunday School	40
Adults.....	54



SAVE THE DATE

Annual LSA Dinner Auction

Saturday, March 17th

Decatur Conference Center and Hotel

Doors open @ 5:00pm for the Silent Auction

Tickets are \$35 per person

Call the LSA office to reserve your table -233-2001

Proverbs 11:28— "Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf."

THE LORD'S WORK

Sunday, Feb 5 - – Scout Sunday

8:30 a.m. Traditional Service
9:45 a.m. Education Hour
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Monday, Feb 6

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)

Tuesday, Feb 7

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
7:00 p.m. V-Crew (FH)

Wednesday, Feb 8

8:30 a.m. Stewardship Mtg. (Rock)
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
5:30 p.m. Confirmation
6:00 p.m. Choir
6:30 p.m. Youth
7:30 p.m. Praise Team

Thursday, Feb 9

5:30 p.m. TOPS (Rock)
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Friday, Feb 10

No Events Scheduled

Saturday, Feb 11

8:00 a.m. Rhonda Chaney (FH)

Sunday, Feb 12

8:30 a.m. Traditional Service
9:45 a.m. Education Hour
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service