



February 2nd, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Reaching Out in Christian Love to All

1375 Highway 210

P.O. Box 189

Huxley, IA 50124

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Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
Sunday, February 2nd, 2025

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

*=Stand as you are able **Bold Print** = congregation responds
ELW=Red Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Prelude

Ringling of the Bell

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

(ELW p. 94)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we

have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

*GATHERING SONG

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

ELW 779

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5; Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt.; public domain.



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour, I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

***GREETING**

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

And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

⁶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷ But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD."

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and

the LORD said to me,

“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 71:1-6

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;

let me never be put to shame.

² In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;

incline your ear to me and save me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;

you are my crag and my stronghold.

⁴ Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,

from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

⁵ For you are my hope, O Lord GOD,

my confidence since I was young.

⁶ I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my
mother’s womb you have been my strength;

my praise shall be always of you.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

¹ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all

knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

²¹ Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your

hearing.”²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”²³ He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’”²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown.”²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children will leave to go to Children’s Church

Preschool/Kindergarten – room beside nursery in north fellowship hall

1st & 2nd grade – Upstairs to the left

3rd & 4th grades – Upstairs to the left

5th & 6th grades - Downstairs

SERMON

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915; Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908; public domain.



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

INSTALLATION OF LEADERS IN THE CONGREGATION

The following people have been *elected* (by the congregation) to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The presiding minister continues.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

**The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly.*

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as *officers/council members/committee members* of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

Amen.

***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.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Response: God of grace,
 hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

OFFERING

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

—▶ *If you wish to kneel at the rail after accepting
communion to pray, feel free to go up and then exit via the side
aisles as normal.*

COMMUNION HYMNS:

“What a friend we have in Jesus”

ELW 742

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886; Music: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918; public domain.



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

“How Great Thou Art”

ELW 856

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989; Music: Swedish folk tune;
adapt. Stuart K. Hine; Text and music © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust. USA print rights
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How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-c-la-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
 gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
 bear-ing he bled and died, to take a-way my sin;
 ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

*TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

*BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

* SENDING SONG “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” ELW 773

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993; Music: George N. Allen, 1812-1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey; Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Alfred Publishing; Reprinted under OneLicense.net 1-708142 All rights reserved.

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Children are dismissed to go downstairs for:



CHILDREN'S MUSIC WITH NELS



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

For streaming and printing:

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Those Serving in Today's Service

Pastor: Eric Klimpel

Accompanist: Crystal Hughes

Youth Liaison: Nels Dovre

Lector: Erika Williams

Acolytes: Taylor Wuebker; Trice Elliott

Technicians: Brent Emerson, Brayden DeVries, Owen Williams

This Week at Palestine

Today, February 2nd, 2025 4th *Sunday of Epiphany*

8:00 a.m. Council Meeting

No choir – Mindy gone

9:30 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion

Music with Nels

Tuesday, February 4th, 2025

10:00 a.m. Cedars Worship (Pastor)

7:00 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesday, February 5th, 2025

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

1:00 p.m. Quilters

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Sunday, February 9th, 2025 *5th Sunday of Epiphany*

8:30 a.m. Choir

9:30 a.m. Worship

Music with Nels

"Cookie Sunday"

New member orientation

Lectionary texts: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians

15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Thank you for your Gifts for Ministry: *attendance and giving numbers will be posted in Feb. 9th's bulletin.*

THANK YOU!!! We celebrate your generosity and thank you in advance for your support.



Palastine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:
Palastine Lutheran Church
PO BOX 189
Huxley, IA 50124
3. **Give online through Easy Tithe.**
Go to our website www.plchuxley.com and click on the bright red ONLINE GIVING tab on the right located above our "Reaching out in Christian love to all" statement.
4. Text **GIVE** to 515-207-6435.

Thank you. Continue to pray and know God is with us.



January is our “Souper Bowl of Caring” month where we will collect donations of cans of chunky-style soups or monetary donations for the Food Pantry. We will have a collection spot in the Fellowship Hall through the month and will wrap up on **Sunday, Feb 2.**



GIVE BLOOD at Palestine

Tuesday, February 11th 2-6 p.m.



Sign up one of two ways:

- By calling Kim Van Pelt at 319-541-0817
- Via the LifeServe website:

https://donor.lifeservebloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/188731

www.lifeservebloodcenter.org

Appointments are encouraged, but walk ins are welcome



R.O.C.K. GROUP'S
Valentine's Day
RAFFLE BASKET

Treat your Valentine to a cozy date night with a charcuterie-style basket!

Tickets are \$10 each.

Sales will be in north fellowship hall after worship today, Sunday, Feb. 2nd. (OR see a ROCK member or leader for a ticket). **Drawing will be held Sunday, Feb. 9th.** You do not need to be present to win.



COLD-WEATHER FUN SHARING!

Through February you are invited to bring puzzles (*500 piece or less*) and put on the table in the North Hall and exchange it for another puzzle on the table. Make sure that you have all the pieces and a picture.

Any left-over puzzles will be donated to our local assisted living facilities.



You are invited to attend a
Community Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, February 8th 7 – 10 a.m
@ Trinity Methodist Church, 102
Lynwood Dr., Huxley

Free-will offering. Funds raised will be supporting our local Food Pantry.

If you are willing to donate items needed or work a shift for this event, please use the sign up on the email announcements or here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0948A9AA2CABF94-54476790-community#/>



MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK IN
OPPORTUNITY
for 6th - 9th graders!

This night is packed with fun, fellowship, and faith-filled activities designed to bring young people together in community.

When: February 21, 2025, starting at 6:00 PM and ending at 7:00 AM the next morning.

Where: Resurrection Lutheran Church in Ankeny, IA

How? Use this registration link to sign up! <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/9505678> **Register by February 10th. \$25**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

➔ MARRIAGE RETREAT February 23-25, 2024

A weekend dedicated to you and your spouse.

We would love to host you and your spouse for a weekend away together at Riverside! This will be a memorable weekend for you as a couple and all you need to do is show up - we'll worry about all the details. God has blessed us with our spouse and He desires for us to invest time in strengthening and celebrating this union. We are going to have so much fun with Enrique & Martha Ochoa, our speakers for this retreat.

COST: \$245/couple for onsite lodging
\$195/couple for commuters



Ballard Clothing Pantry

March is Palestine's month to staff the Clothing Pantry. There will be a sign up in fellowship hall in February to sign up for shifts. The Clothing Pantry is a valuable service for many people in our community. It stays open only because of generous volunteers.

Please consider staffing at least one shift.

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025

Pastor Eric Klimpel

PRESIDENT: David Eisenmann	COUNCIL:
VICE PRES.: Kristin Shelton	Mike Brixius Mark Pote
SECRETARY: Greg Saveraid	Christa Hartsook Deidre Qual
TREASURER: Kari Sandquist	Scott Johnson Chris Richter
FINANCIAL	Brad Lewis Tim Wilson
SECRETARY: Julie Emerson	

Finance Committee

Kari Sandquist, Chair (treasurer)
David Eisenmann (president)
Julie Emerson (financial secretary)
Stewardship chair, advisor
Brad Lewis
Matt Williams

Nominating Committee

Leonard Larson *(outgoing council member)*

\Jen Pote *(outgoing council member)*
McKenzie Bushaw *(non-council member)*
Scott Bushaw *(non-council member)*
Ashley Argueta *(non-council member)*
 (non-council member)

Delegates

SE Iowa Synod Assembly: Mark & Jen Pote
Riverside Bible Camp: Erika Williams

<p style="text-align: center;">ALTAR GUILD</p> <p>Helen Kepler Teri Klimpel Lesia Lewis Donna Millang Elaine Mohr Jennifer Pote (chair)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HISTORICAL</p> <p>Denise Elliott Nancy Fausch Helen Kepler Deb Moore Jean Saveraid</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PROPERTY/PARSONAGE</p> <p>Bill Harleen Greg Hartsook Mike Hughes (chair) Julie Huxford Kim Jensen Mark Pote Tracy Sheldahl Tom Shelton Greg Saveraid Tim Wilson</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">BANNER GROUP</p> <p>McKenzie Bushaw Scott Bushaw Bill Harleen Sandy Harleen Melinda Kam</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LIBRARY</p> <p>Doreen Blackmer McKenzie Bushaw Laura Kepler Teri Klimpel (chair) Shannon Wilson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">STEWARDSHIP</p> <p>Julie Emerson Kari Sandquist (Treasurer-advisor)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">CEMETERY</p> <p>Merle Brendeland Helen Kepler Brent Larson Leonard Larson Virgil Larson Richard Nelson Garry Wirtz</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MEMORIALS & GIFTS</p> <p>Jennie Huxford Ellen Longnecker Jean Saveraid Cindi Thomas Kari Sandquist (Treasurer-Advisor)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WORSHIP</p> <p>Mindy DeVries Nels Dovre Teri Klimpel Jen Pote Jean Saveraid (chair)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</p> <p>Julie Emerson Christa Hartsook Shelley Klingbeil Kristin Shelton Michelle Siepker Erika Williams</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MISSION OUTREACH</p> <p>Mike Brixius Deb Moore Chris Nelson Kris Polich</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">YOUTH COUNCIL</p> <p>Shelley Klingbeil (KICK) Erika Williams (KICK) Shannon Wilson (KICK) Open (ROCK) Nels Dovre (ROCK)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">EVANGELISM/FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>Robin Doty (chair) Crystal Hughes Mike Hughes Laura Kepler Teri Klimpel Deb Moore Roger Moore Laurie Newman Greg Saveraid Kristin Shelton</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP</p> <p>Robin Doty Lori Edwards Denise Elliott Helen Kepler Leona Larson Sue Larson (chair) Pastor Klimpel</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WELCA</p> <p>Treasurer: Cindi Thomas Vice President: Oriett Snider Pianist: Leona Larson</p>

Welcome to Worship! We're glad you're here (physically or virtually), guests and members alike, and pray that you will find in our worship an opportunity to praise God and hear God's Word.

All baptized Christians who believe that Christ Jesus is truly present in the sacrament to forgive, strengthen and bless us, are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

He Goes on His Way (based on Luke 4)

It wasn't so long ago that we sang a song about the "meek and mild" newborn Jesus. But we see he is anything but that in today's gospel! When he makes the audacious claim that Isaiah's messianic prophecy "has been fulfilled in [their] hearing" (Luke 4:21), the crowds are delighted and glad to claim him as one of their own.

Jesus instigates a conflict, though, by recalling instances in which Elijah and Elisha ministered to Gentiles instead of to the people of Israel. That the people of Capernaum so quickly turn on him shows how easily we all become focused on ourselves, our status, and our desires, instead of on God's mission to reach those who do not yet know God's love. The crowd's reaction points, for example, to a perennial temptation in faith communities to prioritize insiders' preferences over ways to invite and make room for newcomers to hear the gospel. We are quick to draw lines around "our" people and look at anyone beyond those lines as an outsider. But what if Jesus leads us, as God led the prophets, to someone unexpected? How would we respond if Jesus called us to embrace people whose socioeconomic class or language is different from ours? Would we pick up stones if Jesus announced he was off to go bless folks who voted for *that* candidate?

Even though this story ends with the Nazareth crowd stuck in their anger, it offers hope for us when we find ourselves struggling with the call of Jesus. Luke tells us Jesus simply "went on his way" (v. 30). The crowd's rage could not deter Jesus from his path to the cross and the empty tomb. He redeems even those who deny, oppose, and reject him. Just so, our resistance does not prevail. No matter what our ways might be, his is the way of mercy for all. Jesus fulfills God's plan to rescue the world, to reconcile all creation!