

Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!



We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ, God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Epiphany

This morning, we welcome Theodore James Freundschuh as our brother in Christ through the waters of Holy Baptism. Theodore is the son of Brent & Emily Freundschuh. Theodore’s baptismal sponsors are Ryan Smith and Kayla Ringwelski .

Welcome

Jesus Sat with His Disciples

*LSB 932
(tune 656)*

- 1 **Jesus sat with His disciples
On a mountainside one day;
As the crowds of people gathered,
He began to teach and say:
“Blessèd are the poor in spirit,
Heaven’s kingdom they will share.
Blessèd are the sad and mourning,
Joy and comfort will be theirs.**
- 2 **“Blessèd are the meek and humble,
All the earth to them is willed.
Those who hunger to be holy,
They are bless’d and will be filled.
Yes, the merciful are blessèd,
Mercy will to them be shown.
And the pure in heart are blessèd,
They have eyes for God alone.**
- 3 **“Blessèd are God’s sons and daughters,
Making peace where there is strife.
Blessèd are the persecuted,
Who for righteousness lose life;
Their reward is great in heaven,
In the kingdom up above—**

**So be glad to share My suff'ring
And rejoice to know My love."**

Stand

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

P In the Beatitudes, Jesus describes the nature of blessing in the Kingdom of God.

C We know that Jesus' way is different than our own.

P Jesus says "Blessed are the meek,"

C But we are often superior and unbending.

P Jesus says "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,"

C But we hunger for what is right in our own eyes.

P Jesus says "Blessed are the merciful,"

C But we cry for justice and fairness.

P Jesus says "Blessed are the peacemakers,"

C But we justify conflict and we value force as a solution.

P Lord Jesus, for the ways in which our lives do not follow your design,

C Have mercy upon us.

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

P Jesus blesses those who are persecuted and insulted because of righteousness. He himself endured persecution and insult and did so to speak an eternal word of blessing to sinners like us. In his death and resurrection, he makes us righteous. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go forth as his holy ones, made righteous through Jesus.

C Amen! Thanks be to God.

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).⁸

Sit

This Is the Spirit's Entry Now

*LSB 591
(tune 524)*

1 This is the Spirit's entry now:

**The water and the Word,
The cross of Jesus on your brow,
The seal both felt and heard.**

2 This miracle of life reborn

**Comes from the Lord of breath;
The perfect Man from life was torn;
Our life comes through Christ's death.**

3 Let water be the sacred sign

**That we must die each day
To rise again by His design
As foll'wers of His way.**

4 Renewing Spirit, hear our praise

**For Your baptismal pow'r
That washes us through all our days;
Lord, cleanse again this hour.**

Holy Baptism

P Holy Baptism is God's gift to us. In this Sacrament we become a part of the family of God as we are welcomed into the Church, which is the body of Christ. The Small Catechism says, "Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God's word and by God's command." God's living Word of promise works powerfully with the water. Baptism is the death of the old sinner and a rebirth into new life in Christ.

C "I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit." "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." (John 3:5; Mark 16:16a)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (*Matthew 28:18b-20*)

P How is this child named?

R *Theodore James Freunds Schuh*

P Theodore, receive the sign of the cross on your forehead and heart, because you are redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Today, Brent and Emily, you are responding to the command of Jesus and the love that God has shown to Theodore in the gift of Jesus himself. I ask you: will you faithfully bring this child to worship, teach him the Lord’s Prayer, the Creeds and the Commandments, place in his hands the Holy Scriptures, and provide for him instruction in the Christian faith?

R *We will, by God’s grace.*

P On behalf of Theodore do you as his parents reject the devil and all his works and all his ways?

R *We do.*

P Sponsors, will you pray for Theodore, support his parents in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian Faith, and love him in a way that gives an example of Christ’s love?

R *We will, with God’s help.*

P Saints of God in this congregation, will you support Theodore in his life in Christ?

C **We will, by the power of the Spirit of Christ.**

P I ask Theodore’s parents, his sponsors, and the entire community to give witness to our faith. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

C **We do.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only son...living and the dead?

C **We do.**

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic church... life everlasting?

C **We do.**

Stand

P Let us join hands and pray as a family the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us.

C **Our Father who art in heaven...forever and ever. Amen.**

P Theodore, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the †
Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray: God, you make light to shine in the darkness. You bring new life from death. We are thankful that you have accepted Theodore as your own. May he grow in faith and love and know always that he is part of your family and that you are his loving God. May we each know the abundant life you give in Jesus and remember how you joined water to Word to claim us forever.*

C Amen.

P Go in peace!

C Thanks be to God!

Sit

First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Listen to what the LORD says: “Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say.² “Hear, you mountains, the LORD’s accusation;

listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.

For the LORD has a case against his people;

he is lodging a charge against Israel.³ “My people, what have I done to you?

How have I burdened you? Answer me.

⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt

and redeemed you from the land of slavery.

I sent Moses to lead you,

also Aaron and Miriam.

⁵ My people, remember

what Balak king of Moab plotted

and what Balaam son of Beor answered.

Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,

that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD”⁶ With what shall I come before the LORD

and bow down before the exalted God?

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 thousand rivers of olive oil?

Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,

the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the LORD require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy

and to walk humbly with your God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message of 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;

the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”²⁰ Where is the

wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the

philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of

the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the

foolishness of what was preached to save those who

believe. ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but

we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and

foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both

Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of

God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,

and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Brothers 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. ²⁷ But God

chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose

the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the

lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things

that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may

boast before him. ³⁰ It 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. ³¹ Therefore, as it is

written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them. He said: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 be shown 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 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. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

God of Grace and God of Glory

LSB 850

**1 God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow’r;
Crown Your ancient Church’s story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage**

**For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.**

- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.**
- 3 Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.**
- 4 Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.**

Homily

Prayers of the Church

Presentation of the Offering

Please sign the Friendship Register located on each pew and pass it to others seated with you so that we may have a record of all those who are worshiping and receiving communion with us today.

Stand

Preface (Spoken)

LSB 177

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Sanctus

LSB 178

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Words Of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

LSB 180

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.

Choir

Where Cross The Crowded Ways of Life

ELW 719
(tune 571)

- 1** Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
- 2** In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.
- 3** From tender childhood's helplessness,
from human grief and burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,
your heart has never known recoil.
- 4** The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the sweet compassion of your face.
- 5** O Master, from the mountainside,
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
O tread the city's streets again;
- 6** Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.

Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior

LSB 640
(tune 878)

- 1** Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, Thee,
Who in Thy Sacrament art pleased to be;
Both flesh and spirit in Thy presence fail,
Yet here Thy presence we devoutly hail.
- 2** In this memorial of Thy death, O Lord,
Thou dost Thy body and Thy blood afford:
Oh, may our souls forever feed on Thee,
And Thou, O Christ, forever precious be.

- 3 Thou, like the pelican to feed her brood,
Didst pierce Thyself to give us living food;
Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win
Forgiveness for our world and all its sin.**
- 4 Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God:
Cleanse us, unclean, with Thy most cleansing blood;
Increase our faith and love, that we may know
The hope and peace which from Thy presence flow.**
- 5 O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,
May what we thirst for soon our portion be:
To gaze on Thee unveiled and see Thy face,
The vision of Thy glory, and Thy grace.
Amen.**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

LSB 411

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. *Refrain***
- In Him there is no darkness at all. *Refrain*
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**
- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. *Refrain***
- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain***

- 1** Sent forth by God's blessing,
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended.
O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching,
Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.
- 2** With praise and thanksgiving
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Stand

Benediction

- P** 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.

O God of Mercy, God of Light

ELW 714

- 1** O God of mercy, God of light,
in love and mercy infinite,
teach us, as ever in your sight,
to live our lives in you.

- 2 You sent your Son to die for all,
that our lost world might hear your call;
oh, hear us lest we stray and fall!
We rest our hope in you.**
- 3 Teach us the lesson Jesus taught:
to feel for those his blood has bought,
that ev'ry deed and word and thought
may work a work for you.**
- 4 For all are kindred, both far and wide,
since Jesus Christ for all has died;
grant us the will, and grace provide,
to love them all in you.**
- 5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
may we each other's burdens share;
may we, where help is needed, there
give help as though to you.**
- 6 And may your Holy Spirit move
all those who live to live in love,
till you receive in heav'n above
all those who live in you.**

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship This Morning

February 1, 2026

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Phil Marquardt
Carl Schwanbeck

Reader:

Robert Pajak

Usher:

Jan Fuerst

Organist:

Karine Platt

Acolytes:

Lily Kuntz
Lyla Marquardt

Greeters:

Phil & Angie Hagel

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Spencer Anderson 2/1, Richard Gerard 2/4, Julie Endorf 2/5, and Andrew Kuntz 2/7.

Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays: Eden Miller 2/1, Phil Hagel 2/1, Renee Rossler 2/1, and Peter Welle 2/5.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Andrew & Leslie Kuntz 2/3, and Rick & Jonelle Welle 2/5.

This week at a Glance:

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	6:00 p.m.	Faith Class
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Faith Class
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	Bell's
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Youth Activity
	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Small Group Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	6:00 p.m.	Faith Class

Notes of Information:

Office: If anyone needs a reimbursement form, 1% giving request form or a certificate of tax exemption form you can find them in my office on my desk in bright yellow folders.

Nursery Coordinator: Looking for someone from the congregation who would be interested in being the Nursery Coordinator. If interested, please see Leslie Kuntz or call her @ 763-592-9206

Stewardship Messages: *"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people..." (Galatians 6:10)*

Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

January 26 - The Women by Kristin Hannah

February 23 - James by Percival Everett

March 23 - The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman

April 27 - A Time Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager.

Prayer Opportunity: An Elder will be available weekly at the end of service at the Communion Rail for personal prayer support. If privacy is requested that it will be accommodated.

NACE: At this time NACE is taking winter clothes. Food needs are canned Fruit, Sides and Peanut Butter. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

Carl's Movie Minute:

Still Hope limited showing 2/5-9 AMC Mounds View, Coon Rapids, Emagine White Bear. A young girl is ripped from a loving family forced in sex trafficking...after years trapped, she escapes and returns to her loving family hoping for freedom and hope for a new future; but first she must fight for her normalcy after years. Based on true stories and illustrating the courage it takes to regain a 'normal' life. This a very soberly and intense look at the reality around you today, a reality that isn't evident enough. Not for children, possibly late teens and adults.

Solo Mio extended run from 2/5-19 E. Bethel and White Bear Emagine, AMC Coon Rapids....a romcom, certainly a strong contrast from Still Hope. Kevin James plays an awkward shy gentleman who is getting married in Italy, destination wedding, but is left at the altar, NOW what does he do.....a prominent role for Jesus in this one....likely safe for the whole family.

The Apocalypse of St. John. Feb 15-17 Emagine White Bear: A Spanish production with English subtitles, a documentary interruption on John's vision in Revelation

I Can Only Imagine 2. The sequel of I Can Only Imagine; the continued story of Bart Millard and Mercy Me. Success doesn't mean happily ever after..... Opens 2/20 check through Kingdom Stories productions or watch Emagine theaters or AMC websites for times closer to 2/20 For ages who love Mercy Me. This could be a group event if someone wants to organize it. I'll be out of town until March 6. I'll be seeing it in Texas...

<i>Average Weekly Offering</i>	\$6,569.00
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6730.28

Readings for next week:

Isaiah 58:1-12, 1 Corinthains 2:1-16, Matthew 5:13-20



Doodle Art Alley ©



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

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Ham Lake, MN 55304
www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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