



..behold, the heavens were opened  
to him, and he saw the Spirit of God  
descending like a dove...

Matthew 3:16, ESV

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS. 10:30 a.m.

St

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**Worship Services streamed on YouTube Channel: St. Paul CLC Austin.**

Affiliated with  
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

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[www.CLClutheran.org](http://www.CLClutheran.org)

[www.ilc.edu/home.htm](http://www.ilc.edu/home.htm)

January 17, 2021

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

PRESERVICE PRAYER Oh God, You declare in Your Word that You do not want to see the sinner die, but that he turn from his sinful way and live. To this end You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer and die for our sins, and You have called us to repentance and faith in His name. As I come to Your Table to receive Jesus' body and blood, the sacrifice offered for my sins, I ask that Your Spirit would strengthen my faith, and that I might grow in Your grace and power and that the new man might arise and lead me to live to the glory of Your holy name. In Jesus' name. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: (p. 22 Worship Supplement 2000)

### **HYMN 224 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!**

1. Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord! Be all Thy graces now outpoured  
On each believer's mind and heart; Thy fervent love to them impart.  
Lord, by the brightness of Thy light Thou in the faith dost men unite  
Of ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue;  
This to Thy praise, O Lord, our God, be sung. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

2. Thou holy Light, Guide Divine, Oh, cause the Word of Life to shine!  
Teach us to know our God aright And call Him Father with delight.  
From ev'ry error keep us free; Let none but Christ our Master be  
That we in living faith abide,  
In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

3. Thou holy Fire, Comfort true, Grant us the will Thy work to do  
And in Thy service to abide; Let trials turn us not aside.  
Lord, by Thy pow'r prepare each heart  
And to our weakness strength impart That bravely here we may contend,  
Thro' life and death to Thee, our Lord, ascend. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Together let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 49:1-6

“Listen, O coastlands, to Me,  
And take heed, you peoples from afar!  
The LORD has called Me from the womb;  
From the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name.

<sup>2</sup> And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword;  
In the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me,  
And made Me a polished shaft;  
In His quiver He has hidden Me.”

<sup>3</sup> “And He said to me,  
‘You *are* My servant, O Israel,  
In whom I will be glorified.’

<sup>4</sup> Then I said, ‘I have labored in vain,

I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain;  
Yet surely my just reward is with the LORD,  
And my work with my God.’ ”

<sup>5</sup>“And now the LORD says,  
Who formed Me from the womb *to be* His Servant,  
To bring Jacob back to Him,  
So that Israel is gathered to Him  
(For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD,  
And My God shall be My strength),

<sup>6</sup>Indeed He says,  
‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant  
To raise up the tribes of Jacob,  
And to restore the preserved ones of Israel;  
I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles,  
That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ” (NKJV)

### THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:4-11

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. <sup>5</sup>Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

<sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, “There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. <sup>8</sup>I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>It came to pass in those days *that* Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>Then a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (NKJV)

### THE APOSTLES CREED

#### **HYMN 245 God Loved the World So that He Gave**

1. God loved the world so that He gave  
His only Son the lost to save  
That all who would in Him believe  
Should everlasting life receive.

2. Christ Jesus is the Ground of faith,  
Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All that confide in Him alone  
Are built on this chief Cornerstone.

3. God would not have the sinner die,  
His Son with saving grace is nigh,  
His Spirit in the Word doth teach  
How man the blessed goal may reach.

4. Be of good cheer, for God's own Son  
Forgives all sins which thou hast done,  
And, justified by Jesus' blood,  
Thy Baptism grants the highest good.

5. If thou be sick, if death draw near,  
This truth thy troubled heart can cheer;  
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

THE SERMON: Acts 16:25-34

Theme: What the World Needs to Hear from Us.

I. In Our Trial – Hymns of Praise to God

II. In their Despair – God's Forgiveness in Christ

SERMON TEXT: Acts 16:25-34

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. <sup>27</sup> And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. <sup>28</sup> But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."

<sup>29</sup> Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

<sup>31</sup> So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup> Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup> And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his *family*

were baptized. <sup>34</sup> Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household. (NKJV)

**PRAYER; THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**HYMN 531 Come, Ye Disconsolate**

1. Come, ye disconsolate, where’er ye languish  
Come to the Mercy-seat, fervently kneel.  
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;  
Earth has no sorrow that Heav’n cannot heal.

2. Joy of the desolate, Light of the straying,  
Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure;  
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,  
Earth has no sorrow that Heav’n cannot cure.

3. Here see the Bread of Life; see waters flowing  
Forth from the throne of God, pure from above.  
Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing  
Earth has no sorrow but Heav’n can remove.

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

We observe the Scriptural practice of closed communion. We do this in loving concern for all who would desire to commune, that it might be for their spiritual blessing and not their spiritual harm. The Scriptures teach us that communicants need to be able to examine themselves concerning their sin and repentance, and also a proper understanding of the Lord’s presence in the sacrament. We ask that only those who are members of this congregation, or one affiliated with us in the CLC, partake of the sacrament. Please speak with the pastor if you would wish to commune with us at a future time.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**BENEDICTION;**

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn 309 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee**

1. O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee  
My heart-felt thanks forever be,  
Who hast so lovingly bestowed  
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

2. Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:  
What wealth is come to me this day!  
My Savior dwells within my heart:  
How blest am I! How good Thou art!

**CALENDAR**

TODAY: Thank you for coming to hear the Word.  
Used bulletins should either be taken home or deposited in the wastepaper basket at the narthex door. Your offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the nave. Church Council is scheduled to follow the service. No adult Bible class today.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism via ZOOM beginning at 4:00p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Next Sunday’s sermon text: 1 Samuel 3:1-10.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31: Annual Voters meeting will follow the service.

**SERVING TODAY**

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: January 10 worship – 16 No Bible Class

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,250.00	Other offerings
Offerings Received	\$ 1,000.00	
Needed for Year:	\$2,500.00	
Received for Year:	\$2,370.00	

January 2021 Church Cleaning – Ubl

CLC NEWS: Pastor David Ude has returned the call extended to him by Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY.<> Pastor Mike Eichstadt has returned the call extended to him by Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN.

CLC Financial Report - December

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2020	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 6 Months	Balance 12/31/2020
<b>General Fund</b>	0	496,854	518,310	548,700	- 21,456
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	695,273	630,027	689,070	65,246
<b>Auxiliary Funds</b>					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	201,448	15,316	127,936		88,828
ILC Building Projects (AC/Dorm)	14,542	2,085,120	1,063,241		1,036,421
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	84,054	125,537	97,203		112,388
Kinship	86,093	98,915	60,972		124,036
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,914,371	1,744,915	142,530		3,516,756
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	84,280	50,741	70,541		64,480
Reserve Fund	294,092	26,232	0		320,324
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,678,880</b>	<b>\$4,146,776</b>	<b>\$1,562,423</b>		<b>\$5,263,233</b>

**General Fund – December** offerings of \$101,036 (incl a special gift of \$23,000) vs disbursements of \$73,291, resulting in a net gain, reducing our operating deficit by \$27,745. Regular & special General Fund CBP offerings over the last several months have reduced a -\$72,440 deficit by \$51,000. Praise the Lord for moving hearts to remember our General Fund needs, and blessing their resources to support it, since it gives major subsidy for **the work of our Boards of Trustees, Regents, Missions, & Ed/Publications**. Looking down the Balance column above, our aggregate balance was blessed with \$474,310 in revenue in December, described in the following reports.

**ILC Operations** – ILC revenue of \$114,476 (incl \$49,500 subsidy) vs disbursements of \$112,947, a net flow of \$1,529. Halfway through the fiscal year, disbursements are \$59,000 under budget needs.

**ILC Building Projects** – Dec. receipts were \$84,005 vs disbursements of \$2,805 for the Building Planning Committee expenses. Receipts for the month included \$995 in offerings and \$83,009 in earnings & final revenue transfers to the fund to close out the donated CRT. The Planning Committee is moving forward with a recommendation for consideration by our next CLC Convention this June for a new gym and repurposing the 50-year-old gym for ILC chapels, band/choir practices, plays, musicals, and CLC Conventions & large gatherings. Praise, Oh, Praise, our God and King!

**CEF** – December revenue was \$333,000 (including \$275,868 investment gains and \$57,062 from CEF loan repayments, including a congregation mortgage retirement) vs disbursements of \$10,848 in debt service & monthly admin expenses. The \$3.5 million balance may be needed in the near term for several large CLC & congregational loans which are anticipated.

**MDF** – December offerings of \$38,307 (including special offerings of \$1,500 & \$26,000) vs disbursements of \$13,146, which includes the 7<sup>th</sup> \$10,000 construction loan installment (of 12 planned) for the Nepal Bible Institute classroom, & \$2,000 for an India CLC parsonage repair.

**IIF** – December revenue of \$13,179 (investment gains of \$11,189 thru Dec, congregation offerings of \$990, and a special offering of \$1,000) vs \$0 disbursements.

**Kinship** – Congregation offerings of \$5,794, specials \$4,235, sponsors \$9,765 vs \$150 for widows.

*“Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but to Your name give glory,  
because of Your mercy, because of Your truth.” (Psalm 115:1)*

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees