



First English Lutheran Church
9 NW 3rd Street; Ortonville, MN 56278
320-839-2527



Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director
Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024

CONTEMPORARY

9:00 am

PREPARATION

Prelude *'Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me'* ACS #1087

'What Does the Lord Require of You?' ACS #1057

Bells

Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Litany:

P: We are created to be in relationship with one another.

C: We are created to be brave, to show up with an open mind and heart, willing to be challenged.

We are created to be authentic, to bring our whole selves and know that we are loved by our Creator.

We are created to be free, to be transformed by the gospel.

We are created to be an advocate to work for justice for all our siblings.

We are created to be disciples, to be sent out into the world to love our neighbor just as we are loved by God.

We are created to be.

Greeting & Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **C: Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism....a well-watered garden.

C: In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock.

P: When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

C: At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

P: We praise you...for all water everywhere.

C: Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

P: To you be given honor and....Spirit, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Song 'God Welcomes All' (sung 3 times) ACS #978

Prayer of the Day: P: Almighty God, **C: by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

First Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

OT pg. 668

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

NT pg. 130

Children's Message

Kristi Ehrenberg

Special Music

'Follow Me'

Senior Choir

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

NT pg. 27

P: The Holy Gospel according to...**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Brent Zahrbock

Sermon Song

'Make Me an Instrument'

DRM #152

Affirmation of Faith

C: Into the silence of the void the Creator spoke, and the world came into being. The Word of God in the vastness brought light from darkness, matter from nothing, flesh from dust, life from lifelessness. In the quiet of a small town in Palestine the Word of God came to us.

Even though of one being with the Creator, Jesus our Christ, taking on human form, was born, lived and walked among us, speaking the words of life. He was crucified, died, and was buried.

He rose from the dead and speaks to us today. He is the one who saves us from ourselves. In the stillness of our souls the Spirit of God, who is one with the Creator and the Christ, whispers the Word, and calls us back to the Creator, back to the Christ, back to the wholeness of everlasting life in the unity of the Creator, Christ, and Spirit.

Prayers for the People of God

Song 'There is a Longing in Our Hearts'

ACS #1078

MEAL

Offering Collection and Presentation

Offertory Hymn 'Giver of the Heartbeat'

DRM pg. 186

Offertory Prayer

P: Abiding God, under the cover of...Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Blessing

P: The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and ✠ grant you peace. **C: Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. **C: We Will! Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN

'Give Me a BE-attitude'

Bells

Postlude

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Psalm 139:14. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

In other words, "created to be..."

Welcome to all visitors and guests! May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle.

KDIO Radio Broadcast is sponsored by your gifts to the Endowment Fund. [Radio broadcast cards are available on the information kiosk in the narthex; cost is \$100/week].

OFFERING UPDATE: Here are the expenses for December: \$23,905.11. Here is what we received: \$25,387.55. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at www.firstenglish.net.



Happy Birthday wishes go out to Arlen LaCombe whose birthday is on Wednesday and Barb Nornes whose birthday is this Saturday.

Pastor Denise sent a nice thank you card to the congregation for the retirement gift; it is pinned to the bulletin board in the Narthex for you to read it.

The annual meeting is next Sunday. We'll meet in the sanctuary following the service. We'll be voting to approve the annual budget, so we need enough voting members to meet the quorum. We'll review the steps and timelines of the pastoral search and interim pastoral coverage plans. We also need to discuss/define the needs of our congregation to include as updates to our ministry site profile for pastoral candidates.

Dedication Sunday will be next week on the 28th. Please get your opportunity sheets & pledges in. You can place them in the box in the Narthex.

Thank you to everyone who had directory photos taken at FELC or submitted a picture for our new online directory! We plan to order printed copies of the new directory soon for congregational members. Please submit your photo and information before February 1st because we want you included! Thanks again for your participation! The FELC Evangelism Committee

There are items in the pickup room still needing to be picked up, many of which are food storage containers & trays. Please look in the room to see if anything is yours.


The annual reports are available for pick up in the Narthex.

There are many of you that have such wonderful gifts in our congregation and should highly consider sharing these with our youth in our Sunday School program. Sunday school teachers can influence and impact many lives with foundational teaching and grounding children in God's word. We are always looking for people to fill these roles in ANY capacity (once a month, only a certain age, etc.) so please consider and let Sara Wollschlager know if you are interested. (materials & lessons are prepped and supplied for you weekly)

The youth traveling to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer will be holding an online basket auction the week before Valentines Day. We would appreciate any donations of a basket or a basket item by January 31. Thank you for helping make this trip a reality for the youth of our congregation. Please contact Archer Dorry at archerhdorry@gmail.com

2023 Giving Statements \$250 or higher have been sent out. If you don't receive a statement and would like one, please contact someone in the office.

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries is hosting another Creative Souls Retreat Feb. 9-11th. Please see the posted flyers for more information.

Coffee Fellowship needs volunteers to continue. Please contact the office or sign-up in the fellowship hall if you're willing to help to prepare & serve coffee. If no one volunteers to serve, we won't have coffee fellowship that Sunday. 

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Carol Barrett; Marcus Hanson, Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Beth Swanson; Brandi Tweeter; Clara Zeek; Linda Zielke; Monty Athey, Jessy Buth; Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; and Jerry Stotesbery. 
AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Ricky Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Adeline Burgess; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; & Eleanor Nickolauson. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict, especially Alexander Johnson (Ev Johnson's grandson). If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.

REMINDER: Calendar and other important information is on our website, www.firstenglish.net & our bulletin boards. The church office number is (320) 839-2527.

This Week's Ministry Assistants—January 21st

Greeters: Jim Foster & Bennette Karels

Acolytes: Jaclyn & Tino

Tech Desk: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

Organist: Lisa Berdan

Ushers: Dean Longnecker, Gale May, Scott Schneider, & Dick Strei

Coffee Servers: Stattelmann Family

Lector: Sara Mattison

Next Week's Ministry Assistants—January 28th

Greeters: Tino Cochran & Connie & Carol Newman **Acolytes:** Bryson & Bennette

Tech Desk: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson **Organist:** Marilyn Hanson

Ushers: Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Jackie & Mel Domine

Coffee Servers: Kari Dorry & Michelle Bauer

Weekly Calendar

Sun – 1/21

- 9:00 am Contemporary Worship (w/Brent Zahrbock)
– KDIO & FB Live Broadcast
- 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School

Tues – 1/23

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

- 8:30 am Day of Love
- 4:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (Fairway View)

Wed – 1/24

- 9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast
- 3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8th grade)
- 4:30 pm Confirmation (9th grade)
- 5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12th grade) & Channel 3 broadcast.
- 7:00 pm Senior Choir

Fri – 1/26

- 9:00 am Bulletins Printed

Sat – 1/27

- 1:00 pm Baptism of Crew Matthew Hipple

Sun – 1/28

- 9:00 am Worship (w/Brent Zahrbock) – Noisy Offering – Pledge
Dedication – KDIO & FB Live Broadcast
- 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School
- 10:30 am Annual Meeting of the Congregation
(and Pastoral Search Steps & Timeline Review)