

## St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. David Gruoner, **Vacancy Pastor**      Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, **Organist**  
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### Member – Linn Lutheran School Association

Mr. David Beikmann – Principal & Teacher; Email: [linnluth@bluevalley.net](mailto:linnluth@bluevalley.net);  
Mrs. Laura Stunkel, Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl & Mrs. Shawna Spiels – Teachers

**January 6, 2019**

### Epiphany of Our Lord

Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Gruoner, and we hope to see you again soon.

Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

### Liturgy – Divine Service Setting Three (Page 184)

**Opening Hymn:** 367 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

**Sermon Hymn:** 395: 1-4 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

**Communion Hymn:** 400 "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning"

**Communion Hymn:** 397 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

**Communion Hymn:** 399 "The Star Proclaims the King is Here"

**Closing Hymn:** 390 "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice"

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please e-mail prayer requests to Pastor Holtorf at [gholtorf@bluevalley.net](mailto:gholtorf@bluevalley.net).  
Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

**Robbie Oelschlager – chronic pain**      **Kay Bott – cancer recovery**  
**Henry Maseman - congestive heart failure**      **Family of John Walter**

**Acolytes this Sunday** - Elijah Meier & Conner Ohlde

**Acolytes next Sunday** - Ryan Stuenkel & Riana Spiels

**Ushers this Sunday** - \*Tyler Ohlde, Evan Bott, Eli Thalmann, Brett Peters

**Ushers next Sunday** - \*Evan Bott, John Bott, Cody Ohlde, Aaron Stuenkel

### Upcoming Events

- January 6**      8:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible class & Sunday school
- January 7**      7:00 p.m. LWML Mtg (bring your Quarterly!)
- January 9**      5:30 p.m. St. John Midweek
- January 13**      8:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible class & Sunday school  
10:30 a.m. Voter's Assembly meeting  
11:45 a.m. New Member Potluck
- January 16**      5:30 p.m. St. John Midweek
- January 20**      8:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion  
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible class & Sunday school  
1:00 p.m. LLS Association Meeting @ Zion  
5:00-8:00 p.m. St. John Soup Supper

### Announcements

- \* **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** We will no longer designate the 3rd Sunday to Kids' Choir during Sunday school. Instead, the kids will have a brief practice in the "opening room" before Sunday school every Sunday.
- \* The prayer chain for St. John has been updated. Whenever there is a prayer request, please contact Deb Ohlde at 446-3378 or 275-2499 (cell) or [dcohlde@nckcn.com](mailto:dcohlde@nckcn.com). Deb will begin the process of circulating the request. If all three ways to reach Deb have not worked, you can contact Annette Bott at 692-4272 or 632-7425 (cell) or via e-mail [anbott@bluevalley.net](mailto:anbott@bluevalley.net).
- \* The Men's Club of St. John is hosting a soup supper on Sunday, January 20th from 5 p.m.- 8 p.m. All are invited to come enjoy a variety of soups along with some grilled cheese sandwiches. If you are willing to donate bars, cake, or pies, please sign up at the bulletin board or text Dave Beikmann @ 402-200-9720. Proceeds will go toward Lutheran Laymen's League and Lutheran Hour Ministries projects.
- \* Linn Lutheran School Association will hold its annual meeting at Zion Lutheran Church in Linn on Sunday, January 20th @ a 1 p.m. The agenda is posted on the bulletin board at both churches.

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily, according to Holy Scripture, do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

*-Rev. David Gruoner, Vacancy Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church*

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination

- I admit that I am a sinner (1 John 1:8-10)
- I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death (Acts 4:10-12, John 14:6)
- I desire to live as God wants me to. (John 14:15, 1 John 2:6)
- I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again (John 3:16, Romans 8:14 & 1 John 5:11-12)
- I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood (Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 4:22-24, 1 Cor. 10:16, 22:23ff, Luke 22:17-20)
- I forgive those who have wronged me



### Introit

I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;\*  
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

**Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of | uprightness;\*  
you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.  
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your com- | panions;\*  
your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and | cassia.  
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;\*  
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

### Collect for the Epiphany of Our Lord

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Listen to Worldwide KFUE.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. You can also find our programming wherever you get your podcasts! Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

This week on KFUE.org, hear live broadcasts from the March for Life in Washington, D.C., with Andy and Sarah (Friday 1/18 @ 9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. CT), dig into the Gospel of Mark on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear curious topics about theology and the world on Cross Defense with Rev. Bryan Wolfmuller and his guest (1/14 at 2:00 p.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at kfue.org or wherever you get your podcasts.

Please email any announcements for the bulletin to Theresa at  
**theresa\_meier@yahoo.com** by noon on Friday.

### **Old Testament Reading:**

#### **Isaiah 60:1–6**

1 Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.  
3 And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
4 Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.  
5 Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

### **Epistle Reading:**

#### **Ephesians 3:1–12**

1 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him

### **Gospel Reading:**

#### **Matthew 2:1–12**

1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, “Where is he

who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:  
6 “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.””

7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. 12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

## **CATECHETICAL REVIEW**

### **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

*as the Head of the Family Should Teach Them in a Simple Way to His Household.*

#### **The Sixth Commandment**

You shall not commit adultery.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

#### **The Seventh Commandment**

You shall not steal.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

#### **The Eighth Commandment**

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

... after three days they found Him  
in the Temple

### From Martin Luther's 1528 Confession of Faith

Accordingly I reject and condemn also as being nothing but the devil's crew and error all monastic orders, rules, cloisters, foundations, and whatever has been invented and established by men over and beyond the Scriptures, and was upheld with vows and self-imposed duties; although many great saints have lived in them, and, though being the elect of God, were yet for the time being deceived by them, yet at last were delivered through faith in Jesus Christ. For since men live in such orders, foundations and sects, thinking that by such ways and works they will and can be saved, escape sin and death, it is an open, dreadful blasphemy and denial of the only help and grace of our only Savior and Mediator Jesus Christ; for there is no other name given unto us by which we may be saved, except this, which is called Jesus Christ, Acts 4:12; and it is impossible that there should be more saviors, ways or means of being saved, than through the only righteousness, which our Savior Jesus Christ is and has given to us and presented to God as our only propitiation (or mercy-seat), Romans 3:25.



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Martin Luther's 1528 confession of faith is from *The Distinctive Doctrines of the Different Christian Confessions in the Light of the Word of God* by Karl Graul (1814-1864). The 1897 English translation by D. M. Martens is in the public domain. The full text of Luther's confession may be downloaded at the website below.