

# St. Johns Lutheran Church

The people who walked in  
darkness



Have Seen a Great Light;

## AS WE GATHER

The land where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali settled was repeatedly overrun by the armies of other nations. It was the invasion route into the Promised Land, the route for conquerors God allowed to punish errant Israel. But another “alien” would come one day on another mission: Isaiah used the land as a metaphor for our Lord’s coming to begin a new rule in our hearts. He would be as light in the darkness and joy in the harvest. His coming to save us by going to the cross was so different that it seemed to be folly. Yet, to those who came to know our Lord personally, like the disciples in today’s Gospel, there was no question but that they would follow this man. Today’s worship is an opportunity to rejoice over the light, joy, and salvation Christ brought from heaven to this dark, sad, and fallen world.

## RINGING OF THE BELLS / WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELCOME GUESTS

We’re glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering. Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St. Louis City) and checking out our website (<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>). **Our service today includes the celebration of God’s presence, as He comes in the true body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from receiving the sacrament until they have spoken with the pastor.**

### PREPARATION

#### HYMN

Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star

LSB 872

*Choir:*

*Come, Thou bright and Morning Star,*

*Light of Light without beginning;*

*Shine upon us from afar  
That we may be kept from sinning.  
Drive away by Thy clear light  
Our dark night.*

**Let Thy grace, like morning dew  
Falling soft on barren places,  
Comfort, quicken, and renew  
Our dry souls and dying graces;  
Bless Thy flock from Thy rich store  
Evermore.**

**May Thy fervent love destroy  
Our cold works, in us awaking  
Ardent zeal and holy joy  
At the purple morn's first breaking.  
Let us truly rise ere yet  
Life has set.**

**Ah! Thou Dayspring from on high,  
Grant that at Thy next appearing  
We who in the graves do lie  
May arise, Thy summons hearing,  
And rejoice in our new life,  
Far from strife.**

**Light us to those heav'nly spheres,  
Sun of grace, in glory shrouded;  
Lead us through this vale of tears  
To the land where days unclouded,  
Purest joy, and perfect peace  
Never cease.**

## **INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,  
**but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**  
Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
**wait for the LORD!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**who made heaven and earth.**

I Said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.*

O almighty God, merciful Father,

**I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## WORD

**KYRIE - II (LORD, HAVE MERCY) LSB 944**

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** “All Glory Be to God Alone” *LSB 948*

**All glory be to God alone, Forever more the highest one,**

**Who did our sinful race befriend And grace and peace to us extend.**

**Among us may His gracious will All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.**

**We praise You God; Your name we bless  
And worship You in humbleness;  
From day to day we glorify The everlasting God on high.  
Of Your great glory do we sing,  
And to Your throne our thanks we bring.**

**Lord God, our King on heaven's throne,  
Our Father, the Almighty One.  
O Lord, the sole begotten One, Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,  
True God from all eternity, O Lamb of God, to You we flee.**

**You take the whole world's sin away;  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
You take the whole world's sin away;  
O Lord, receive our prayer this day.  
From God' right hand Your mercy send,  
To all the world Your grace extend.**

**You only are the Holy One And over all are Lord alone.  
O Jesus Christ, we glorify You and the Spirit, Lord Most High;  
With Him You ever more shall be One in the Father's majesty.**

### **SALUTATION**

**The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Let us pray. Lord Jesus, who came from heaven to earth, heal us in body, soul, and spirit that we may serve You in joy, now and always; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

### **MEMORIZED WORD**

**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, <sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Psalm 46:1-3**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 9:1–4*

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** The Lord Is My Light LSB 723

*Refrain*

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

**The Lord is the strong hold of my life.**

**Since the Lord is my life, my strength, and my all,**

**Whom then shall I fear?**

**There is one thing I ask of the Lord:**

**To dwell in His house forever,**

**To gaze on the beauty of the Lord**

**All the days of my life. *Refrain***

**Do not hide Your face, O Lord;**

**Ev'ry day I will seek Your face.**

**Though my father and mother may forsake me,**

**The Lord will receive me. *Refrain***

**Teach me, Lord, and keep me on Your paths;**

**Guide me, Lord along a level way.**

**I will gaze on the goodness of the Lord**

**In the land of all the living. *Refrain***

## **EPISTLE**

*1 Corinthians 1:10–18*

<sup>10</sup>I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup>Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE**            *Matthew 4:17*

Alleluia. From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,  
**"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Alleluia.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "O Christ, Our True and Only Light" *LSB* 839

**O Christ, our true and only light,  
Enlighten those who sit in night;  
Let those afar now hear Your voice  
And in Your fold with us rejoice.**

**Fill with the radiance of Your grace  
The souls now lost in error's maze;  
Enlighten those whose inmost minds  
Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.**

**O gently call those gone astray  
That they may find the saving way!  
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed  
In you find peace and heav'nly rest.**

**Shine on the darkened and the cold;  
Recall the wand'ers to Your fold.  
Unite all those who walk apart;  
Confirm the weak and doubting heart,**

**That they with us may evermore  
Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore  
And endless praise to You be giv'n  
By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**      *Matthew 4:12–25*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. <sup>13</sup>And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—<sup>16</sup>the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” <sup>18</sup>While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup>And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. <sup>24</sup>So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. <sup>25</sup>And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.



This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CREED** (We All Believe In One True God) LSB 953

**We all believe in one true God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Ever-present help in need,  
Praised by all the heav'nly host;  
All He made His love enfolds,  
All creation He upholds.**

**We all believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Mary's son,  
Who descended from His throne  
And for us salvation won;  
By whose cross and death are we  
Rescued from all misery.**

**We all confess the Holy Ghost,  
Who from both in truth proceeds,  
Who sustains and comforts us  
In all trials, fears, and needs.  
Blessed, holy Trinity,  
Praise forever be to Thee!**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

O Christ, Who Called the Twelve LSB 856 Sung by the Choir

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Let us pray:

For the Church here and around the world, that God's light would shine through us, attracting many who still walk in the darkness of their own making, and uniting in faith and confession all who trust in Christ their Lord.

**Light of the world, use Your Church to enlighten those who live in this world's darkness, and enable our brothers and sisters to find in their Savior the true source of peace and concord.**

For governments local and national, that God would open leaders' eyes to see opportunities for peace among their citizens.

**Light come to us from above, we ask that You guide, protect, and defend elected officials, police in our communities, and troops deployed, that peace may break out and the Church may prosper.**

For those near and dear to us, [*including . . .*]. Lord Jesus,

**source of light and health and peace, hear the prayers of all who call to You in their illnesses, sorrows, and grief. Shine on them in blessings and peace so that faith may remain firm until it is replaced by sight.**

For Mothers who are impacted by the overturning of Roe vs. Wade and who may still carry the shame of unwanted pregnancies. We also pray that there will be more babies who will live; For expectant parents, helpful counselors, and resourceful agencies as they seek to help families be nurseries of growth in body, soul, and mind.

**By Your gracious visitation, give them strength, increase their love, and provide unexpected joy in their service to You and the people around them.**

Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SACRAMENT**

### **PREFACE**

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 Him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and

archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify  
Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

**SANCTUS** *Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old*

*LSB 960*

**“Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!  
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!  
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!’  
His glory fills the heavens and the earth!”  
The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,  
And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.**

**Isaiah, mighty seer in days of old,  
The Lord of all in spirit did behold  
High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,  
With robes that filled the temple courts with light.  
Above the throne were flaming seraphim;  
Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.  
With two they veiled their faces as was right,  
With two they humbly hid their feet from sight,  
And with the other two a loft they soared;  
One to the other called and praised the Lord:**

**“Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!  
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!  
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!’  
His glory fills the heavens and the earth!”  
The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,  
And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.**

#### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

#### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**AGNUS DEI** *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*      *LSB 434; verse 1*

**Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O, Jesus!**

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

Hail, O Source of Every Blessing      *LSB 409*  
O Savior of Our Fallen Race      *LSB 403*

**POST-COMMUNION**    In Peace and Joy I Now Depart      *LSB 938*

**In peace and joy I now depart  
Since God so wills it.  
Serene and confident my heart;  
Stillness fills it.  
For the Lord has promised me  
That death is but a slumber.**

**Christ Jesus brought this gift to me,  
My faithful Savior,  
Whom You have made my eyes to see  
By Your favor.  
Now I know He is my life,  
My friend when I am dying.**

**You sent the people of the earth  
Their great salvation;  
Your invitation summons forth  
Ev'ry nation  
By Your holy, precious Word,  
In ev'ry place resounding.**

**Christ is the hope and saving light  
Of those in blindness;  
He guides and comforts those in night  
By His kindness.  
For Your people Israel  
In Him find joy and glory.**

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

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.  
**Amen.**

**HYMN**                      Hark, the voice of Jesus Crying *LSB* 826

**Hark, the voice of Jesus crying,  
"Who will go and work today?  
Fields are white and harvests waiting--  
Who will bear the sheaves away?"  
Loud and long the Master calleth;  
Rich reward He offers thee.**

**Who will answer, gladly saying,  
"Here am I, send me, send me"?**

**If you cannot speak like angels,  
If you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus,  
You can say He died for all.  
If you cannot rouse the wicked  
With the judgment's dread alarms,  
You can lead the little children  
To the Savior's waiting arms.**

**If you cannot be a watchman,  
Standing high on Zion's wall,  
Pointing out the path to heaven,  
Off'ring life and peace to all,  
With your prayers and with your bounties  
You can do what God commands;  
You can be like faithful Aaron,  
Holding up the prophet's hands.**

**Let none hear you idly saying,  
"There is nothing I can do,"  
While the multitudes are dying  
And the Master calls for you.  
Take the task He gives you gladly,  
Let His work your pleasure be;  
Answer quickly when He calleth,  
"Here am I, send me, send me!"**

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Lector	Pastor Michael Tanney
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	Cameron Hampel, John Benwell, Patrick Benwell, Jayvon Evers, Joan Potvin, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Michael Tanney
Acolytes/Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy

Bible Class

Pastor Michael Tanney

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## Announcements

### Saved to Share Called to Care

**Our Response to God's Love Last Week**

Attendance Sunday: 38

Nepalese Attendance: 27

Offering: \$1,632.80

**FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** will now be going over the book of Galatians at 8am on Fridays.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Word of Life will be hosting their auction on Friday, May 12th. More information to come soon!

**MEN'S RETREAT** There will be a men's retreat at Camp Wartburg on February 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$60 a person. For more information about the retreat, there is a flyer up outside Jonah's office. If anyone is interested in going, Pastor Tanney will go with you.

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL** will meet next Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary after Bible Class @ 11:30am.

**ST. LUKE'S BBQ** St. Luke's (3415 Taft Ave: 314-352-1224) will be holding their Ground Hog Day BBQ on Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup> from 11am-5pm, and will be carryout only. Adult plates are \$9 (ribs \$10) and Child plates (Under 10) will be \$6. For details on what will be served, please check out the flyers on the tables.

**MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE** Hope Ev. Lutheran in St. Louis will host the hymn festival featuring the works of Lisa Clark, hymnwriter and author, on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Lisa is a St. Louis native, alum of Hope Lutheran School, and serves as Senior Editor at Concordia Publishing House. The hymn festival will feature hymn texts written as part of her Ph.D. studies at the University of Bristol, England. The festival will be led by organist Jacob Weber and the combined choirs of Hope and Ascension Lutheran Churches. Hope Lutheran is located at 5218 Neosho St.

**MEMORIES OF EILEEN** Ahead of the memorial service on January 28<sup>th</sup>, Pastor is asking you to contact him if you have any memories of Eileen you would like to share.

## Prayers

**Special Prayer Petitions – Family of Mary Jane** (Ruth Trauth Sister-in-Law) as they mourn the passing of Mary; **Carmen Hobson** who lost her best friend and could not make the funeral; **Bobbie** who is suffering with mental issues; **Confirmation Class** for the Lord to mature their faith; **Our Vicars** as they continue to take classes at the Seminary; **Our Field-Workers** Tristan (and family), Alvaro and, Isaac; **Shut Ins** – Bobbie Kepford, Jerry Schmaltz, Steve Bain, Carmen Hobson

### *Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week January 22-January 29*

Sunday	<b>9:00am Worship w/ Communion</b> 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	8am-12pm Office Open 8am-3pm Counseling in Nursery <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>6pm</u> Ladies Exercise
Tuesday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass 6pm Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>3:45pm</u> Compass Chapel 6pm Choir
Thursday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>2pm</u> Ridgewood Bible Study <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>6:30pm</u> Adult Confirmation
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>8am</u> Bible Study / <u>8am-3pm</u> Counseling in Nursery 1pm Nepali Mother's Prayer Service <u>2pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>6pm-7:30pm</u> Faith Oakville Small Group
Saturday	<u>8:30am</u> Food Pantry / <u>9am</u> Confirmation <u>11am</u> Eileen Wehrheim Memorial / <u>2pm</u> Vicar Meeting
Next Sunday	<b>9:00am Joint Worship w/ Communion</b> 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship <b>11:30am Executive Council Meeting</b> 12:30pm African Worship