BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022 **SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022**

"MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES"

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 "There are different types of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now, to each the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good."

INTRODUCTION – Fifteen months ago when I went into seclusion in a quiet cottage on a lake to plan this sermon, little did I know that the pandemic would still be part of our life in this season of Epiphany 2022. The Apostle Paul teaches us that we are equipped for the job in the household of God. We could easily learn from these difficult times of pandemic and apply them to our spiritual lives.

- 1 The Epiphany and the pandemic are universal. 2 - Both have specific armies to do their job: heal the body - heal the soul. 3 – We pray for our healthcare workers. 4 - We pray and support our missionaries. 5 – The virus continues to mutate – the Epiphany presents new challenges. 6 - Our gifts are given us for a reason: the common good.
- 7 Let us thank the Lord for membership in the church!

CONCLUSION – We became members of God's family, the Christian church on earth, through Holy Baptism or through his word, the Gospel. As such we are given everything that we need for the service appointed for us by God. The different types of gifts ought not to separate us, but to bring us together, because each is needed for the common good! Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Divine Glory Is Manifested in the Signs of Christ

When Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana, it was "the first of his signs" by which He "manifested his glory" (John 2:11). It pointed to His coming "hour," when He was lifted up on the cross for the forgiveness of sins and the life of the world (John 2:4; 12:23–32). The glory of the cross is incomprehensible apart from the Word and Spirit of God, but disciples of Jesus recognize that glory in the signs of His Gospel, and so they believe in Him. Jesus does not wait for His disciples to discover Him on their own, but He seeks out the forsaken and the desolate and unites them to Himself. He adorns them with His own beautiful righteousness and delights in them "as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride" (Is. 62:4–5). Purified by the washing of water with His Word in Holy Baptism, His disciples confess that "Jesus is Lord," and they return thanks to Him "in the Holy Spirit" (1 Cor. 12:3) as they drink the good wine that He pours out for them, which is the new testament in His blood.

WORSHIP SERVICE AND BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY at 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall for a study on the book of Psalms. Please note that on January 23rd, class will meet in Oswald Hall. There will be no class on January 30th.

TUESDAY LADIES' BIBLE STUDY at 9am in the Fellowship Hall for a study on Gifts, Chosen for You. **TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY** at 7pm. Please contact DCE Jaime Greene at jaimelynn581@gmail.com to receive the Zoom link.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY will study the book of 2nd Timothy and Titus. Class meets in the Library at 7pm.

THURSDAY MORNING at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall for a study on the book of John.

WOMEN'S HOME BIBLE STUDY on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6:30pm. Please contact Diane Gihring, Kathy Herbst, or the church office for more information.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets on the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} Saturdays in January at 8:30am to study the book of Ephesians.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Sunday, January 23rd due to National Lutheran Schools Week celebrations, and on January 30th due to Pastor's Retirement Celebration.

CHARITABLE INFORMATION

FIRST QUARTER SPECIAL MISSIONS: We begin a new year of Special Missions, by supporting the publication of two devotion books. The first is "Recipes of Love" and is for families with school-aged children. The second is called "Get Up and Walk". It contains devotions for children that are sick-especially those undergoing extensive medical treatments. Both will be published in Portuguese, by Concordia Publishing House of Porto Alegre, Brazil. You may support the Special Mission by signing up on the bulletin board, or by using one of the envelopes in the pews.

CHURCH INFORMATION

PASTOR SANDER'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION: Please join us in celebrating Pastor's 38 years in ministry, and as we say "see you soon" to Pastor and Joan after the Thursday night Worship Service on January 27th and between services on January 30th. In lieu of gifts, Pastor has asked that we contribute to the Special Mission Offering. You may do so by giving a gift in the special envelopes marked "A Gift in Honor of Pastor Sander's Retirement", or by stopping by the church office.

WELCOME JOHN!: We welcome as an addition to our staff as a part-time care taker of our buildings and grounds at Blessed Savior, John Kamperschroer! He is an energetic young man and will certainly serve the Lord and us as he grows into his new occupation. Welcome John and may the Lord guide you in this new phase of your life!

YOUNG AT HEART: All members, ages 65 and older, are invited to a movie and pizza party on Thursday, January 20th at 11am in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETINS, AND SPECIAL MISSIONS: If you are interested in sponsoring Altar Flower, Bulletins, and/or Special Missions, please see the Bulletin Board for the 2022 sign-up sheet. **PRESCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT:** Preschool will start open enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year on Monday, January 24th. Families with children ages two through preschool age are encouraged to check out the many programs we offer. Spots fill up quickly, so if you know anyone that is interested, please tell them to see Jennifer Leinss or email at <u>jleinss82@gmail.com</u> with any questions. **YOUTH GROUP:** All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us as we go to The Rock Snowpark for Tubing on Sunday, January 23rd. We'll meet at church at 5:30pm and return at 8:30pm. Cost is \$20. Please

STAR READERS: Our 4K classes are looking for some star readers! If you would like to come and read a special story to the children, please contact Jennifer Leinss at jleinss82@gmail. Our kids enjoy having special friends in class! Please note that Star readers are required to wear a mask when in the classroom. If you don't have a book, we are happy to provide one. Thank you!

sign up with Jaime Greene by January 21st.

ZAMBIA BOUND: During National Lutheran Schools Week, our students will have the opportunity to virtually visit Zambia and learn about their culture, way of life, and the ways in which they learn about Jesus. In recognition of this special adventure, we will be collecting an offering for Lutheran Hour Ministry to host VBS, youth gatherings, workshops, and more in Zambia! If you would like to give to this wonderful cause, please use the special offering envelopes and mark it "Zambia Adventure."

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK: We are excited to celebrate Lutheran Schools! Stop in the Fellowship Hall during the Education Hour next Sunday to visit with our area Lutheran Schools to see what exciting things they are up to in their ministry, and to listen to our church members share what they love about their school.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE: At the start of the New Year, the call committee met and narrowed the list of ten candidates to 5, and have set up interviews with them, which will be conducted via Zoom over the next couple weeks. Following the interviews, the committee will narrow the list to 3 candidates, which will be brought before the congregation in a special Voters Meeting. We would love your prayers as we continue through this process!

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSIONS

We pray for those undergoing medical treatment:

Adeline Judy Karen Karena Kay Laverne Nancy Cindy Fran Carol Amber

We pray the Lord to watch over those who are serving in the military.

We pray the Lord's comfort for our sister, Del Tann, and her family at the sudden passing of her husband, Raymond Tann, Jr. Del is one of the leaders of the Girl Scout Troop that meets in our building.

Altar Flowers are sponsored by Jack and Marian Welter in thanksgiving for all God's blessings. **Bulletins** are sponsored by

Special Missions are sponsored by Millie Henry in memory of her parents.

WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR January 14th-January 23rd

SUN	8:00am	Worship
	10:30am	Worship
MON	SCRIP Orders Due	
TUES	9:00am	Ladies Bible Study
	6:30pm	Boards and Committees
	7:00pm	Zoom Bible Study
	7:30pm	Church Council Meeting
WED	9:00am	Quilters
	7:00pm	Bible Study
THUR	9:30am	Bible Study
	11:00am	Young at Heart
	7:00pm	Worship and Communion
SAT	8:30am	Men's Bible Study
	9:00am	Handbell Rehearsal
SUN	8:00am	Worship and Communion
	9:15am	Education Hour
	10:30am	Worship and Communion
	5:30pm	Youth Group

Attendance: 127 Offerings: \$7,691 Needed Weekly: Not Available at Publication