

FOLLOW
ME
AND I WILL
MAKE YOU
FISHERS
of MEN



Matthew 4:19

As We Gather Third Sunday after Epiphany Jan. 22,2023

When Jesus appeared on the scene of human history, His coming was like the light of a new day. Isaiah had prophesied a day would come filled with joy as at the harvest or when victors divide spoils. But daylight also reveals problems covered by darkness, like the divisions at the Church in Corinth, as Paul writes. Jesus' light not only reveals, but it also forgives, heals, and enlivens. People brought the sick and demon-possessed to our Lord, and the first four disciples jumped at the opportunity to follow Him. What ills shall we bring to worship today for resolution? Sins requiring forgiveness, gloom needing joy, divisions seeking reconciliation? Jesus came into human history to die and rise for us; today He comes through Word and Sacrament in grace and mercy to meet our deepest needs. Let us rejoice in the light of God's forgiveness, mercy, and love.

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**Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.
Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.**

A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church to come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

PRELUDE
WELCOME

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN #875 “**Father, We Praise Thee**” (*Stand last stanza*)

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *1 Corinthians 1:18; Psalm 27:14*

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** St. Matthew writes that Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Let us respond by confessing our sins and asking our Lord’s forgiveness.
- C** **Heavenly Father, we confess our sins to You. We are too much a part of this fallen world. Because our citizenship is in heaven, invade our thoughts, words, and deeds by Your gracious power. Help us to live each day as pilgrims heading to the eternal promised land. Turn us from our sinful direction to follow our Savior’s gracious lead, walking in ways pleasing to You for Jesus’ sake. Amen.**
- P** “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.” Be assured that through Jesus’ blood-bought rescue, you are already citizens in the Kingdom of heaven. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

WORD

KYRIE

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord,
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For peace that breaks into this world from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For peace that knows no boundaries, for growth in the Church around the world, and for unity around the cross of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who respond here in worship and praise to our victorious King, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “Praise The One Who Breaks The Darkness” *LSB 849*

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris’ners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, healing ev’ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands with the very Bread of peace.**
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons with the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert’s burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, quenching thirst in ev’ry land.**
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, praise the One who makes us one.**

(Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

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SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God,
C **mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us;**
P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Isaiah 9:1–4**

“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. 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. 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. 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.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING **1 Corinthians 1:10–18**

“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. For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. 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.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) 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. 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.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 4:12–25

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—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.” From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” 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. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 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. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. 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. 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. And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.”

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

HYMN OF THE DAY # 839 “O Christ, Our True And Only Light”

SERMON “The Light Has Dawned” Matthew 4:12-25

THE APOSTLE’S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will

come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. 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.
- C** **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.**
- P** Let us pray for governments local and national, that God would open leaders' eyes to see opportunities for peace between nations and safety and concord among their citizens.
- C** **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.**
- P** Let us pray for those near and dear to us, [*including . . .*]. Lord Jesus,
- C** **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.**
- P** Let us pray for expectant parents, helpful counselors, and resourceful agencies as they seek to help families be nurseries of growth in body, soul, and mind.
- C** **By Your gracious visitation, give them strength, increase their love, and provide unexpected joy in their service to You and the people around them.**
- P** Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY LSB 805

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P** 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 saying:

SANCTUS (Tune: “Holy, Holy, Holy” LSB 507)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Day and night we join to praise
Your love and majesty. You alone are holy, worthy, and righteous.
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

(Text: Gregory J. Wismar

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WORDS OF OUR LORD “Remember Me” G. Gustafson & M. Nystrom

- P** (*sung*) “On the night ... This is My blood poured out for you and as you drink it remember Me.”
- C** (*sung*) **“So we thank You for the wine and for the bread;
For we see the life You gave And the blood you shed.
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed Your blood
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed your blood.”**

(© 1990 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) (c/o Integrity Music, Inc. Used by permission)

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.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** Amen.

AGNUS DEI LSB 163

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#856 O Christ, Who Called the Twelve #830 Spread the Reign of God
#427 In the Cross of Christ #829 Christ the Eternal Lord #412 The People...

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** Let us pray. O God the Father, who sent Your Son into this dark world from the Kingdom of heaven,
- C** we thank You that for His sake You have declared us to be citizens of heaven, and You have given us this Sacrament so that His blood-bought peace may rule our hearts and minds; grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may walk in Your ways as we carry Your name to all we meet;
- P** through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN # 644 “The Church’s One Foundation”

ANNOUNCEMENTS POSTLUDE

+ + + + +

Reader Today: Gail Snow

PRAYER LIST Maggie Halterman, surg. recovery; Carol VanLente, surg. recovery; Tom Stettler, Southern Utah Veterans Home; the homebound.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

TODAY	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship/Refreshments at <u>Childcare Ctr Open House</u>
Tues. Jan. 24	11:00 a.m.	Childcare Chapel
Wed. Jan. 25	9:30 a.m.	Women’s Bible Study
Thur. Jan. 26	10:30 a.m.	Grief Support Group
Thur. Jan. 26	10:30 a.m.	Jesus Time (Childcare Ctr)
Thur. Jan. 26	1:00 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study
Thur. Jan. 26	3:00 p.m.	Choir Practice

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 23 Greg Larson	Jan 26 David Gnacinski	Jan 26 Jim Jones
Jan 26 Ruby Stuart	Jan 27 Rudy Hammond	Jan 30 Beverly Brack
Jan 30 Joan Samuelson	Jan 31 Jeff Meckley	

ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 31 Gordon & Carol Shepherd

GOLF TOURNAMENT MEETING We will be meeting on Jan. 29th after the service in the library/conference room. All volunteers who would like to help out are invited to attend.

MLC WORSHIP AND NEWS WEEKLY EMAIL For those without email or computer access, our weekly email newsletter MLC Worship and News will be available in print form on the table in the narthex under the church information bulletin board.

2022 OFFERING STATEMENTS are available in the colorful box on the table on the right as you exit church. If you have any questions or need corrections, let Pastor or Mary Webster maryfw75519@yahoo.com know.

ALTAR FLOWERS: We now have a flower chart to sign up for altar flowers. It is on the bulletin board in the narthex, near the water fountain. If you have any questions about anything regarding flowers, please call Claudia Havens at 702-523-1049 or E-mail: secretary@mesquitelutheran.org.

PHOTOS If you have any **pictures from the beginnings of MLC**, candid pictures of people, events, construction of church or childcare center, we may want to include them in a special presentation for our 25th Anniversary. Please share with Pastor and we'll get them back to you.

USHERS WANTED! We are in need of some additional volunteers to assist with ushering at our services. **Sign up sheets are on the table. Contact Jim Hinson rah4446@yahoo.com** or **Pastor** or speak with an acting usher if you have questions or would like to volunteer to help as a greeter, usher (bulletins, offering, Communion), or acolyte. We will provide directions/training.

ADDITIONAL CLEANING TEAMS NEEDED Join our great teams of church cleaners that do a great job! Couples or teams of 2-3 clean once a week (scheduled 2 weeks in a row, a couple of times over a 6 month period). Supplies provided. Clean anytime during the week when church is not in use. List of areas to be cleaned on wall in janitor room in the kitchen. We will provide training. **Contact Bob Sennett 801-414-8324 or rfsdne@msn.com.**

10 a.m. service available online at our Facebook page (live and recorded - @MesquiteLCC). You do not need a Facebook account to view. Go to facebook.com/MesquiteLCC/live or visit our website mesquitelutheran.org/Online-Services.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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