

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Sunday, February 16, 2025 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

INTRODUCTION

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed ares" and the "woe tos" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

WELCOME/ANNOUCEMENTS

The February Noisy Offering collection will go to the UN Disaster Relief Fund, chosen by our Confirmation class.

The flowers today are from Dave & Mary Mindrup, in celebration of Rylan Mindrup Redell & Charley Sue Weilert baptisms.



Sacrament of Holy Baptism



Our baptismal candidates are: Charley Sue Weilert, Daughter of Phillip & Elizabeth Weilert, Sister of Willow Weilert. Charley's sponsors are Ellisa Weilert & Rachel Mindrup.

Rylan Mindrup Reddell,

Son of William Reddell & Rachel Mindrup, Brother of Violet Mindrup, William and Emma Reddell.

Grandson of Dave & Mary Mindrup. Rylan's sponsors are Joseph Mindrup & Chase Ross.

INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism.

The power of sin is put to death in this holy flood, and we are raised with Jesus Christ to new life. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sent out in mission for the life of the world.

(To Phillip, Elizabeth, William & Rachel, Ellisa, Joseph & Chase) Who presents these children to be baptized?

Parents and sponsors: We do.

(To Phillip, Elizabeth, William & Rachel) As you present Charley/Rylan for baptism, you are entrusted with gifts and responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people,

bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,

and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that they may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace among all people. Do you promise to help Charley/Rylan grow in the Christian faith and life? *Response* I do.

(To Ellisa, Rachel), Joseph & Chase) Do you promise to nurture Charley/Rylan in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response I do.

People of St. Mark's, do you promise to support Charley/Rylan and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

Response We do.

(Water is poured into the font)

RENUNCIATION OF EVIL AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you, parents and sponsors, to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you turn to Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Response: In faith I turn to Christ.

With the whole church, let us all confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy

Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Fa ther. He will come again to judge the living and t he dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit brooded over the waters and you created the world by your Word, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through water you led your people Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan Jesus was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you delivered us from the power of sin and death and set us free to live in you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this water and upon *all* who *are* washed in it, that *they* may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

WASHING

Charley/Rylan, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And let the people say ... **Amen.**

INVOCATION OF THE SPIRIT

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, wash them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Charley/Rylan with the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

(Making a cross on the forehead with oil.)

Charley/Rylan, children of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

(Parents and sponsors also receive the sign of the cross with oil.)

PRESENTATION OF A CANDLE

(Presenting a lighted candle.)

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

WELCOME

Through baptism you have been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world. Welcome, Charley/Rylan!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 717, vs. 1 & 2

Let Justice Flow like Streams

- Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure, enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.
- Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed, an ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926 Text $\mbox{\sc C}$ 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

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Greeting page 98

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIEPg. 98HYMN OF PRAISE page 101

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Living God,

in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals

and make mere flesh their strength,

whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,

and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious,

and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse who can understand it?
¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 1

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;

everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,

⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
 ^b but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION page 102

Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the 6th Chapter. Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.



²² "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now,

for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 636

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
 Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
 Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
 born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long: this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*
- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

Prayers of Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way (*especially*). Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

PEACE

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

And also with you

Let us share God's peace with one another.

OFFERING/ NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY pg. 182

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy pg. 108

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG pg. 112



COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 754

Jesus, the Very Thought of You

- Jesus, the very thought of you fills us with sweet delight; but sweeter far your face to view and rest within your light.
- 2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind recall a sweeter sound than your blest name, O Savior of us all!
- 3 O Hope of ev'ry contrite soul,O joy of all the meek,how kind you are to those who fall!How good to those who seek!
- 4 O Jesus, be our joy today;
 help us to prize your love;
 grant us at last to hear you say:
 "Come, share my home above."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

ELW 471

Let Us Break Bread Together

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.
- Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*
- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

SENDING

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 545, vs. 1 & 3

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

- Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.
 Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.
- 3 Savior, when your love shall call us from our struggling pilgrim way, let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.
 May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, sts. 1-2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 3, alt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope. Thanks be to God.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.638-9331 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain. Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

Donna & Ron Frenzl, Donna Nichols, Pete Cagle, Linda Cagle, Janet Nichols, Chuck Vandenberg, Susan & Bill Roberts, George McElroy, Janet Schmidt,

Family & friends:

Nancy Harris, friend of Nancy Brown, Father in law of Pam Thomas, Liz Sutlick, friend of Amy Hackler, Karis, granddaughter of Jim & Mary Weeg. Family of Craig Aldag, uncle of Ali & Chuck Luin, Great uncle of Ethan Luin & Zoey Biggins (Luke & Cody) Eric Ohman, family friend of Joni & Steve Benz, Family of Scott Toth, associate of Chris McMullin, Marilou Osborne, cousin of Joni Benz, Jim Severson, friend of Joe VanKempen, Carol, stepmom of Tom Bryer, Brad, son of Jim & Mary Weeg, Liz Zybko, friend of Pam Wilson, Jules Rudigier, friend of Mark Schmideskamp, Tony Berg, son of Arlyn & Jan Berg, El Haddad, Semaan, and Nassar families & friends in Lebanon, extended family & friends of Fetsch family, Marlin Weidler, friend of St. Mark's, Donna Trester, Mother of Linda Cagle, Peggy, cousin of Jane Scherrer, Kerry O'Rourke, friend of Mark Schmideskamp, Fran Besser, friend of Joni & Steve Benz, Mindy Gustus, friend of Mark Schmideskamp, Everett, friend of sister-in-law of Janet Anderson, Jessica Parker, great-niece of Jane Stresewki, Tammy Strampe, Daughter-in-law of Barbara Strampe, Bob Bergene, friend of Clarence Linsey,

Doug & Kathy Thee, cousins of Barbara Strampe, Sheryl Thompson, friend of Pete Cagle,

Scott Miller, son-in-law of Jane & Mike Scherrer, Harry Cagle, brother of Pete Cagle, Janice, sister of Jenny Wheeler, Dr. Owens, friend of Kathy Hinkle, Mike and Susan Becker, friends of St. Mark's, Elizabeth Applebaum, friend of Kathy Hinkle Stan, friend of Pete Cagle, Chris, brother of Pete Cagle, Joetta Eagle & family, friends of Linda Bayer, Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle, Candy, sister of Tom Bryer, Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck. Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe, Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe, Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols, Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart. Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun, Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart. Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister, Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother, Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts, Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin, All People affected by natural disasters Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,