

**The Great Thanksgiving**..... page 88

**The Lord's Prayer** ..... page 91

*You may be seated.*

### MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Pre Communion, Lamb of God** ..... page 92

**Communion Hymns,** ..... Grey Hymn Book 183, 166, 161

*Please stand.*

**Post Communion, Thank the Lord** ..... page 92

**Prayer** ..... page 94

**Benediction** ..... page 95

**Pastor:** Go in peace, serve the Lord

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

**Closing Hymn, This Is My Father's World** ..... LBW #554

*Purple Note request by Janet Haugen*

### Postlude

**Pastor: Rev. Steve Bang**

**Organist: Ruth Sheldon**

**Usher: Wendell Finer**

**Acolyte: Paris Reimann**

**Lectionary: Lanette Branstad**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Today

7 p.m. Youth Group

#### Tuesday, January 5

7 p.m. Bible Study

#### Wednesday, January 6

3 p.m. Confirmation Class

7 p.m. Naomi Circle with Sharon Holland

#### Next Sunday, January 10

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:15 a.m. Fellowship

11 a.m. Worship Service

7 p.m. Youth Group

#### Thank you . . .

To all who remembered us with cards and gifts at Christmas. We are blessed.

Pastor Steve and Jonie

## Second Sunday after Christmas

11 a.m., January 3, 2016

West Prairie Lutheran Church, LCMC

### Prelude

### Pastoral Greeting

*Please stand if you are able.*

**Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness** .....page 77

**Opening Hymn, Your Little Ones, Dear Lord**..... LBW #552

**Kyrie** ..... page 78

**Hymn of Praise, This is the Feast** .....page 81

### Prayer of the Day

All: **Almighty God, You have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

### FIRST LESSON: I Kings 3:4-15

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place; Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, "Ask what *you wish* Me to give you."

Then Solomon said, "You have shown great lovingkindness to Your servant David my father, according as he walked before You in truth and righteousness and uprightness of heart toward You; and You have reserved for him this great lovingkindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day. Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted. So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

It was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing. God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice, behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you. I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that

Service of Holy Communion

Pastor Steve Bang

there will not be any among the kings like you all your days. If you walk in My ways, keeping My statutes and commandments, as your father David walked, then I will prolong your days.”

**Psalm 119:97-104** (responsively)

L: Oh, how I love Your law!

**C: All the day long it is in my mind.**

L: Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies,

**C: and it is always with me.**

L: I have more understanding than all my teachers,

**C: for Your decrees are my study.**

L: I am wiser than the elders,

**C: because I observe Your commandments.**

L: I restrain my feet from every evil way,

**C: that I may keep Your Word.**

L: I do not shrink from Your judgments,

**C: because You Yourself have taught me.**

L: How sweet are Your words to my taste!

**C: They are sweeter than honey to my mouth.**

L: Through Your commandments I gain understanding;

**C: therefore I hate every lying way.**

**SECOND LESSON:** Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God’s own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

*Please stand.*

**Alleluia** ..... page 83

**GOSPEL LESSON:** Luke 2:40-52

**Response:** *Glory to You, O Lord*..... page 83

The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when He became twelve, they went up *there* according to the custom of the Feast; and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But His parents were unaware of it, but supposed Him to be in the caravan, and went a day’s journey; and they *began* looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances. When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem looking for Him. Then, after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. When they saw Him, they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, “Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You.” And He said to them, “Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father’s *house*?” But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all *these* things in her heart.

And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

**Response:** *Praise to You, O Christ* ..... page 83

*You may be seated.*

**SERMON:** Pastor Steve Bang

“Drifting Is For Snow” Hebrews 2:1-3a

**Hymn, We Three Kings of Orient Are** .....Grey Hymn Book #206

*Please stand.*

**Nicene Creed** ..... page 84

**Prayer**

*Sharing of the Peace.*

*You may be seated.*

**Offering**

*Please stand.*

**Offertory, Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful** ..... page 86

**Prayer** ..... page 87

**Prayer List**—Kylie Holst, Marlas Reimann, Barb Miller, Angela Haugen, Marlys Haugen, Mike Haack, Roger Peterson, Dale Zingg, Dorothy Kall, Ben Charlson, Monte Branstad, Blanche Durby, Eldora Reil. All prayer requests can be submitted to: [www.westprairiechurch.com/prayer](http://www.westprairiechurch.com/prayer); leave message on church answering system @641-567-3733; or called in to Pastor Steve @ 641-581-2868.

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### **“Drifting is for Snow” - Hebrews 2:1-3a**

1. “We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not \_\_\_\_\_ away. For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we \_\_\_\_\_ such a great salvation?”
2. We drift apart in marriage and other relationships because of the same problem that causes us to drift apart from God = \_\_\_\_\_.
3. For some weird reason, many think that their marriage relationship is \_\_\_\_\_ free. It is not.
4. Drifting is for \_\_\_\_\_, not for your spiritual life, marriage, or relationships.
5. “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a \_\_\_\_\_ man who built his house on the \_\_\_\_\_.” (Matt. 7:24)
6. We have an enemy, \_\_\_\_\_, who is constantly trying to make us ineffective for Christ, who tries to convince us that we don’t need God’s help.
7. We are indeed children of God through faith in Jesus but we must remain \_\_\_\_\_ on God’s grace, God’s strength, and God’s leading.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is the sin most likely to keep you from crying out for a Savior.
9. Just as pride, neglect, and drifting can move me toward spiritual \_\_\_\_\_, so my acknowledgment of my dependence and trust in God can move me toward the \_\_\_\_\_ that God has intended for me all along.
10. “\_\_\_\_\_ me, O God, and know my heart! \_\_\_\_\_ me and know my thoughts! See if there be any wicked way in me and \_\_\_\_\_ me in the way everlasting! (Ps. 139:23-24)
11. Are you a ‘drifter’?

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