

SERMON NOTES . . .

“Power of God” I Corinthians 1:18

1. “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing but to those who are being saved it is the _____ of God.”
2. Paul tells us there are people out there who don’t like Christianity because it doesn’t offer the kind of _____ they want to hear.
3. Many people only want an answer that will give them control of their lives. The Bible offends them because it declares our lives are to be controlled by _____.
4. Many Jews wanted Jesus to do what they wanted him to do. Paul wrote, “Jews demand _____ signs.”
5. Once Jesus was arrested, condemned and _____, many walked away from him.
6. Many wanted a God who would protect them from the _____ of life. But the cross defies that notion.
7. The cross declares that life won’t always turn out the way you want it to but that life will ultimately turn out the way _____ wants it to.
8. The world looks for an answer that allows them to be _____.
9. God refuses to be _____ enough for us to understand on our terms. In fact, we couldn’t understand Him in that way if we wanted to.
10. God doesn’t fit into a neat little _____. He’s not easily understood.
11. I Corinthians 1:25 says, “..the _____ of God is stronger than man’s strength.”
12. The cross declares that not only does no one deserve heaven. The only way you can get into heaven is by accepting the _____ of Jesus.



West Prairie Lutheran Church, LCMC

Pastor Steve Bang

Welcome to West Prairie Lutheran Church!

Lutheran Congregation in Mission for Christ (LCMC) Synod

40041 150th Ave., P.O. Box 9, Leland, IA 50453 - Steve Bang, pastor

Please sign the attendance sheet provided in each pew. If you are a visitor, please include your mailing address, and we invite you to join us again.

11 a.m.—January 29, 2017

Worship Service for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude

Pastoral Greeting

Please stand if you are able.

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 77

Opening Hymn, O Savior, Precious Savior.....LBW # 514

Kyrie page 78

Hymn of Praise *Glory to God* page 79

Prayer of the Day

(All) O God, You know that we cannot withstand the dangers which surround us. Strengthen us in body and spirit so that, with Your help, we may be able to overcome the weakness that our sin has brought upon us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord. Amen.

You may be seated.

First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

God’s Indictment of His People

Hear now what the LORD is saying, “Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. “Listen, you mountains, to the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, because the LORD has a case against His people; even with Israel He will dispute. My people, what have I done to you, and how have I wearied you? Answer Me. Indeed, I brought you up from the land of Egypt and ransomed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron and Miriam. My people, remember now what Balak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam son of Beor answered him, *and* from Shittim to Gilgal, so that you might know the righteous acts of the LORD.”

With what shall I come to the LORD *and* bow myself before the God on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today...

7 p.m. Youth Group

Tuesday, Jan. 31st...

7 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, Feb. 1st...

3 p.m. Confirmation Class

7 p.m. Naomi Circle with Sharon Holland

Next Sunday, Feb. 5th...

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Fellowship

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

7 p.m. Youth Group

SS Christmas Program...

Worship service next Sunday will include the Sunday School Christmas program.

Last Call for Cookbook Changes...

The church council has approved ordering 200 more cookbooks. If you have come across errors in the cookbook, we can make corrections in this printing at no extra charge. Please contact Janell Carson with any recipe corrections. The order will be placed at the end of January.

Prayer List...

Jonie Bang, Marilyn Holland, Denise Holst, Irene Eide, Marlys Haugen, Blanche Durby, Ben Charlson, Dale Zingg, Angela Haugen, Dorothy Kall, Elaine Ritz, Eldora Reil, Monte Branstad, Mike Haack. All prayer requests can be submitted to: www.westprairiechurch.com/prayer; or leave a message on the church answering system @ 641-567-3733; or call Pastor Steve @ 641-590-7894.

with yearling calves? Does the LORD take delight in thousands of rams, in ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I present my firstborn *for* my rebellious acts, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 15 (responsively)

L: O LORD, who may abide in Your tent?

C: Who may dwell on Your holy hill?

L: He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness,

C: And speaks truth in his heart.

L: He does not slander with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor,

C: Nor takes up a reproach against his friend;

L: In whose eyes a reprobate is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD;

C: He swears to his own hurt and does not change;

L: He does not put out his money at interest, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

C: He who does these things will never be shaken.

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 1:18-31

The Wisdom of God

For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE."

Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not *come to* know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wis-

er than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that no man may boast before God. But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, so that, just as it is written, "LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD."

Here ends the reading

Please stand.

Alleluia page 83

The Holy Gospel according to: Matthew 5:1-12

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

The Sermon on the Mount; The Beatitudes

When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. He opened His mouth and *began* to teach them, saying,

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when *people* insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Re-

joice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn: *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*.....Grey Hymn Book #226

You may be seated.

The Sermon: Pastor Bang

"Power of God" I Corinthians 1:18

Hymn: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* LBW #543

Installation of Church Council Members

Please stand.

Apostles' Creed page 85

Prayer

Sharing of the Peace.

You may be seated.

Offering

Please stand

Offertory: *Create In Me* page 96

Pastor: Let us pray. Page 96

The Lord's Prayer page 97

Benediction page 95

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Cong.: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn, Christ Is the King! LWB #386

Purple Note request by Wendell Finer

Postlude

Pastor: Steve Bang

Organist/Pianist: Ruth Sheldon

Usher: Jeff Holland

Lectionary: Janet Haugen

Acolyte: Faith Finer