

WEST PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

40041 150th Ave

Leland, Iowa



Healing Service

First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2023

Mission: To proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to all through worship, education, outreach, and fellowship.

Please be advised, the service is livestreamed and on the internet.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us. Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The people are seated.

HYMN “If You Will Only Let God Guide You” Grey Book #605

Laying of Hands and Anointing

Those who wish to receive laying of hands and anointing may come to the altar one at a time, waiting in the aisles until the person ahead is anointed. As you step forward, give your first name to the minister so that it may be included in prayer.

You may sit or stand for the anointing.

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, send your Holy Spirit upon your servant, _____; drive away all sickness of body and spirit; make whole that which is broken; deliver him/her from the power of evil; and preserve him/her in true faith, to share in the power of Christ's resurrection and to serve you with all the saints now and evermore.

R: Amen

After all have returned to their places, the people stand for the closing rite.

*Closing Rite:

P: The Almighty Lord—a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and whom they obey—be now and evermore your defense, and make you known and feel that the only name under heaven given for health and salvation is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

C: And his mercy endures forever.

P: The Lord be with you,

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Sovereign Lord, your reign extends across time and space. You have created us in your own image and redeemed us by your grace through your Son. Grant that we may return to you what is yours, our entire selves given to your mission in the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**The people are seated.*

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

PALMS

Psalm 111

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

p. 83

“Glory to you, O Lord”

p. 83

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

“Praise to you, O Christ”

p. 83

Children’s Message

Sermon

Pastor Tony

HYMN OF THE DAY

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

Grey Hymnal #202

Bidding Prayers:

P: Let us pray for all who suffer.

C: Merciful Lord, you sent your Son to be our peace. Help all who suffer pain or grief to find in him strength and peace, so that their trust in your promises may be renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Let us pray for recovery from sickness.

C: O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servants the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Let us pray for those in affliction.

C: Almighty and everlasting God, give comfort to the sad and strength to those who suffer: Let the prayers of your children who are in any trouble rise to you. To everyone in distress grant mercy, grant relief, grant refreshment; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Let us pray for those who minister in healing.

C: Almighty God, source of human knowledge and skill: Guide physicians and nurses and all those you have called to practice the arts of healing. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that, by their ministries, the health of all people may be promoted, and your creation may be glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Let us pray for the ministry of family and friends.

C: Loving God, our creator and redeemer: Give strength and gentleness, patience and faithfulness to family members and friends. Let their hope be in you, and by their ministry of love let your love be known; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Let us pray for those who desire our prayers.

C: Blessed Lord, we ask your loving care and protection for those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit and who desire our prayers. Take from them all fears and help them put their trust in you, that they may feel your strong arms around them. Touch them with your renewing love, that they may know wholeness in you and glorify your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Let us pray for those making decisions.

C: O Lord our God, send your Holy Spirit to guide us, that we may make our decisions with love, mercy, and reverence for your gift of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P: Praise to you, almighty God and Father. You sent your Son to live among us and to bring us salvation.

C: Blessed be God.

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, incomparable son of the Father. You humbled yourself to share in our humanity, and you came to heal all our illnesses.

C: Blessed be God.

P: Praise to you, Holy Spirit, our defender and consoler. You heal our sickness with your mighty and life-giving power.

C: Blessed be God.

P: Holy and blessed Trinity, sustain your servants who are gathered here with your presence; drive away their sickness of body and spirit; and give them that victory of life and peace which will enable them to serve you now and evermore.

C: Amen

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

*Confession of Faith Apostles' Creed p. 85

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all,

C: And also, with you.

P: Let us share God's peace.

OFFERING

**Please stand*

THE OFFERTORY "Create in me" p. 75

The Holy Gospel according to St Luke the 2nd Chapter

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." ³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Healing Service

December 31, 2023

The first lesson is from the 61th Chapter of Isaiah

¹⁰ I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. ² The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. ³ You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let us pray Psalm 96 (responsively)

¹ Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

² **Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

³ Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate.**

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶ **He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations.**

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

⁸ **They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.**

⁹ He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.**

Amen

The second lesson is found in the 4th Chapter of Galatians

⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶ Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba, Father.*” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Announcements & Activities

Prayer list for the church:

Robin Ciuffetti, Phyllis Disque, Irene Eide, Joyce Greer, Brittney Hawke, Martha Messner, Nicholas Oppman, Allen Peterson, Jean Peterson, Jacob Reupke, and *our sister churches in the LCMC*: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hull, IA and Trinity Lutheran Church, Ellsworth, IA.

Please let Pastor Tony know of any prayer requests you may have.

This Week's Activities

Sun., Jan. 7, 2024 9:00 am Worship with Communion,
fellowship following
10:30 am Children's Sunday School

January Volunteers

Fellowship: Jan. 7 —
Jan. 14 — Cindy and Bob Sarver
Jan. 21 —
Jan. 28 —

Lector: Nancy Scalisi

Flowers:

Communion Prep and Clean-up:

Baptismal Anniversary: Wyatt Holland (12/31), Jodi Fjeld (1/3)

Bible Trivia

Blessed are the ____: for they shall inherit the earth?

(Clue: Matthew 5:5)

- | | |
|----------|-----------------|
| a.) meek | c.) peacemakers |
| b.) rich | d.) upright |

Last week's answer: In what was Jesus laid after he was born?

c.) manger

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