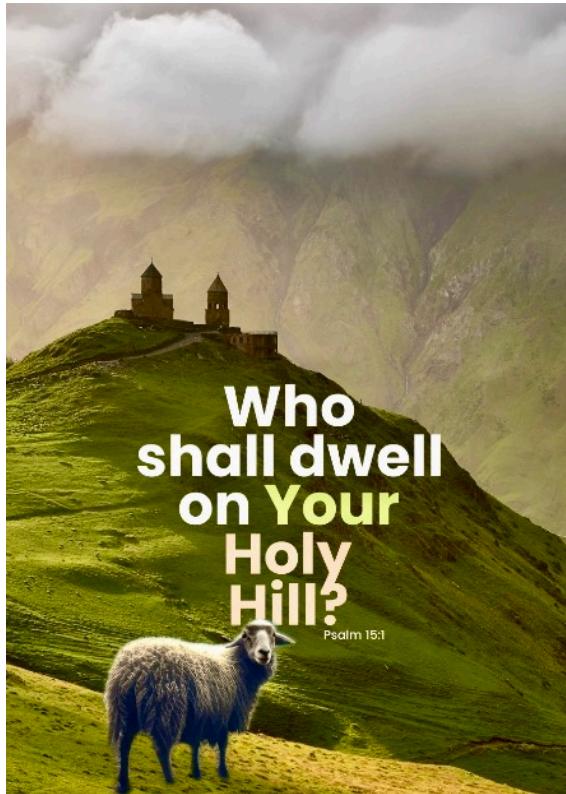


## Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



February 1, 2026  
St. John's Lutheran Churches  
[stjohnslutheranjc.com](http://stjohnslutheranjc.com)

**Schubert**

4409 Saint Johns Road  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**Babbtown**

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**About This Service:** The heart of Christianity is not what we do for God but what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. We call our service the “Divine Service” because the Divine One, our Lord Jesus, promises to be present to serve us by His Word and with His body and blood.

**Are My Children Welcome?** Our Lord says, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God” (Mark 10:14). Yes, your little ones are more than welcome! We are delighted to have them with us in the service!

**Visitors:** Welcome to St. John's! If you have not already done so, please fill out the visitor's book outside of the sanctuary. If you don't yet have a church home, or have any questions about what we believe, teach, and confess, feel free to speak with Pastor; he would be happy to talk with you!

**Communion:** We ask that all visitors speak with Pastor before the service and prior to coming up for communion. We invite those who are communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us. If you are not a communicant member of the LC-MS, please cross your arms when you come up to the communion rail to receive a blessing.

## Ringing of the Bell

## Prelude

## Welcome

### Opening Hymn TLH 16 "Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word"

Blessed Jesus, at Thy word We are gathered all to hear Thee;  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear Thee,  
By Thy teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love Thee solely.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
Till Thy Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded.  
Thou alone to God canst win us; Thou must work all good within us.

Glorious Lord, Thyself impart, Light of Light, from God proceeding;  
Open Thou our ears and heart, Help us by Thy Spirit's pleading;  
Hear the cry Thy people raises, Hear and bless our prayers and praises!

### △ Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Praise to Thee and adoration!

Grant that we Thy Word may trust And obtain true consolation  
While we here below must wander, Till we sing Thy praises yonder. Amen.

## The Order of Worship, Page 15 TLH

### Invocation: TLH Page 15 [Responses Sung]

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

### Confession of Sins TLH Page 16

ALL: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

### Absolution TLH Page 16

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: [Sung] Amen.

**Introit** (P: Pastor C: Congregation) *Psalm 1:1-5; antiphon: v. 6*

P: For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

**C: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**

P: but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.

**C: He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its  
fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.**

**In all that he does, he prospers.**

P: The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**C: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.**

**Gloria Patri:** *TLH Page 16 [Sung]*

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**The Kyrie:** *TLH Page 17 [Sung]*

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**The Gloria in Excelsis:** *TLH Pages 17-19 [Sung]*

**C: Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Salutation and Collect**

*TLH Page 19*

P: The Lord be with you! C: And with thy spirit!

(prayed together) – Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Response:** *[Sung]* Amen.

## Old Testament Reading – Micah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the Lord says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the Lord has an indictment against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?  
How have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,  
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

## Epistle Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

**Gradual (Pastor speaks, congregation responds with “Hallelujahs!”)**

P: Praise the Lord, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

**C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

*As the Gospel reading is announced, the congregation sings...*      **C: GLORY BE TO THEE, O LORD!**

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 5:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

<sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

*The Gospel ended, the congregation sings...`*

**C: PRAISE BE TO THEE, O CHRIST!**

**The Nicene Creed TLH Page 22**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Sermon Hymn TLH 354 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"**

**In the Cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.**

**All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the Cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,  
From the Cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, By the Cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that thro' all time abide. Amen.**

**The Sermon**

**Offertory**

*TLH Pages 22-23 [Sung]*

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers**

*TLH Pages 23-24*

**ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Preface: TLH Page 24 [Responses Sung]**

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And with thy spirit.**

**P: Lift up your hearts.**

**C: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.**

**C: It is meet and right so to do.**

**P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God ... therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:**

**The Sanctus: TLH Page 26 [Sung]**

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,**

**Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**The Lord's Prayer: TLH Page 27**

**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;**

**[Sung] For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Words of Institution: TLH Page 27**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **The Pax Domini: TLH Page 27**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: *[Sung]* A ---- men.

### **The Agnus Dei: TLH Page 28 *[Sung]***

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. A ---- men.

### **The Distribution *(We invite those who are communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us.)***

#### **Distribution Hymns TLH 324 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"**

Lord of Glory, who hast bought us With Thy life-blood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that hast freely given Blessings countless as the sand  
To th'unthankful and the evil With Thine own unsparing hand;

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee Gladly, freely, of Thine own;  
With the sunshine of Thy goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by Thee, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor hast Thou given To our humblest charity  
In Thine own mysterious sentence, "Ye have done it unto Me."  
Can it be, O gracious Master, Thou dost deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Thy poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Yes, the sorrow and the sufferings Which on every hand we see  
Channels are for gifts and offerings Due by solemn right to Thee;  
Right of which we may not rob Thee, Debt we may not choose but pay,  
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.

Lord of Glory, who hast bought us With Thy life-blood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust Thee boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on Thee;  
But, oh! best of all Thy graces, Give us Thine own charity. Amen.

**TLH 134 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"**

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,  
Branch of royal David's stem, In Thy birth at Bethlehem.  
Anthems be to Thee addressed God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme,  
And at Cana, Wedding-guest, In Thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine.  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill.  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.**

**Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;  
All will the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear;  
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Mirrored in Thy holy Word;  
May we imitate Thee now And be pure as pure art Thou  
That we like to Thee may be At Thy great Epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest. Amen.**

**Nunc Dimittis**

*TLH Pages 29-30 [Sung]*

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,  
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,  
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**The Thanksgiving: TLH Page 30**

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good. C: *[Sung]* **And His mercy endureth forever.**

**The Thanksgiving Prayer: TLH Pages 30-31**

P: ...through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God,  
world without end.

C: *[Sung]* **A- - - - men.**

**The Benedicamus: TLH Page 31**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: *[Sung]* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Benediction: TLH Page 31**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto  
you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: *[Sung]* **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

## Closing Hymn TLH 20 "God of Mercy, God of Grace"

God of mercy, God of grace, Show the brightness of Thy face;  
Shine upon us, Savior, shine, Fill Thy church with light divine,  
And Thy saving health extend Unto earth's remotest end.

Let the people praise Thee, Lord! Be by all that live adored;  
Let the nations shout and sing Glory to their Savior King,  
At Thy feet their tribute pay, And Thy holy will obey.

Let the people praise Thee, Lord! Earth shall then her fruits afford,  
God to man His blessing give, Man to God devoted live;  
All below and all above One in joy and light and love. Amen.

## Silent Prayer - Announcements

### ***Have A Blessed Week!***

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Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

**The Lutheran Hymnal:** St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn # 16: Scripture: Luke 11:28; Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier; Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word; Authors: Tobias Clausnitzer (1667), Stanza 4, Unknown (1707); Translators: Catherine Winkworth (1858), Stanza 4, unknown; Tune: Liebster Jesu; Composer: Johann R. Ahle (1664).

Hymn # 442: Scripture: Acts 20:35; Lord Of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us; Author: Eliza S. Alderson (1864); Tune: Hyfrydol; Composer: Rowland H. Prichard († 1887, alt.).

Hymn #324: Scripture: Luke 15:2; Jesus nimmt die Sünder an; Author: Erdmann Neumeister (1718); Translation: composite; Tune: Meinen Jesum lass' ich nicht; Source: "Neuverfertigtes Gesangbuch", Darmstadt, 1699.

Hymn #134: Scripture: 1 Peter 1:20; Songs Of Thankfulness And Praise; Author: Christopher Wordsworth (1862); Tune: St. George; Composer: George J. Elvey (1858).

Hymn # 20: Scripture: Psalm 67; God of Mercy, God of Grace; Author: Henry F. Lyte (1834); Tune: Ratisbon; Source: "Saechsisches Choralbuch", Leipzig, 1815.

**Bible Readings:** The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

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## Daily Bible Reading:

- Monday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Acts 11
- Tuesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Acts 12
- Wednesday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>: Acts 13
- Thursday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>: Acts 14
- Friday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>: Acts 15
- Saturday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>: Acts 16
- Sunday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>: Acts 17

## Catechism Recitation for the Week:

### **Lord's Prayer: Third Petition**

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

*What does this mean?*

The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

*How is God's will done?*

God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die.

This is His good and gracious will.