

Second Sunday After
Epiphany
(Sanctity of Human Life Sunday)
January 18th, 2026

Order of Service

<u>7:45 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
DSI (pg. 151)	DSI (pg. 151)
<u>Hymns</u>	<u>Hymns</u>
396, 567, 570	396, 567, 570, 563, 402

Wednesday Hymns 396, 567

Sermon

"You Will Be Blameless"
Pastor Wes Gillaspie

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 49:1-7: Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the Lord called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the Lord's hand, and my reward is with my God." And now the Lord says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord and my God has been my strength—he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." This is what the Lord says—the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—to

him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

I Corinthians 1:1-9: Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1:29-41: The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel." Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One." The next day John was there

again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi, where are you staying?" "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).

Serving in Worship Today

Elders *Dave Miller; Ben Bekemeier,
Dennis Thurston, Mark Schiefer*
Organist *Calista Daenzer*
Usher *Klair Bierlein; Don Bierlein*
Altar Guild *Lois Bierlein, Donna Bierlein*

Wednesday

Elder *Ben Bekemeier*
Pianist. *Heiki Palm*
Usher *Don Bierlein*

This week at St. Michael's

Today Worship Service 7:45 a.m.
 Bible Class 9 a.m.
 Communion 10:30 a.m.
 Voters Meeting after late service
Mon *Bd. Of Education 6 p.m.*
 Reflections Bookclub 7 p.m.
 LLL 7 p.m.
Tue Adult Choir 7 p.m.
Wed *Communion 7 p.m.*
Next Sun. Communion 7:45 a.m.
 Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Life Sunday is being observed today, with the theme "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made," based on Psalm 139:14, "I praise you Lord for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." A door offering will be collected for Focus on the Family's Option Ultrasound and for Lutherans for Life as they both work with clients facing life decisions. Please continue to pray for these LIFE ministries and give generously!

Baptism of Hadley Sue Buetow, daughter of Nicholas & Becki (Herbolsheimer) Buetow, will be today during late service. Sponsors: Keenan & Madison Kurtz; Brandon & Theresa Peter.

Pastor Gillaspie's Sunday Bible Class will no longer be held at school. He will be leading the class in the overflow room starting in a few weeks.

Voters Meeting today after late service in the overflow room.

Baptisms: Hailey Schultz and her daughters Anastasia and Addison received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on January 11th. Hailey attended membership class last fall. We welcome this family to St. Michael's!

LLL meets Monday the 19th at 7:00. Pastor Gillaspie will lead a Bible study.

175th Anniversary Kick-off: St. Michael's was founded in 1851 and turns 175 this year! We are pleased to have District President David Davis as our guest preacher next Sunday! Pastor Elmer Schiefer, a son of St. Michael's who is 100 years old, will also be in attendance.

Lutherans for Life is offering online and in-person opportunities for Life Week 2026, Jan 18-24, you can learn about life issues from the comfort of your

home. All presentations will be online Zoom presentations at 8:00 PM ET (9:00 AM ET on Jan 24th) . You can join all the Zoom meetings by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83862063962>. The meeting ID: 838 6206 3962 and passcode: 823940. If you have any questions, go to <https://lutheransforlife.org/life-week-2026>. Topics for daily presentations are listed in our January church newsletter.

Tuscola County is having a prayer vigil for those harmed by abortion this afternoon at 3pm on the front steps of the courthouse (440 N. State St./M81.) Keynote speaker will be Marianne Brandt, Tuscola County Register of Deeds, with a follow-up gathering with food & beverages inside the Blessing Center (209 N. State St.).

Youth Group Event: February 1st, Snow Tubing at Snow Snake in Harrison, MI. We will meet for early service at 7:45 at St. Michael's. If you are planning to attend please RSVP to Mrs. Hoepfner by January 26. More information can be found in the Jan. Newsletter.

Passion Drama meeting rescheduled to Feb. 1st between services. Everyone is invited!

Lutheran Hour Rally: St. Lorenz Lutheran Church of Frankenmuth will host a special worship service and rally on Sunday, February 1st, at 2:00. Guest speaker is Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Everyone is invited to attend. More information is in your mailboxes and on the bulletin board.

Adult Choir We are excited to extend a heartfelt invitation for you to join the Adult Choir here at St Michael's. Whether you're an experienced vocalist or simply love to sing from the heart, our choir is a welcoming space where voices come together to inspire, celebrate our faith,

friendships and harmony. Rehearsals are Tuesday's at 7 p.m.. Come Join Us!

St. Michael's Church Anniversary: We are working on a special project and would love your help! We are looking for people of all ages -- young and old -- who would like to be part of a special anniversary video. Additionally, we are looking for old photos from past events or memories at St. Michael's. If you're interested or have photos to share, please contact Mallorie Rogers at 989-882-7249.

Lutheran Witness Envelope for the Lutheran Witness Magazine subscription will be \$22.50 for 2026.

Thrivent Members: Thrivent offers a program where eligible members receive an extra \$25 in Choice Dollars during their birthday month. These funds can be directed to an enrolled charity of your choice. This is a wonderful opportunity to support St. Michael's Church or School. Please let me know if you need any help directing your Choice Dollars.

Attendance

Sun. Jan. 11th 362

Other News

The Lutheran Hour airs on WSAM-1400 from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Next Sunday: "Cross Words—Words of Power"; *Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola*; A crossword puzzle uses an answer only once, but Christ is the answer for all people in every place and time. 1 Corinthians 1:17-18

Prayers

Health

Lewis Abraham; Brody Bauer, Michelle DeCoe; Ben Dzioba; Don Duperon; Hope Hecht; Bob & Faith Heinlein; Ann Houser; Dave Janson; Barb Kern; Rick Keinath; Jenna Mathews; Carolyn Navarre; Eugene Palmreuter; Larry Putman; Barb Rupprecht; Dawn Schoenow, Don Weber; Rollie Wenzel

Thanksgiving

Pastor Lang Yang; installed as associate pastor and chaplain of Grace Lutheran Church, Winterhaven FL

Jim Doud; 90th Birthday, Jan. 22nd

Mission

Rev. Dr. Gerald and Heidi Paul serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as career missionaries in the Cayman Islands. As a pastor and church planter, Gerald works with the church leadership of Safe Harbour Lutheran Church to reach out to the people of the Cayman Islands — both locals and expats — with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Prayer of the Day

"Almighty and eternal God, Governor of all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us peace in our days; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen."

