

SIXTH SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

Missouri Synod



703 W 3<sup>RD</sup> Street  
Mercedes

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Rev. Ed Weber,  
Pastor

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Website:

[lutheranmercedes.com](http://lutheranmercedes.com)

*Sunday*

9:00 AM

Worship Service

10:30 am

Adult Bible Class

Sunday School

Holy Communion:

1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

[www.facebook.com/  
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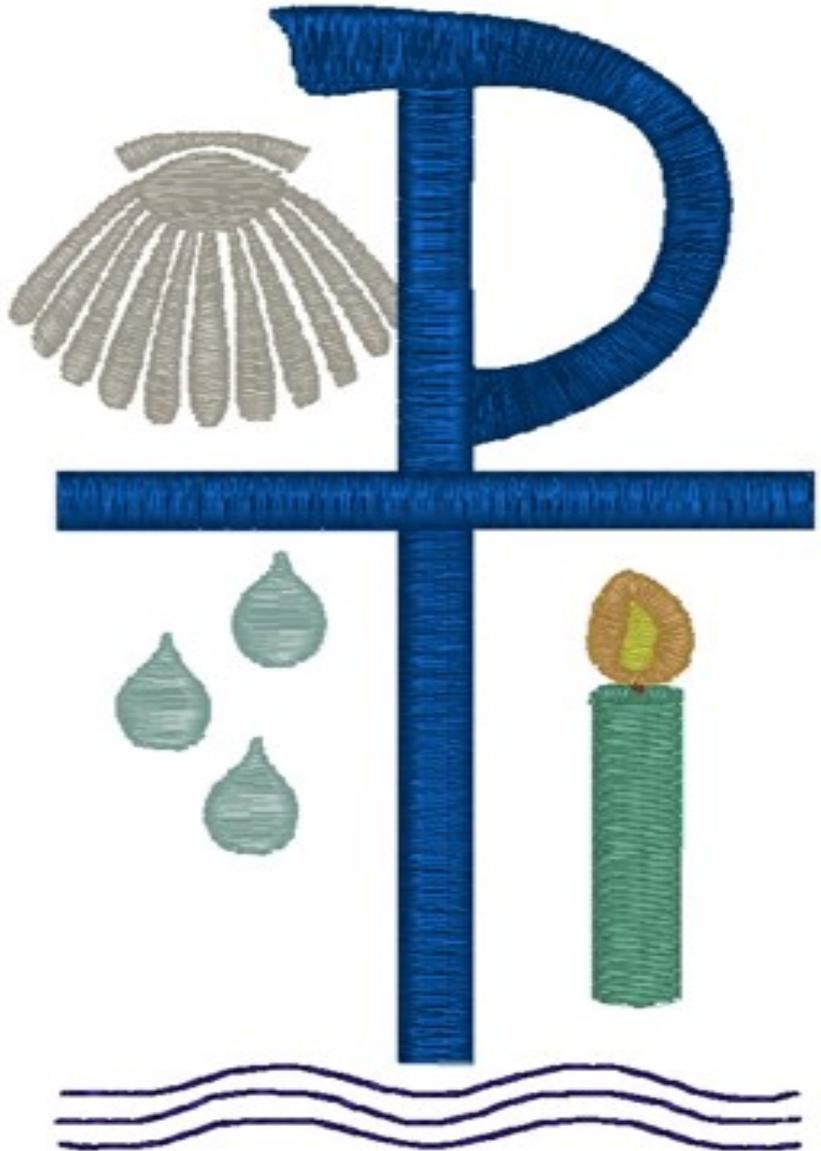
Website:

[Misionemanuel.com](http://Misionemanuel.com)

Office Hrs, M-F

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

CCLI # 2585510



*“Let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and  
your ‘No,’ ‘No’...”*

*(Matthew 5:37)*

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 16, 2020**

**WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

This week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

**A Prayer Upon Entering Church** - Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son to bring me peace and reconciliation. Grant that I may forgive others as You have forgiven me by the blood of Jesus; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - We consider today all of the division and conflict that exists in the world, in our church, and in our lives. Jesus cares deeply about reconciliation, about people coming together and forgiving one another. It is even part of the Lord's Prayer: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Whatever grudges you are holding can be overcome with the peace of Christ.

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** *Amazing Grace* John Newton (LSB 744)  
(A quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)

**DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR** **PAGE 203**

**OPENING HYMN** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* **LSB 686**

**INVOCATION**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have**



## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Deuteronomy 30:15–20*

(God urges Israel to choose life, not death; blessing, not curse.)

15 “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, 16 in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. 17 But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, 18 I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess. 19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; 20 that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 119:1–8; antiphon: v. 1*

P Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord!

**C Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!**

P They also do no iniquity; they walk in His ways.

**C You have commanded us to keep Your precepts diligently.**

P Oh, that my ways were directed to keep Your statutes!

**C Then I would not be ashamed, when I look into all Your commandments.**

P I will praise You with uprightness of heart, when I learn Your righteous judgments.

**C I will keep Your statutes; oh, do not forsake me utterly!**

P Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord!

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 3:1–9*

(Paul planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.)

1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; 3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? 4 For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” are you not carnal? 5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. 9 For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you

are God's building.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### ALLELUIA AND VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 5:21-37*

(Leave your gift and go be reconciled.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' 22 But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire. 23 Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. 25 Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. 26 Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny. 27 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than

for your whole body to be cast into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. 31 “Furthermore it has been said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ 32 But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery. 33 “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.’ 34 But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God’s throne; 35 nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. 37 But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

### NICENE CREED

**All 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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in 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.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*

**LSB 707**

**SERMON**

**“How God Truly Can Change YOUR Heart!”**

(Psalm 119:7)

**OFFERTORY**

*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

**LSB 843**

**OFFERING**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Dear heavenly Father, You sent Your Son to reconcile the world to Yourself and to make peace by the blood of His cross. Give us courage to seek forgiveness and reconciliation with one another, that Your peace that surpasses all understanding rule our hearts and minds. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Lord, there are many divisions in Your Church. Too often we have identified ourselves as those who follow earthly leaders, rather than as those who follow Christ. Bring unity where there is division, peace where there is discord, and reconciliation where there is conflict. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Lord, comfort all those who are suffering in grief, [especially . . .]. Console them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal peace and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Lord, strengthen all marriages, encourage those who are single, and help us to recognize the value of each person, for all have been redeemed by Christ, the Crucified and Risen One. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Lord, bless all pastors, teachers, church planters, missionaries, musicians, and Servants in Your Church. Embolden them as they plant and water good seed in Your kingdom. We humbly ask You to provide growth where and when You will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [especially . . .]. Have mercy upon them and heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Lord, we commend all of these things to Your infinite mercies, which are new every morning. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer. Amen.**

## + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

### PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our

Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER**     *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

**C**    **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. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**P**    Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

**P**    In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**PAX DOMINI**

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

**C**    **Amen.**



# AGNUS DEI



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

*What Is This Bread*

**LSB 629**



# NUNC DIMITTIS



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **CHOIR ANTHEM**

*Blessing*

Natalie Sleeth

## **BENEDICAMUS**

P Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God**

## **BENEDICTION**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24–26)

**C Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*When Peace, like a River*

**LSB 763**

## **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, and serve the Lord!

**C Thanks be to God!**

# From Pastor's Desk

**Portals of Prayer** for January to March are available in the Narthrex.



**Join us for Sunday School and Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.  
You have fellowship with one another and also enrich your spiritual life with the Word.  
**Rev. Goetz** is leading the Bible Study.

**Youth Confirmation Classes**  
@ 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Pastor's Office

## **Introducing Our New Safety Coordinator - Gary Mitzel**

He will be :

- Recruiting, planning, implementing and overseeing safety at Church services and other Church related functions.
- Monitoring church property during church services from the rear of the sanctuary; walk thru parking areas / halls / parish hall / playground / restrooms.
- Watching for potential medical and health risks / tripping / falling / fainting / fire / natural disasters / man made disasters.

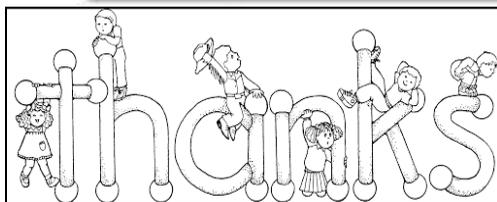
May God bless his service.

**Reminder: Photo Session** continues next Sunday, 2/23 from 7:30-9:00 a.m., Social Hall!

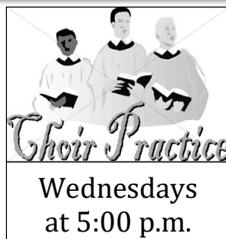


To Debbie,  
Bonny, and  
Pastor Weber for  
coordinating the  
Chili Cook-off  
Fundraiser!

\$524  
was  
raised!



for supporting our school, from kids & staff



## **Ladies, Save the Date**

**41st Biennial Convention**  
LWML Texas District  
June 18-20, 2020  
Omni Corpus Christi, TX



***Lenten and Easter Services***

***Ash Wednesday***

*February 26th*

*5:00 p.m. Soup Supper  
6:00 p.m. Worship Service*

***Lenten Services***

*Wednesdays, March 4th thru April 1st*

*5:00 p.m. Soup Supper  
6:00 p.m. Worship Service*

***Holy Week Services***

*Sunday, April 5th, Palm Sunday Holy Communion Service  
at 9:00 a.m.*

*April 9th, Holy (Maundy) Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m.*

*April 10th, Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.*

***Easter Services***

*Sunday, April 12th*

***Sunrise Devotion***

*6:45 a.m.*

*on the basketball court (weather permitting)  
followed by Breakfast*

***The Resurrection of Our Lord***

***Worship Service***

***9:00 a.m.***

## Christ Sets Life Before Us so that We Can Walk in His Ways

The God who reveals Himself in His incarnate Son promises life and blessing to all who obey His commandments “by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules” (Deut. 30:16). However, we are “people of the flesh” and “infants in Christ” (1 Cor. 3:1), among whom “there is jealousy and strife” (1 Cor. 3:3). Jesus must instruct us against the human ways of anger, adultery, divorce and false witness (Matt. 5:21–37), because all who live in these ways “shall surely perish” (Deut. 30:18). On the cross, He died to forgive our sins and free us from the ways of curse and death. Since Jesus Christ is our “life and length of days” (Deut. 30:20), we can be reconciled to our brother, live in chastity and marital faithfulness, and speak with honesty. He who serves from His cross also offers His gift of reconciliation at His altar, and we can be at peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are “God’s field, God’s building” (1 Cor. 3:9).

<b>2/9/2020</b>		
<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>81</b>	
Plate:		\$ 575.00
Envelopes:		\$ 6,063.00
Donation:		
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 6,638.00</b>
Bible Class:	<b>36</b>	<b>\$ 22.00</b>

*Seventh Sunday after Epiphany*  
*The Transfiguration of Our Lord*  
Readings:  
  
*Exodus 24:8-18*  
*Psalms 2:6-12*  
*2 Peter 1:16-21*  
*Matthew 17:1-9*

<b>Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule</b>	
<i>February Sunday Servants:</i>	
Elder:	Earl Neuhaus
Altar Guild:	Loretta Eilers & Susanne Wehling
Music:	Bonny Winston
<b>This Week</b>	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Usher:	Don Vogel
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service            9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study        10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	The Transfiguration of Our Lord: Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
Usher:	Dan Wehling
Sunday:	Worship Service                                            9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study        10:30 am