



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

1187 C.R. 128 & U.S. Rt. 20

Fremont, Ohio 43420

Pastor Tim Miller

93.1FM

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Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2025

Setting 3 with Holy Communion

*Congregation please stand as you are able.

Introduction

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

Prelude: *Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness*
 Glory Be to the Lord

G. Lachenauer
G. Sadoh

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns
Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

***Opening Hymn:**

All Are Welcome

ELW 641

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;**

we assume the worst about one another.

**Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

*Canticle of Praise

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

R: A reading from Isaiah, the 62nd chapter.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

⁵Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶**Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like
the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**

⁷How priceless is your love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸**They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

¹⁰**Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Second Reading:**1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

R: A reading from 1 Corinthians, the 12th chapter.

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Gospel

John 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 2nd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: ¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.
The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

***Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

R: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

R: Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for people to be named)*. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for neighboring congregations and ministry sites. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(10:30) Sr. Choir:

Gifts Medley

arr. G. Parker

Offering

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***Offering Prayer**

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

C: Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***Thanksgiving at the Table**

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

Communion will be continuous. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle. You will be handed the bread with the words, "The Body of Christ given for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!". Step to the Communion Assistant and take the cup. They will speak the words, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Empty cups may be placed in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.

If you prefer gluten-free bread, please let the Pastor know. If you prefer grape juice, please let the Communion Assistant know. If you prefer not to receive or have children who have not yet received, please let the Pastor know and he will offer a blessing.

Communion Hymns:

ELW 462 *Now We Join in Celebration*

ELW 677 *This Little Light of Mine*

*Post Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

P: Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

P: The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** *We Are Marching in the Light* **ELW 866**

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.
C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude:** *We Are Marching in the Light* *Siyahamba*
 Every Time I Feel the Spirit **A. Slowins**

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PSALM 36 DECLARES GOD'S LOVE to be steadfast, precious and a place of refuge. Welcome, friends. In God, you are loved and safe.

CHURCH COUNCIL will be held on **Monday, January 20th, at 6 p.m.** instead of Tuesday the 21st, with **Executive Council at 5:30 p.m.** Thank you.

THANK YOU for all the prayers and support for Bob. A special thank you to the ladies for the wonderful luncheon and to Pastor Tim for his support. Everything was very good and we appreciate all of you. Marilyn Siefke and Family.

HERMAN FUNERAL HOMES, LLC, will be hosting Monarch Grief Center for a lunch and discussion on **Grief: Helping Yourself and Others** at 900 North Street, Fremont, Ohio on **Friday, January 24th, 2025** from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. You are invited! Are you or someone you know struggling with the loss of a loved one? Please RSVP by January 20, 2025 to 419-332-7391.

GIVING STATEMENTS FOR 2024 are available in the Narthex for you to pick up at your convenience.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the narthex. If you have not picked yours up yet, please do so.

CHURCH TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES AND THE F.L.C.W. PROGRAM BOOKLETS for 2025 are available in the narthex for you as well.

REMINDER... *When Sandusky County is under a Level 3 Snow Advisory the church will be closed. This includes Sunday services as well as all weekday events, meetings and activities for that day. If we are under a level 1 or 2 snow emergency, the church will be open and if it's on a day of worship, we will have worship.*

FLCW BAKE SALE – Faith Lutheran Church Women will host a Bake Sale on **Sunday, February 9th**, just in time for Valentine’s Day. We are **calling ALL BAKERS** to consider donating a baked item or items to this fundraiser. Sales will be on a donation basis and all proceeds will go to support the Fellowship & Service Materials fund for the Sewing Ladies. There is a sign-up sheet on the Women’s bulletin board in the coat room area. Please come and enjoy some of the delicious baked goods for you and your Sweetheart!

CHRISTIAN MISSION AND OUTREACH

During these cold, winter months we will be collecting items to donate to Pontifex to help keep homeless folks in our community warm. The mission of Pontifex is to provide hope, health, and healing to folks in need. Our mission and action team is purchasing coffee and hot chocolate at this time. There is a short list of other items needed right now: Warm Winter Coats, Mittens, Scarves, Caps. There is a box in the narthex in which you are invited to place your donations for those folks who are less fortunate. We will be gathering these items through January. Let’s show God’s love and care to those in need.

HURRICANE HELENE UPDATE: Today, January 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, come join Dan HineLine and two friends from Journey Church, John and Leonard, who accompanied him to North Carolina two months ago to take supplies down and help with Hurricane Helene clean-up. Dan will be showing slides of the devastation they saw and what their group of 17 men and women from Journey did while they were down there. Light refreshments will be served. Teri HineLine has been in contact with Gina Snyder from Asheville, NC who is a volunteer helping to stock small cabins that have been built for those who have nowhere to go and have been living in tents. For 24 of those families, she said the first thing they will see when they open the door is one of the quilts the Faith Sew Ladies made. Teri will share her text conversations with Gina with you and any new information Gina may have. Please come and share this evening with us.

ASSISTING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Darla Brown

Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: John & Judi Neill Gary & Mary Lou Cooper

Lector: Julia Norris Randy Koch

Acolyte: Julia Norris

Communion: C. Paeth/J. Neill C. Trick & R. Koch

Counters: Laurie Krynock* & Randy Koch

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Brenda Tooman & Kim Smith

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Darla Brown **Pianist:** Becky Fox

Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown **Flautist:** Marilyn Ring

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: Mike & Brenda Tooman Phil & Carol Trick

Lector: Robert Fought Cheryl Paeth

Acolyte: Robert Fought Karly Paeth

Communion: M. Reiselt/M. Fought C. Trick & A. Miller

Counters: Ann Waggoner* & Anne Gerner

Fellowship Time Host: Church Council

Altar Guild: Brenda Tooman & Kim Smith

PRAYING DAILY



For healing and hope: Pat Copley, Connie Diekman, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Bill Leutenegger, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Gary Overmyer, Letty Rusch, Bob Schneider, Bill Seibert, Dorothy Swedersky, Janet Tressler, Carnetta Weber, Linda Woessner. Sue Baker, Rick Borton, Kyla Johnson, Marlene Johnson, Jeff Opelt, Betsy Schwab, Christine Tabbert.

For the Family of: Bob Siefke, Phyllis Pollock

For our Military: Noah Egbert, Troy Halfhill, Jade Kayser, Daniel Linder, Tony Rozzi, Christopher Templeton, & Joshua Tooman.

For our Bishops: Bishop Christian Ndossa, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and NWOS Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff

For our partner congregation in Bumila, Tanzania

And its pastor: Pastor Peter Magasi

FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF – Jan. 19 to Jan. 26

Sunday

Jan. 19-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time
 7 p.m. Hurricane Helene Update with Pictures of NC

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

Monday

Jan. 20-----10 a.m. Valley View Worship with Holy Communion
 5:30 p.m. Executive Council
 6:00 p.m. Church Council
 7:30 p.m. Dartball – Away vs. Oak Harbor

Tuesday **Pastor Tim out of the Office**

Jan. 21-----2:00 p.m. Ruth Circle

Wednesday **Pastor Tim out of the Office**

Jan. 22-----6:30 p.m. Bell Choir
 7:30 p.m. Praise Choir
 7:30 p.m. Sr. Choir

Thursday

Jan. 23-----3 p.m. Christ Care

Friday

Jan. 24-----

Saturday

Jan. 25-----9:15 a.m. Christ Care

Sunday

Jan. 26-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Congregational Annual Meeting in Hall

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025: ATTENDANCE: 144 – OFFERING: \$4,120.52

GOSPEL MESSAGE

January 19, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Jesus *Does* Care

There is humor to be found in the words “And his disciples believed in him” . . . because he could turn water into wine! Really? That’s it? This small miracle performed at a wedding was *all* that was required at the start of Jesus’ ministry to gain his disciples’ faith and trust?

That such a minor event could prove so significant might sound silly if we are tempted to think God cares only about big things, such as war, environmental justice, and world hunger. But if we pay attention, we notice that many people encounter God in the most mundane moments of life: sitting quietly in a deer stand, floating on a calm lake while fishing, breastfeeding an infant and rocking in a chair, or holding the hand of an aged neighbor.

Jesus cares about all manner of small things—the grief of one widow, disease in the life of a teenager, the lack of wine at a wedding. While these things may seem small to an outsider, we know they are big to the one experiencing them. Thank God, no matter how large or small our concerns, Jesus does care!

At all times, and in all places, God is at work using ordinary things and people to produce extraordinary results. At the Cana wedding, Jesus turned ordinary water into wine to provide an extraordinary blessing: continued joy and celebration among family and friends. Today Jesus often uses coffee and cookies to create bonds among people—just ask the fellowship committee in your congregation! Jesus does care about our fellowship with one another. We are even commanded to gather around tables, to break bread and drink wine to remember him.

This season after Epiphany, may you catch sight of the ways Christ is present at your tables and in your gatherings, deepening relationships and spreading joy.