

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

January 15 – 20, 2024

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

-Psalm 119:105

Mon Luke 4:14-22 Jesus' divine glory was revealed not only by His gracious words (v22) and deeds, but also by the Word of Isaiah and the other prophets of God, who looked forward to the day of the Lord.

Tues Isaiah 8:20-22 It is God's Word (the law and the testimony) that will bring the light of dawn into this sin-darkened world. Without God's Word there is only distress, darkness and gloom (v22), but His Word testifies about Jesus (Jn 5:39).

Wed Romans 10:1-12 Those who did not receive Jesus' gracious words ("Isn't this Joseph's son?" Lk4:22), and tried to establish their own righteousness before God were also rejecting the words of Scripture: "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame" (Isa.28:16).

Thurs Romans 10:12-15 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (v13), and God provided preachers to proclaim the name of the Lord to all people (both Jew and Greek, v12). The feet are beautiful because of the news they bring.

Fri Romans 10:16-21 Just as in Nazareth (Lk4:22) some did not accept Jesus' word, so in general Israel rejected the message God sent, while Gentiles who were not looking found God. Yet all day long He reaches out to Israel (v21).

Sat John 1:43-51 Jesus reaches out and gathers His disciples around Himself. He finds Philip and Philip finds Nathanael, who is skeptical (v46). But Jesus continues to call and reveals His glory to Nathanael as a foretaste of what is yet to come.

January 14, 2024
2nd Sunday of Epiphany



and we beheld
HIS GLORY



Faith

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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #126

“Arise and Shine in Splendor”

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Pastor

C Congregation

Confession of Our Sins

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Response: TLH #131:5 *“The Star Proclaims the King is Here”*

C ♪ **All glory, Jesus, be to Thee
For this Thy glad epiphany;
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost forevermore.**

ILC Tour Choir - For many years the ILC Tour Choir has been granted a special rate for using a charter bus during their yearly tour in holding concerts at various CLC congregations. This year that rate is being discontinued. After comparing the cost of using various bus companies, the common rate would be approximately \$11,000 higher than expected for budgetary reasons. Normally an offering is collected during the tour which will still happen. But this year CLC President Michael Wilke is authorizing this synod-wide announcement to allow others to share in their support of the Tour Choir. This offering would help offset the extra expense needed for the bus. Therefore, if members of CLC congregations wish to support this, please designate your offering to "ILC Tour Choir."

Luther's Large Catechism will be upcoming Sunday Bible Study material for us, a study which I expect to begin in February. Before that time arrives, please buy a copy for yourself, if you are able. If you would like to purchase the book on Amazon, it is currently \$11.99 and titled, **“Luther's Large Catechism With Study Questions.”** If you cannot buy a copy yourself but plan on attending the Bible Study, please speak with Pastor.

Prayer Opportunities:

- Please pray for **Tim Lewis**. After being hospitalized recently, Tim is working hard to regain his strength. Pray that the Lord would bless his efforts and help him get back to work once more!
- Please pray for **Marilyn Smith**. After being hospitalized recently, Marilyn is back home and working with a physical therapist. Pray that the Lord would help her avoid any falls and regain her strength. As Marilyn desires to be able to come back to church, ask also that the Lord would give her the ability to rejoin us in fellowship on Sundays.
- Please pray for **Janet Tweet**. After her husband, Mark, passed away in October, Janet is understandably very tired. Ask that the Lord would be with her in her grief, give her renewed vigor, and help her in her Christian witness to her family.

Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him. ¹² After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days.

Jesus Gives the Best Wedding Gift

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

- G** ♪ **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.**

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Sermon Hymn: TLH #134 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

Prayers, Lord's Prayer, and Benediction Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- G Amen.**

Closing Hymn: TLH #376 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

An Elders' Meeting will be held following the service.

CLC Call News: Pastor Mr. Dan Roehl **has been called** to be the new professor at Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI, replacing retiring Professor Mark Kranz. <> Pastor Thomas Schuetze of St. Paul Lutheran of Lakewood, CO **is still considering** the calls from Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD **has returned** the call from Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN. <> Ann Sprengeler, teacher at Faith Lutheran School in Markesan, WI, **will be retiring** from the teaching ministry as of the end of the current school year.

The Introit

Ps. 66:1-5, 20; 92:1

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.
- G** **It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High.**
- P** Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!
- G** **Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.**
- P** All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."
- G** **Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.**
- P** Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

Collect Prayer of the Day

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

Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the LORD, "See, you say to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' ¹³ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." ¹⁴ And he said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵ And he said to him, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so

that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?" ¹⁷ And the LORD said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." ¹⁸ Moses said, "Please show me your glory." ¹⁹ And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰ But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." ²¹ And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, ²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³ Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."



Romans 12:6-16

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. ⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #400

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

John 2:1-12

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. ³ When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. ⁹ When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in