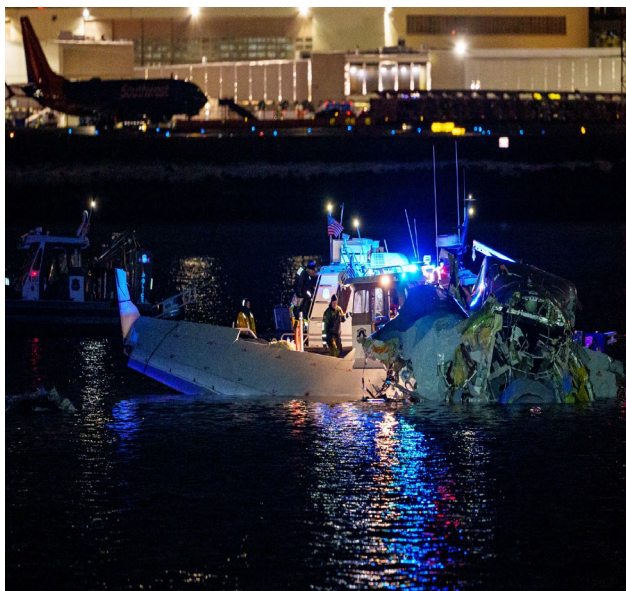


***St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



Do not be Troubled...



God is in Control!

***The Second Sunday After the Epiphany
February 6 and 9, 2025***

**Serving Us Today:
Pastor Rob Schrader
Organist: Amanda Tetzlaff
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org**

Large Print Bulletin

AS WE GATHER... Throughout the season of Epiphany, we experience a sense of brightening. As we grow nearer to springtime, there is more daylight with each passing day. The world becomes brighter and brighter. As the weeks of this Epiphany season continue, we see our Lord Jesus more clearly, and we hear His words that speak to our hearts and lives. The well-loved hymn "Beautiful Savior" has the classic line "Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky" (*LSB* 537:3). God grant that brighter light shine forth in our lives as we reflect the wondrous light that is Christ, the Light of the world.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPS... Please know we have two children's worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

Pre-Service Music

Ringing of the Bells

The Welcome

Confession and Absolution

Hymn 790

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

**Let all who hear
Now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**

**2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.**

**Have you not seen
All that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining?**

**3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed
you.**

**What need or grief
Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade you.**

**4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend
you;**

Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

**Ponder anew
What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.**

**5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before
Him!**

**Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!**

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78,
alt. Text: Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their
Baptism.*

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

P 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 You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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

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 Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 71:15–18; antiphon: v. 12

O God, be not far from me;

O my God, make haste to help me!

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;

I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

**O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,
until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

O God, be not far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me!

Kyrie *LSB 186*

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

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

P Glory be to God on high:

C and on earth peace, goodwill 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 of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CAmen.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:15–20

¹⁵Thus says the LORD:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.

Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.”

¹⁶Thus says the LORD:

“Keep your voice from weeping,
and your eyes from tears,
for there is a reward for your work,
declares the LORD,

and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

¹⁷There is hope for your future,
declares the LORD,

and your children shall come back to their own country.

¹⁸I have heard Ephraim grieving,

‘You have disciplined me, and I was disciplined,
like an untrained calf;

bring me back that I may be restored,
for you are the LORD my God.

¹⁹For after I had turned away, I relented,

and after I was instructed, I slapped my thigh;
I was ashamed, and I was confounded,
because I bore the disgrace of my youth.'

²⁰Is Ephraim my dear son?
Is he my darling child?
For as often as I speak against him,
I do remember him still.
Therefore my heart yearns for him;
I will surely have mercy on him,
declares the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 1:12–14

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Matthew 2:16–18*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

**C 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 Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Children's Sermon

770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!**

**2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.**

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–86 Text: Public domain

Sermon "Troubled? Don't Be"

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 194*

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 Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 195

**C 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.**

Lord's Prayer 196

**ALL 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

LSB 197

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."

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 *LSB 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

C 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. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

746 Through Jesus' Blood and Merit

1 Through Jesus' blood and merit

I am at peace with God.

What, then, can daunt my spirit,

However dark my road?

My courage shall not fail me,

For God is on my side;

Though hell itself assail me,

Its rage I may deride.

**2 There's nothing that can sever
From this great love of God;
No want, no pain whatever,
No famine, peril, flood.
Though thousand foes surround me,
For slaughter mark His sheep,
They never shall confound me,
The vict'ry I shall reap.**

**3 For neither life's temptation
Nor death's most trying hour
Nor angels of high station
Nor any other pow'r
Nor things that now are present
Nor things that are to come
Nor height, however pleasant,
Nor darkest depths of gloom**

**4 Nor any creature ever
Shall from the love of God
This ransomed sinner sever;
For in my Savior's blood
This love has its foundation;
God hears my faithful prayer
And long before creation
Named me His child and heir.**

Text: Simon Dach, 1605–59; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing

**1 Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
"Come and taste the blessed feast."**

**2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token
Of His sacred covenant.**

**3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursed tree.**

**4 God descends with heav'nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.**

**5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
 Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
 Fits me for the royal hall.**

**6 Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error,
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.**

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808–58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960

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no. 110005513

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

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.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

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 peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

738 Lord of All Hopefulness

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,

Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:

Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,

Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,

Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:

Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,

Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,

Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace:

**Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53 Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

Acknowledgments

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Attendance Last Week: 210
General giving last week: \$13,172.00
Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

10 Monday	Trustee Meeting	6:30 pm
11 Tuesday	Board of Education	6:00 pm
11 Tuesday	Board of Elders	6:30 pm
12 Wednesday	Senior Choir	7:00 pm

13 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 PM
15 Saturday	Father-Daughter Dance	6-8 pm
16 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
16 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am
16 Sunday	Adult Bible Class	10:15 am

PASTOR ROB'S NUMBER: If you or a loved one are hospitalized or going through something difficult and need to speak with a pastor, please call or text Pastor Rob at any time at (920) 539-4603. He would be happy to speak with you and set up a time to visit.

VOTERS MEETING: The Quarterly Voters Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 9th**, beginning at **10:30 am**. All communicant members age 18 and over are eligible to become voting members. Please plan to attend!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CANCELLED FEB. 9th: Sunday School will be cancelled for Sunday, February 9th to allow the Sunday School teachers to attend the Voters' meeting, but daycare will be provided for parents attending the Voter's meeting. You can still drop your child(ren) off at the school.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING: The Altar Guild will meet on Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30 at the church.

DESSERTS NEEDED! St. John is slotted to make food for and give a devotion to students of Berlin High on Thursday, Feb 13. The student's favorite part is dessert! If you're willing to make a dessert, please sign up on the sheet in the back and bring it to church by Thursday morning. Thank you for your help!

ATTENTION CONGREGATION MEMBERS: The Board of Christian Education is looking for someone to teach the Preschool/Kindergarten Sunday School class for the remainder of the school year. Sunday School runs from 10:30-11:30 am on Sunday mornings. The teaching/student materials are provided and there are some experienced helpers ready to help in that classroom. Please contact the school office, Miss Linse or any Board of Education member if you are interested in helping out.

OPEN HOUSE: St. John Lutheran School will have an Open House on Thursday, Feb. 20th from 4pm to 7pm, anyone is welcome to stop by to check out our school, meet our teachers and ask questions. The school participates in the Wisconsin Private School Choice Program and if you qualify, you may be able to send your child(ren) to our school tuition free.

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE about good things happening at our school? Weekly copies of the *BadgerBytes*, the school newsletter, are available in the information rack in the Narthex. *BadgerBytes* features information on activities at school, articles by the students, updates on fundraisers and lots more. Check it out!

CONNECTION GROUP LEADERS NEEDED! Connection Groups connect Christians to other Christians, Christians closer to Christ, and non-Christians to Connection Groups. With God's help, they are going to be an important part of our church and will impact your life, our church, and our community. But, in order to have this important ministry, we need Connection Group leaders. Please pray about this opportunity and consider if God has given you the skills to be a Christian leader. If you have questions, please talk with Pastor Rob. If you would like to sign up, there is a sheet in the back of church. Thank you!

MINISTRIES AT ST. JOHN BOOKLET: Our Savior, Jesus, came to serve us by dying on the cross. Inspired by what he has done, the Bible encourages us to likewise serve our neighbors. If you're looking for a way to follow God's command, pick up our NEW "Getting Involved" ministry booklet in the rack in the back of church to see the different ways that you can serve in and through our church and school! Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP: The next youth group event will be in February. We will have an outdoor activity on the 22nd. It will depend on how much snow we have. Either sledding at Zobel Hill or snow tubing Nordic Mountain. We would plan again for around 1:00 pm and go for 2 hours. If we buy tickets online ahead of time, they will be \$20.00. At the hill, they are \$35.00.

If you have a suggestion of something for future activities, please let me know. I am available via email tpett@stjohnberlin.org or 262-470-2152.

FREE TABLES: There are a few 4'x8' wood tables with metal legs in the church basement that we need to get rid of to create some room. If you would be interested in a table or two, please talk to Keith Krause.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! SECOND TIME-AROUND SHOP: Over the last 40 years the Second Time-Around Shop in Berlin has supported Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of WI (LCFS) with nearly \$3 million of their profits so that people in our community and around our state can receive life-changing Christian counseling and adoption services. Our thrift store has played a major role in bringing Christ and his love to numerous people! To provide so much money to LCFS, the Second Time-Around Shop relies on volunteers to run and organize their store, and they could use your help! A few hours of your time each week would be hugely beneficial for the store and for the ministry of LCFS. There are various duties available for people of all skills and ages. To ask about volunteering, call the store at: (920) 361-0334.

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Sermon Notes – 2-9-24 – Troubled? Don't Be.

-“Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and _____ all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under.” (Matthew 2:16)

-Why is this passage in the Bible?

-Every day in this sinful, broken world, we are bombarded with _____.

-Haven't you despaired?

-“Jeremiah 31:15 occurs in a setting of hope. Despite the tears, God says, the exiles will return; and now Matthew, referring to Jeremiah 31:15, likewise says that, despite the tears of the Bethlehem mothers, there is _____ because the Messiah has escaped Herod and will ultimately reign.”

-God wants us to know that amidst the very real tragedy that we experience, we have a very real hope, too.

-_____ is the source of our joy, blessing, and hope.

-Jesus escaping death in Bethlehem, points forward to Jesus ultimately escaping death in his resurrection.

-“God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not _____ for him to be held by it.” (Acts 2:24)

-“Very few people today think of Bethlehem as a burial place; they think of it as the birthplace of Jesus Christ. And because He died for us and rose again, we have a bright future before us. We shall live forever with Him in that glorious city where death is no more and where tears never fall.”

-We do not have to _____, even in the face of terrible tragedy, because we also have a Savior!