

ST. LUKE'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 10:30 a.m.

208 11th Street E.

Lemmon, SD 57638

We are affiliated with the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC).

Richard Kanzenbach

Pastor

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Rhonda Tomac, organist

January 10, 2021

WELCOME!

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
--- John 8:12

EPIPHANY FESTIVAL: *In the 200's A.D., the eastern Christian churches, that is, those in Greece, Asia Minor (Turkey today), and Syria, set aside January 6 as the festival of Epiphany. The word "epiphany" means "to shine out, to make evident, to make manifest, to reveal." Epiphany focused on Christ the LIGHT of salvation for all the world. It pointed to early events in His life which displayed that He was true God, the Savior and Light of all--His birth, the visit of Gentile wise men, His baptism at age 30, and His first miracles beginning with changing water into wine at Cana. -----"Western" Christian churches, basically Rome and those under Rome's influence, would establish December 25 as the day for celebrating Christ's birth. ----- We celebrate both.*

Page 12, Supplement

Hymn 718 O Jesus, King of Glory!

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 60:1-6 KJV Isaiah foresaw the day when the LORD in His mercy would take His sinful, downtrodden people back to their homeland. ---- In Christ all Christians are restored to the homeland of heaven!

P: Arise, shine; for thy light is come!

C: And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee!

P: For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people;

C: But the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

P: And the Gentiles shall come to thy light,

C: And kings to the brightness of thy rising.

P: Lift up thine eyes round about, and see—

C: All they gather themselves together, they come to thee.

P: Thy sons shall come from far,

C: And thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

P: Then thou shalt see, and flow together,

C: And thine heart shall fear [shudder], and be enlarged;

P: Because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee,

C: The forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

P: The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries [*camels of one hump*] of Midian and Ephah;

C: All they from Sheba shall come.

P: They shall bring gold and incense!

C: And they shall show forth the praises of the Lord!

PSALM 8, p. 27 “O Lord, How Excellent Is Your Name in All the Earth!

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12 Gentile Wise Men from the East came to worship the young child Jesus—the promised King! They followed a miraculous star. How did they know about this Star and the Savior? Six hundred years earlier, the people of Judah were captive in Babylon. The prophet Daniel, who was one of the captives, became one of the Babylonian wise men or magi. Daniel most surely was faithful in proclaiming the truths and promises of God. He must have shared with fellow magi the LORD’s promise of the Savior and King of all people coming from Judah (Genesis 40:8-12); and the promise of the Star and the Ruler, rising out of Israel (Numbers 24:15-19). When wise men later saw God’s special star, they understood. They came to worship the newborn Savior and King. The Wise Men were Gentiles, that is non-Jews. Christ was their Savior and King too! (The Bible does not say there were three.)

APOSTLES’ CREED

Hymn 131 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

SERMON: Romans 1:1-7 (*verses printed in outline form below*)

GLORIOUS PEACE FOR THE “NOBODY” ! --- EPIPHANY!

I. Paul

A. a bondservant of Jesus Christ,

B. called to be an apostle,

C. separated to the Gospel of God,

1. which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures,

2. concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord,

a. who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and

b. declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead;

c. through Him

i) we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name;

ii) among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ;

(a) To all who are in Rome,

(b) beloved of God,

(c) called to be saints:

II. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ !

Prayers and Lord's Prayer

Hymn 127 As with Gladness Men of Old Did the Guiding Star Behold !

Benediction

Hymn 134 vv. 1 + 5 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise!

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VOTERS MEETING: The 4th Quarter (Oct.-Dec.) voters meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 24, after Service. This meeting is also the annual meeting. The Council will meet on the Thursday prior, January 21. Thank you.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

01/17	Sun.	10:30	Worship with COMMUNION	9:30	B.Class & S.Sch.
01/24	Sun.	10:30	Worship	9:30	B.Class & S.Sch.
01/31	Sun.	10:30	Worship	9:30	B.Class & S.Sch.
02/07	Sun.	10:30	Worship with COMMUNION	9:30	B.Class & S.Sch.

CHURCH CLEANING: Thank you for this service to the Lord and to St. Luke's. January—John and Myrna Erhardt.

TO THE NEXT LIFE: Last Sunday evening, January 3, Desirae Naumann, wife of Pastor David Naumann (serving Orofino, ID, and Clarkston, WA) was called to her heavenly home. Her victory service in Christ was held yesterday. Desirae was diagnosed with a brain tumor and cancer in August. The couple has five children. Pastor Joe Naumann, Mankato, MN; Pastor Tom Naumann, Detroit, MI; Pastor Sam Naumann, Corpus Christi, TX; Rebecca Naumann, Coeur d'Alene, ID, and Ben Naumann, Clarkston, WA. Desirae was born Desirae Ohlmann at Valentine, NE. **Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints** (Psalm 116:15 NKJV). May the Lord of mercy comfort the mourners through the victorious Savior!

IN OUR PRAYERS: We continue to offer prayers for our nation and homeland. So much goes on that is contrary to our Lord's will and desires, whether it is within the populace at large or within levels of government. Satan seeks to pollute every good thing. Much goes on, about which we really do not know, or do not know the truth. Satan's chief weapon is always the Lie. We ask that the Lord would help us to see matters accurately, to make judgments based on truth, and to be open to correction when that is the case. Our concern is not just the state of our nation for the sake of our nation, but the proclamation of God's Word of forgiveness and salvation in Christ to the hearts and homes of our people. May the Gospel of forgiveness of sins through the crucified and risen Jesus, continue to be proclaimed at every level, and may we joyfully carry its banner. Lord, in Your perfect wisdom, love, power, holiness, and grace deal with our people, nation, and leaders so as to draw us all closer to Your Son and the rescue from death and damnation that You give us in Him.

ABORTION'S INSIDIOUS NATURE: After reviewing one of his own bulletin articles from forty years ago, retired CLC Pastor Paul Fleischer writes, "Approaching another anniversary of the Roe V. Wade court decision legalizing abortion, January 22, 1973—which is now so long ago that even our Christian consciences get calloused to it—who can be surprised at our *current declining domestic and foreign position in this nation*. Forty years ago, Dr. John Warwick Montgomery maintained that very thing! Following is an abridged commentary which I wrote back then regarding one of Montgomery's articles."
--Pastor Paul Fleischer

Dr. John Warwick Montgomery wrote on the subject of abortion in the current [1980's] issue of Christianity Today magazine. He points out that abortion might well be one of those sins which "are such an affront to the divine majesty that they are very likely also to trigger imminent judgment in the course of human history itself." As examples he says, "In the Old Testament, for example, we read that Uzzah was struck down on the spot for touching the ark of the covenant (2 Sam. 6:6-7). Also the deaths of Ananias and Sapphira for attempting to deceive in spiritual things (Acts 5) is not a dissimilar incident in the New Testament."

Montgomery does not wish to categorize sins, but "at the same time," he says, "it would appear that there are some acts that by their very nature kindle the divine wrath and are likely to lead to immediate retribution." Among such sins he gives the perversion of the marriage estate and the destruction of God's chosen people, and thirdly, abortion.

He writes: "Since Scripture teaches that the child's life begins at the moment of conception (Ps. 51:5) and that he is a genuine person no less while in the womb than after birth (Luke 1:41, 44), early Christians likewise protected prenatal life and regarded abortion as homicide...." He speaks of the high regard that Jesus has for little children when He says, "for of such is the kingdom of God," and he adds, "Destruction by the horror of being thrown into the sea with a millstone around the neck is associated with godless Babylon in Revelation 18:21 and specifically with those who do harm to little children in Matthew 18:1-6..."

This is Montgomery's serious conclusion: "The time has come for American Christians to bring this eschatological (end-time) perspective to bear on our society. If God did not tolerate the Nazi extermination of six million Jews, what makes us think that He will continue to ignore our daily mounting toll of infanticides? I am not a prophet [Montgomery], nor the son of a prophet, but I see as less than accidental our simultaneous slaughter of the innocents and declining domestic and foreign position. In baldest terms, the life we can save by a right-to-life amendment to our federal Constitution may well be our own."

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