

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 18th, 2026

Today's gospel opens with a reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy, we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

"Come," he replied, "and you will see."

John 1: 39



LIVING FAITH
LUTHERAN

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Council Secretary: Kay Michaelson 712-540-5368

Pastor Paige McGrath: pastor@livingfaithlemars.com

712-541-3782 | www.livingfaithlemars.com

For our weekly prayer list, news, and events, please visit our News and Events page, found on our website: <https://www.livingfaithlemars.com/blog>

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

A TIME ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 456

Baptized in Water

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands;
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord
and my reward with my God."
⁵ And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says,
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷ Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
“Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40:1-11

¹ I waited [and waited] upon the Lord,
who stooped to me and heard my cry.
² The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.
³ The Lord put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.
⁴ Happy are they who trust in the Lord!
They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.
⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God!
In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them!
But they are more than I can count.
⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;
you have opened my ears:
burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.
⁷ And so I said, “Here I am; I come.
In the scroll of the book it is written of me:
⁸ ‘I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep within me.’ ”
⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;
I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.
¹⁰ I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth
from the great assembly.
¹¹ You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth
continually keep me safe. **Amen.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.205

GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 539

Abide, O Dearest Jesus

THE 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

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

ACS 976 – 3x

Come and See

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p.207

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

... all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

... we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

ACS 955 & ELW 514

BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart,
and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to
be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

ELW 866 – march, sing, dance

We Are Marching in the Light

SENDING

Go in peace. Look for Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Thank you, worship leaders!

Greeter/Usher: Tim Kass

Accompanist: Travis Balt

Reader: Judd Kopperud

Communion Assistant: Todd Lang

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****NOTICE OF LIVING FAITH LUTHERAN ANNUAL MEETING****

Sunday, February 1, 2026 – 1:00 p.m.

Living Faith Lutheran will conduct its first Annual Meeting as a fully organized congregation of the ELCA! Agenda items include adoption of the 2026 budget, electing a Council member, distribution of Noisy Offering monies, and operational reports. Following worship, there will be a catered lunch in Fellowship Hall with the Annual Meeting to follow at 1 PM.