

Third Sunday after Epiphany EPIPHANY MOMENTS: REJECTION IS NOT PROOF OF FAILURE

Jesus Teaches at the Synagogue in Nazareth Pastor Zietlow's Sermon: Luke 4:16-30 JESUS CAUSED A SCANDAL AT NAZARETH

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We pray that you find comfort, peace, and motivation through God's Word today. In our worship bulletin, you will find an outline of **today's order of worship**. The entire service can be found in the hymnal, up on the screen at St. John's and Emmanuel and livestreamed at www.stjohnsmontello.org and also at St. John's in the Lower Level. At St. John's, the **restrooms** are located in the link way, out the church entry way, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. You may also find a **nursery changing station** in the lower level of St. John's.

ST. JOHN'S & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES-WELS

January 26, 2025

Emmanuel: Sun. 8:00am

St. John's: Sun. 10:00am

EPIPHANY MOMENTS

"Epiphany" comes from a Greek word that means "reveal." When someone has an epiphany, it's not that reality changed. The way they see that reality is what changed, for a deeper truth has been revealed. An epiphany is an "a-ha!" moment causing us to look at things very differently. In the Church Year, Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. In this season we will come to understand that when we have Jesus in our lives, it does not always mean our reality drastically changes. It simply means that we see reality differently (and better). Jesus always provides an abundance of epiphany moments.

REJECTION IS NOT PROOF OF FAILURE

When you are trying to share some important information with someone, but they refuse to listen or perhaps totally reject what you are saying, it feels like you have failed. This is especially true when someone rejects the gospel! We proclaim the good news because want others to know the love of Christ. When people are disinterested in God's Word, we feel like we've failed. So, here is this week's epiphany. Rejection is not proof of failure. Precisely because the gospel is divine revelation, it is guaranteed to be rejected by many. God's Word offends like an unwelcome diagnosis from the doctor. When someone rejects God's Word (including us), that rejection is proof that God's Word powerfully cuts straight to the heart of mankind's biggest problem—sin. Yet, what causes Jesus' words to hurt is what gives them power to heal. That reality encourages us to receive God's Word with joy and to proclaim it boldly to others.

ORDER OF WORSHIP: Setting One with communion, hymnal pp. 154-170

HYMNS: 913, 384, 929

PSALM: 146 "I Will Praise the Lord All My Life"

SERMON: Luke 4:16-30 JESUS CAUSED A SCANDAL AT NAZARETH A scandal over: 1.

Who He claimed to be 2. Whom He loved

OPENING HYMN: Choir sings Opening Hymn: 913 "Come Away From Hush and Hurry"

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-6

(Israel had rejected the Lord. So God allowed them to be conquered and carried off as captives. Yet, he also promised to forgive their rejection and grand them freedom.)

¹The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise

instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. ⁴They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. ⁵Strangers will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. ⁶And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.

PSALM: 146 "I Will Praise the Lord All My Life"

SECOND READING: Acts 4:23-31

(Just as the Jewish religious leaders had rejected Jesus, they rejected the work and words of the apostles. So the apostles prayed for boldness to proclaim the gospel in the face of that opposition.)

²³On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ²⁶The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed one.' ²⁷Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." ³¹After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.





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GOSPEL READING: Luke 4:16-30 (Sermon Text)

(In one of Jesus' first sermons, delivered in his hometown, people took offense at his words and ultimately rejected him.)

¹⁶He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: ¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. ²³Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.' " ²⁴"Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

HYMN OF THE DAY: In place of the Hymn of the Day, choir sings: "At the Table of the Lord"

SERMON: Luke 4:16-30 JESUS CAUSED A SCANDAL AT NAZARETH A scandal over: 1.

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NICENE CREED: Hymnal page 162

OFFERING, FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS, ALTAR PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Hymnal Page 164

THE SACRAMENT Hymnal Page 165 For our Communion Practice see p.9

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 384 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" (Hymn of the Day)

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS Bulletin page 6
CLOSING HYMN: 929 "May the Peace of God"

THEME FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany - EPIPHANY MOMENTS: POPULARITY IS NOT PROOF OF SUCCESS

Acknowledgments

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"An Emmanuel Council meeting is scheduled on Feb 2nd following the Sunday service. A congregation meeting will follow on Feb 9th following the Sunday service."

2024 Offering Statements for St. Johns: There is a sign-up sheet in the linkway by the envelopes for anyone who wishes to have an offering statement for 2024.

The 2025 Emmanuel offering envelopes are now available to be picked up in the parish hall. If you may have any questions, please contact Brian Ninneman.

The 2025 St. John's offering envelopes are now available on the table in the linkway. If you have any questions, see Matt Kath, James Wachholz, Jerre Duerr or Pastor Zietlow.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

- For the sick and others facing trials, including Evie Blada, Gale "Blackie" Boyd, Sandy Buchholz, Bob Buehrens, Agnes Dassow, Edith Duesterhoeft, Don Ebert, Kaye Edwards (Mark Emond's friend), Judy Fandrey, John Gaedke (Dan Finger's uncle), Donna Gatzke, Dennis Gray (Mary Dahlke's brother), Kelleen Grucza, Kim Hanko (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Samuel Harmon (Linda Lou Wacholtz's nephew), Del & Jean Henke, LuAnn Hoffman-Reber (Barb Hoffman's step-daughter), Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's mother), Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Dale Kozlowski, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Jacob Kwit (Suzie Weber's son), Earl "Pete" Laun, Garrett Miller (Dawn Marcelain & Candace Sonnenberg's brother-in-law), Julie Moran, Debbie & Steve Parrish, Milo & Barbara Petrick, Kim Peyton (Chuck Boetcher's niece), Roxanne Schmanke, Ashley Schroeder, Eloise Schultz, Heather Smith (Diane Hintz' stepdaughter), DuWayne Sommerfeld, Amanda Stalker, Don Stelter, Tom Stempniak (Carol's husband), Billy & Gloria Tucker, James & Suzanne Weber, Paul & LuAnn Weldon (added this week: Don Stelter)
- For Joel & Amy Grulke called at Tuesday's CALA (principal & grades 6-8 teacher) & LL (director/teacher) call meetings

CHURCH RECORDS

Dear members of St. John's, In coming months we will be updating our Church records and need your help! Office volunteers will be contacting you to update contact information and Church records. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Lenten suppers at St. John's begin Ash Wednesday—March 5th—which the St. John's Ladies Aid will serve. The following 2 Wednesdays will be served by the St. John's Sunday School and the Hands in Prayer ladies. If there are any other groups that are interested in serving, please contact Matt at the St. John's office. March 26th, April 2nd and April 9th are available. That is all since Good Friday is April 18th and Easter Sunday is April 20th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: January 26-February 1, 2025				
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Pastor's Conference at Bethlehem		
		Oshkosh		
	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir SJ		
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ		
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	Stewardship Meeting SJ		
	6:30 p.m.	Worship Meeting SJ		
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ		
	5:00 p.m.	Public School Catechism SJ		
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	GriefShare SJ		
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Daddy-Daughter Dance SJ Princeton		

Next Sunday: February 2, 2025				
8:00 a.m.	Emmanuel Worship			
8:30 a.m.	Sunday School St. John's			
8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study St. John's			
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study Emmanuel			
10:00 a.m.	St. John's Worship			
11:00 a.m.	Evangelism Meeting St. John's			

	Budget			
December	\$40,014.98	\$30,890.45	\$38,448.95	\$36,256.39
Year to Date	\$240,089.88	\$152,092.35	\$202,183.89	\$218,379.96

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **2 Corinthians 9:7**

LL, CALA and Sunday School Singing Schedule		
Date		
2/16/25	Sunday School MONTELLO	

Attendance			
Date	EM	SJ	
1/19/25	18	42	

CALA HOSTS WALL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FEB. 2025

On Feb. 15 & 16, Christ Alone Lutheran Academy will host the annual WALL basketball tournament at WLA in Fond du Lac, WI. We need all hands on deck! If you are looking for a way to support and serve your school, please consider giving your time. You do not need to be a sports family to serve. Areas that we will need help in are concessions, admissions table, bookkeeping, scoreboard, and providing baked good items. All proceeds made that weekend will go to CALA. From these proceeds, CALA also plans to give back by making a monetary donation to the WLA new school building project. Thank you for your consideration!

Please follow the link to sign up or contact Jorgia Kempley in the Princeton office:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1I_a4peA3NGuriLFfEuz4wGz9WPZOIVZ2Bspd8jA32RA/edit?usp=sharing

St. John's	Usher's Schedule	
Sunday, Jan. 26	Sunday, Feb. 2	
Paul Van Treeck	Jerre Duerr	
Matt Borzick	Gordon Krause	
Ken Borzick	Kevin Kaul	
James Henke		
Haiden Van Treeck		
Nolan Van Treeck		
Brody Henke		
Milo Henke		

COMMUNION PRACTICE: Today our congregations will be receiving the Lord's Supper. Those who are members of Emmanuel, St. John's, another WELS church, or a church in full doctrinal agreement with the WELS, are invited to attend. Others are politely asked to refrain until communion fellowship is established. There are two Scriptural reasons we distribute the Lord's Supper this way. 1.) Receiving the Lord's Supper improperly results in harm, not blessing, to the recipient. (1 Cor. 11:27) Like a prescription it must be administered with care. 2.) Recipients of the Supper publicly proclaim their unity in the faith. (1Cor. 10:17) Members of other denominations have, by joining those church bodies, publicly declared their allegiance to the teaching of those churches. By also communing here at this altar it would send a confusing message regarding not only what they believe, but also what the Bible teaches and what this church and its members believe and confess. We'd love to speak to you about this more fully so that all are prepared and speak with one voice as we proclaim Christ to the world. For more information, and especially if you are interested in becoming a communicant member of this congregation, please speak to Pastor Zietlow.

The Evangelism Team

has some fun upcoming outreach projects and we are in need of monetary donations and volunteers!!!

We are in need of monetary donations to buy supplies and volunteers to help with the fun activities at the Easter Festival on April 12.

We are in need of volunteers for canvassing our local area for the Montello Care & Share Food Bank. This is an easy, unthreatening reason to be at the door. We are performing a community service for Care & Share while interacting with multiple households in Montello. Brief training is provided. These projects are a great way to get involved with your Church Family and help to reach out to our community with

Church Family and help to reach out to our community with the Gospel!

There will be a basket in the information room for donations for the Easter Festival.

If you'd like to help out with these projects, or join the Evangelism Team, please contact Lynn Sellnow, James & Linda Wachholz, Mark & Patty Emond or Matt Kath.



Recommended ages for Girls 3-12 years old DJ, Photo Booth, Refreshments

STJOHN'S LUTHERAN
227 HARVARD ST.
PRINCETON, WI
ENTER ON CLINTON
STREET

FREE EVENT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

GIRLS MAY BE ESCORTED BY DADS, GRANDPAS, UNCLES, OR ANY OTHER PERSON THAT FITS THAT ROLE.

How to Register Follow QR Code: Phone: 920-295-4400

Email: sjlcprinceton@gmail.com



Online: https://www.sjlprinceton.com



Where: CALA Princeton Campus

Silent Auction Preview: 3:30-5:30pm

Basket Preview: 3:30-5:30pm

Dinner: 5:00pm

FREE Spaghetti Meal for children (12 & under)! To Buy Tickets: artfordinner15@gmail.com School Office 920-481-9002 Stop by the Princeton school office

Coordinator: Megan Jaster

608-369-3456

Help us stay in touch!

Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.



Welcome to our visitors! Find & Like us on Facebook

Visit our website: www.stjohnsmontello.org

Pastor Pete Zietlow: 608-408-7830, Email: zietlowPL6@hotmail.com

Principal & 6-8 Grade Teacher: Larry Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext.102

Email: principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net

3-5 Grade Teacher: Beth Barenz: 920-481-9002 ext.103 bbarenz@christalonelutheranacademy.net

1-2 Grade Teacher: Shelley Myers: 920-481-9002 ext.201 smyers@christalonelutheranacademy.net

Kindergarten Teacher: Liz Wolter: 920-481-9002 ext.202 ewolter@christalonelutheranacademy.net

Little Lambs Director: Lynn Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext. 203 littlelambs@stjohnsmontello.org

CALA Secretary/Office: Ciara Neuhauser: 920-481-9002 School Email: secretary@christalonelutheranacademy.net Church Office: Matthew Kath 608-297-2866/608-494-0167

Church/School Address: 313 E Montello St. Montello, WI 53949

Church Email: scsecretary@stjohnsmontello.org