



ST. GEORGE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

www.stgeorgelutheran.org

January 22, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Phone 810-229-6670

stgeorgebrighton@gmail.com

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Holy Communion

Welcome! We are glad you're here!

A warm welcome is extended to all!

Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.

Welcome and Announcements

Prepare our Hearts for Worship

Sharing of the Peace

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us pray.

Author of all living things, **have mercy on our vulnerable lives.**

Friend of outcasts and sinners, **have mercy on our faults, which are many.**

Fountain of forgiveness, **have mercy on our recalcitrant ways.**

Giver of peace which surpasses all understanding, **have mercy on our fretting and worry.**

Wellspring of everlasting joy, **have mercy on our fears and sorrows.**

Holy Friend, by your saving grace in Christ Jesus, lift us from wherever we have fallen, wash our soiled souls, tend our wounds, restore our spirits, and stir up our love for all that is good, true, loving and beautiful in your sight. For your name's sake. Amen!

Words of Assurance

It is written: "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself." Accept this gift, forgive one another, and become agents of reconciliation in your world.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

Entrance Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#631

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt

Apostolic Greeting

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

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Youth Message

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

You have multiplied exultation;

you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden

and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L The Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent: he will set me high on a rock.

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L The Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

All: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

Lift Every Voice and Sing

#841

Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and
heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of
liberty. Let our rejoicing rise
high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark
past has taught us; sing a song full of the
hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day
begun, let us march on till victory is won.

God of our weary years, God of our silent
tears, thou who hast brought us thus far
on the way; thou who hast by thy might
led us into the light, keep us forever in
the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray
from the places, our God, where we met
thee; lest our hearts, drunk with the wine
of the world, we forget thee; shadowed
beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

James W. Johnson, 1871-1938, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873-1954

Stony the road we trod, bitter the
chast'ning rod, felt in the days when hope
unborn had died; yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet come to the place
for which our parents sighed? We have
come over a way that with tears has been
watered; we have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaughtered, out
from the gloomy past, till now we stand
at last where the white gleam of our
bright star is cast.

Apostle's 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, and 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:

L Lord, in your mercy....

C Hear our Prayer

Offertory

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

The 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lamb of God: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Holy Communion: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness #843

Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light; praise the One who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight. Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease, calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word; praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword. Praise the

One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sad; from this well comes living water quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place; Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done. Praise the one redeeming glory; praise the One who makes us one. *Text: Rusty Edwards; J. Wyeth*

This Little Light of Mine #677

This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'a let it shine; Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'a let it shine; Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'a let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American Spiritual, Boyer, 1935

Post Communion Blessing:

L The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C Amen

Post Communion Canticle:

Thank the Lord and sing his praise, tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Benediction:

Let us finish this service well, by reminding ourselves:

That it is not we who chose Christ,
but Christ who chose us,

That we were not here because of our goodness
but because of Christ's grace,

That we were not here to enlighten ourselves,
but to allow Christ to enlighten us,

That we do not go our separate ways alone,
**but in the company of the Spirit
who has great things in store for us.**

Grace, mercy and peace, from God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you
today and always.

Amen!

Sending Hymn:

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

597

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. Refrain

His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay. Refrain

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne!
Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Current Budget Report: as of 01/15/2023

Last week's giving: \$1,283.25

Needed to meet budget: \$5,357.69

Year to Date: \$7,612.75

Ahead (Behind) Budget: (\$8,460.33)

Announcements

Bible Study: Thursdays at 10:00 at the Parish House and via Zoom.

Senior Worship/Luncheon: Tuesday, February 21st at 11:00 AM.

Needleworks: Thursday, February 16th at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Friends and Family Breakfast: Sunday, February 12th at 10:00 AM.

Friday Night Cabaret: Friday, February 3rd at 7:00 – 9:00 PM.

St. George Book Club: All are invited. The first book is *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. The first meeting is February 16th at 6:30 PM in the Parish House.

Love Inc: We are collecting disinfectant spray for this month's Buckets of Blessings.

BHS Musical Theater: You are invited to a St. George group outing on Sunday, March 19th for the 6:30 PM performance of *Guys and Dolls*. If interested, please sign up on the list in the Fellowship area by Feb. 12th. Tickets are \$22.00. Speak with Cindi Brach for more info.

	Jan. 22	Jan. 29	Feb. 5	Feb. 12	Feb. 19	Feb. 26
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Alia	Joan V.	Keith B.		Keith B.	
Lay Reader	Alia	Joan V.	Keith B.		Keith B.	
Greeter						
Usher	Gary	Jerry				
Media	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn
Fellowship	Carolyn					
Altar Care	Joanne	Elaine	Linda F.	Linda G.	Cindy	Nancy & Sharon

Prayers of Grace & Support

Please pray for:

- Karen Hedden, Colene's daughter-in-law, recovering from surgery.
- Susan Zaske recovering from a liver transplant.
- Bryan Rush for a successful court date coming soon.
- Bill Foster in assisted living.
- Kathy Boyes recovering.
- Melissa Alofalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue, beginning with MS and COVID.
- Bob Lusky, father of Bob and Lorna's son-in-law David, who has cancer.
- Ray, Alia's older brother, who has COVID along with severe RA and heart problems.
- Dottie Woodman, recovering.
- Arlene, Alia's friend, suffering persistent pain in her neck, shoulder and arm.
- Margaret Doane, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.
- Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.
- Nancy Briggs, Douglas Turner's sister, for healing.
- Dan Lindberg, cousin of Kathy and Keith Boyes, has pancreatic cancer.
- Family and friends of Dr. Laura Tinning Reister, Douglas and Arlene Turner's niece, following her passing on January 8th.
- Barb Gienapp with health concerns.
- Ethan and his mom, Marianne, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles. From Linda Walton.
- Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.
- Joan Richardson, dealing with health concerns.
- Cindy Brach with health issues.
- John Brach with health issues.
- Prayers for all those suffering in Ukraine.
- Charlie Davis, Marylou's husband, with cancer.
- Jon Brach and his family with health and life difficulties.
- Pan Norton, Cindy Brach's son's mother-in-law.
- Jackie (Gail's piano student) diagnosed with throat cancer.
- Theresa Pope, fiancé of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.
- Niece of Elaine McIntyre, Patsy McIntyre Costin, diagnosed with colon cancer.
- Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother -in-law, with auto-immune disease.
- Vicki, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.
- Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.



St. George is a warm, friendly, spirit-filled congregation that has been blessed throughout many years. Most Christian denominations develop a distinct emphasis of the Christian faith and practice, and this is also true for Lutherans.

The Lutheran emphasis, in a word, is God's grace.

We emphasize the grace of God which forgives us, makes us God's children, and empowers us to serve others. **We welcome, include, and value all people.**