



ST. GEORGE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

www.stgeorgelutheran.org

February 5, 2023

9:00 a.m.

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Fifth 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 Temple talk- Gideons

Prepare our Hearts for Worship

Sharing of the Peace

Confession and Forgiveness

Almighty God, You have set before us the path but we have wandered on our own to try to find our way.

Sometimes we are like toddlers and we hear Your call and come back.

Other times, we are children testing boundaries, ignoring Your call until it benefits us to come back.

And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion, demanding to be cut loose and set free, not knowing how much we still need to seek Your wisdom and guidance.

Often we think we are adults and have figured it all our and know our own way, only to stumble and stray.

Help us to seek You every day, to acknowledge that we need Your wisdom and guidance, and help us to return to the path and walk with You.

In the name of Christ, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God rebuilds our lives, repairs our mistakes, fills our emptiness with hope and joy. God will show us the way. Gracious, merciful, and righteous is our God of salvation!

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

Entrance Hymn:

Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of Your God
which shines on you today.

Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

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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, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Youth Message

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9

Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.
You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?
Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

L The Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Psalm 112

Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments.

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.
Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by 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 fifth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P The Gospel of the Lord
Sermon

All Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day:

O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky:
we praise You for the radiance
that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps,
shines on from age to age.

The church from You, dear Master,
received the gift divine;
and still that light is lifted
o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
that, all life's voyage through,

O Word of God Incarnate

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mid mists and rocks and quicksands
still guides, O Christ, to You.

Oh, make Your church, dear Savior,
a lamp of burnished gold
to bear before the nations
Your true light, as of old;
oh, teach Your wand'ring pilgrims
by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended,
they see You face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897 Music: Neuvermehrtes Gasengbuch,
Meiningen, 1693

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: 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.

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

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;

We Are Marching in the Light #866

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of, the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib:

We are dancing . . .

We are praying . . .

We are singing . . .

Text: South African

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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:

As people of faith we have gathered for worship.

As people of faith we now return to the world.

All your ways and all your hours are in the hand of God.

Therefore, go out with confidence.

May Christ's light so shine, that all may see your loving deeds
and glorify our God whose love is everlasting.

As you go out to give a living witness, as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world, go knowing that God goes with you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, sharing all of your life.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sending Hymn Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak # 676

Lord, speak to us, that we may speak
in living echoes of Your tone;
as You have sought, so let us seek
Your straying children, lost and lone.

Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach
the precious truths which You impart;
and wing our words, that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.

Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead
the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed
Your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.

Oh, fill us with Your fullness, Lord,
until our very hearts o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word,
Your love to tell, Your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879; Robert Schumann, 1810-1856

Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Current Budget Report: as of 01/29/2023

Last week's giving: \$10,613.25

Needed to meet budget: \$5,357.69

Year to Date: \$21,591.75

Ahead (Behind) Budget: (\$5,196.71)

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 laundry soap 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.

	Feb. 5	Feb. 12	Feb. 19	Feb. 26
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Keith B.	Chris K.	Keith B.	
Lay Reader	Keith B.	Chris K.	Keith B.	
Greeter				
Usher				
Media	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn
Fellowship				
Altar Care	Linda F.	Linda G.	Cindy	Nancy & Sharon

Prayers of Grace & Support

Please pray for:

- Mary Anne Eppley, Linda Walton's sister-in-law, recovering from brain surgery.
- Lynne Morris, Michele Hirschman's friend, for a successful February surgery outcome.
- 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.**