

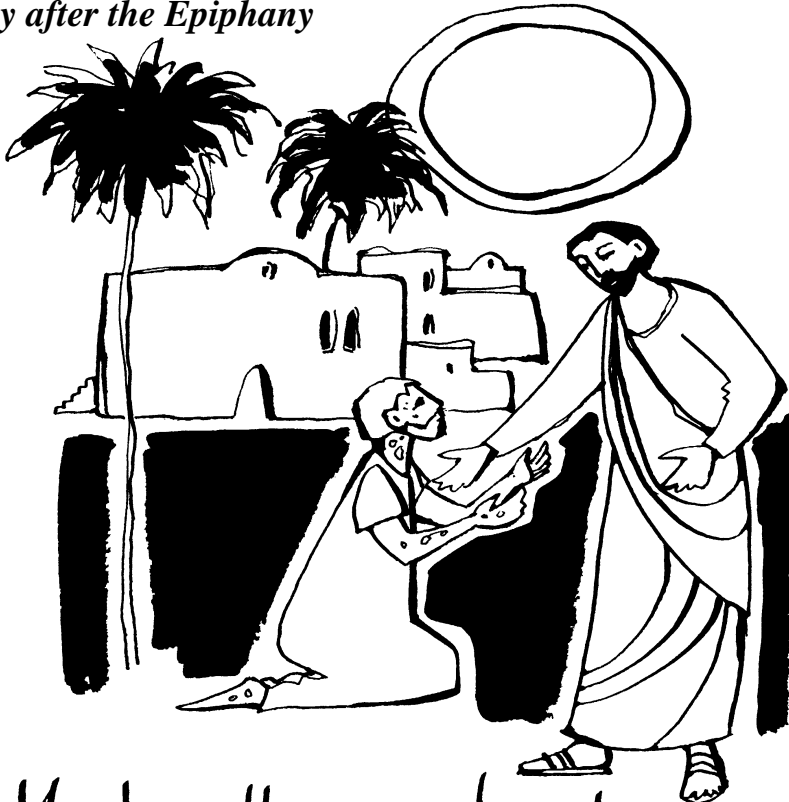
Welcome to a celebration of God's glory revealed in Jesus

with Our Saviour Lutheran Church

February 12, 2012

The readings this day are for

6th Sunday after the Epiphany



You have the power to make me well!

VISITING US TODAY? Here is some information you may find helpful.

Our affiliation... Our Saviour is part of Lutheran Church-Canada.

Contributions... Our Saviour is funded by our member's offerings, many by monthly direct deposit. We receive you as a guest, and see your presence as your gift. Of course, if you would like to support the work of Our Saviour, you are welcome to make a contribution. Guest envelopes are located in the pews if you wish to use them.

We are glad to have children with us. For their extra active minds, there are special bulletins and colouring sheets available in the entrance and a nursery if little ones need a break.

Headsets to aid hearing are available. Ask one of the ushers, or talk to the person at the sound board.

The ushers at the entrance are here to assist. If you have a question, or need, please ask. Thanks!

Interested in receiving Holy Communion today? Please read the note on page 7 before communing.

ORDER OF SERVICE

*God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4:6 (ESV)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Before the Throne of God

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft
Music by Vikki Cook.

**Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands; my name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see Him there who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free.
For God, the just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.**

**Behold Him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I am, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself, I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.**

**One with Himself, I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.**

Arr © 1997 PDI Worship Used by permission CCLI #355572

WELCOME ... Pastor Craig

OPENING HYMN

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

#180

INVOCATION

page 158

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Congregation: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us
from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

page 160

P (*sung*): Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

All (*sung*): Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

SALUTATION

page 164

P (*sung*): The Lord be with you

C (*sung*): And also with you.

P: O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST READING

2 Kings 5: 1-14 (ESV)

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy." And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me." But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel."

So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10: 11-17 (MSG)

These are all warning markers—danger!—in our history books, written down so that we don't repeat their mistakes. Our positions in the story are parallel—they at the beginning, we at the end—and we are just as capable of messing it up as they were. Don't be so naive and self-confident. You're not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. Forget about self-confidence; it's useless. Cultivate God-confidence. No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it. So, my very dear friends, when you see people reducing God to something they can use or control, get out of their company as fast as you can. I assume I'm addressing believers now who are mature. Draw your own conclusions: When we drink the cup of blessing, aren't we taking into ourselves the blood, the very life, of Christ? And isn't it the same with the loaf of bread we break and eat? Don't we take into ourselves the body, the very life, of Christ? Because there is one loaf, our many-ness becomes one-ness—Christ doesn't become fragmented in us. Rather, we become unified in him. We don't reduce Christ to what we are; he raises us to what he is.

GOSPEL READING Mark 1: 40-45 (ESV)

And a leper came to him, imploring him, and kneeling said to him, "If you will, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. And Jesus sternly charged him and sent him away at once, and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to them." But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in desolate places, and people were coming to him from every quarter.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C (*sung*): **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN O Christ, Our Hope #151

MESSAGE The blessing of Discouragement

In any and every circumstance,
I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.
I can do all things through him who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:12-13

Secret to facing _____
.. drawing courage, joy, hope, peace, satisfaction from _____.

.. it is all-important, as we always say, to know that the direction comes down this way from above, from the Father through Christ, and ascends again through Him. For the Son comes down to us from the Father and attaches Himself to us; and we, in turn, attach ourselves to Him and come to the Father through Him. This is the reason for His incarnation and His birth of the Virgin Mary, that He might mingle with us, be seen and heard by us, yes, be crucified and put to death for us, and draw and hold us to Him. He was sent to draw up to the Father those who would believe in Him, just as He is in the Father. He forged these links between Himself and us and the Father, thus enclosing us in this circle, so that now we are in Him and He in us, just as He is in the Father and the Father is in Him. Through such a union and communion our sin and death are abolished, and now we have sheer life and blessedness in their stead.

Martin Luther, Luther's works, Vol. 24 : Sermons on the Gospel of St. John: Chapters 14-16, p. 139 (on John 14:20).

The Son comes down and attaches Himself to us and lifts us up to the Father in

None of us gets this perfectly, here, all the time, but _____ can serve this purpose.

Even though we hear it, it fails to take root until trials bring it home to us; we must learn it when death wrestles with us or when any other affliction oppresses and frightens us. Then we understand and experience it, and we can say: "I was thrust into death and was preserved by this consolation." At present this is being preached in order that we may at least begin to learn this lesson, to make it our concern, and then to progress in it until we finally master it.

Ibid., p.145

The wonderful message of the healed leper .. Jesus doesn't see you _____,

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
Hebrews 13:8

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory, to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING HYMN

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

#231

PRAYERS

(1 Timothy 1:1; 2:1-4)

Pastor: Let us pray as God's Word teaches us.

All: God our Saviour, and Christ Jesus our hope, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth, we come to you with petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving for all people— for rulers and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

(Petitions and prayers of intercession and thanksgiving may be added.)

Pastor: Into your care, O Father, we commend all we pray for, trusting in your mercy through Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit is one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

PREFACE

page 170

P (*sung*): The Lord be with you.

C (*sung*): And also with you.

P (*sung*): Lift up your hearts.

C (*sung*): We lift them to the Lord.

P (*sung*): Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C (*sung*): It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, and now we praise You that you sent us Your only-begotten Son and that in Him, being found in fashion as a man, You manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:...

C (*sung*): Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us children of men and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts that he may establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to remember our Redeemer and receive him who comes to us in his body and blood.

C: Amen.

All: 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

P: Our Lord Jesus ... in remembrance of me. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

C (sung): 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.

A NOTE ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION - please read before communing.

- We believe God desires all adult baptized Christians to come to His table to be strengthened in faith.
- We also believe that in Holy Communion, Christ is present, body and blood, with the bread and wine.
- We come confessing our sins, desiring to change, and desiring assurance of God's forgiveness.
- If this is your belief, we welcome you to receive Holy Communion here, at this, the Lord's Table.
- If you have gluten or wine allergies, before the service please ask Pastor or an elder about alternatives.
- Children and adults are also welcome to come for a blessing. Please show this by folding your hands.

HYMNS

#246 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared
#420 If You But Trust in God to Guide You
#361 Rock of Ages. Cleft for Me

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

page 173

P: May the eating and drinking of Christ's true body and blood strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting.

C: Amen

All (sung): 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.

P: Let us pray.

All: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank you that for his sake you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament, and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled to serve you constantly; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder on Duty –Matt Koebernick Trustee this week –Dave Domes

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

All: Amen

CLOSING HYMN

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

#220

Bible translations used by permission of publishers: ESV- English Standard Version; MSG - The Message; others - New International Version

OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Please remember the following homebound members in prayer:

Joe Bocek, Margaret McKinnon (Nanaimo), Margaret Moore, Ursula Pohl and Olaf Reynolds.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
who comforts us in all our affliction,
so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction,
with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

OSLC CALENDAR for February 12 to February 19

Today	Voter's Meeting .. <i>after fellowship time. See news and notes for more info.</i>	
Monday	Jesus and the Basics of Faith: Session 6 – Everlasting Hope	3:00 pm
Tuesday	Youth Confirmation	7:00 pm
Wednesday	Jesus and the Basics of Faith: Session 6 – Everlasting Hope	7:00 pm
Thursday	Quilting	9:00 am
	Choir Practice (Donna's House)	3:30 pm
Friday	Concordia Fun Friday	6:00pm
Next Sunday	Drop-in Bible Study	9:00 am
	Worship Service	10:00 am

OSLC NEWS and NOTES

The voter's meeting is open to anyone who is interested. The topics for the meeting are the receiving of the annual report, and discussion arising. Non voting members are certainly welcome to listen, and if requested, the voters normally also extend the privilege of speaking.

We have been invited to enter a chili team in the 20th Fire & Ice festival. Pastor Craig is willing to help, but we are looking for someone else who would like to be in charge of our entry this year. If you are interested, the information is on our bulletin board, and Pastor Craig would love to talk with you about this.

LENTEN Dramas need folks who like to read aloud. I have put together a series of Lenten dramas for Our Saviour Lutheran, to be performed during the six Wednesday lent services, starting February 22nd. The dramas are very simple, with just three people in each one. There would be no need to learn lines and no requirement to develop characters or wear costumes. Just an ability to read with expression, feeling and meaning. Ideally I would like three teams of three people each, that way we can rotate the readers so that the commitment is not too great. If you are interested or would like more information on this project, please call me, Wendy Punter at 250-586-0192. I look forward to hearing from you.

Lent is coming up, and so are SOUP SUPPERS! Sign up today to be blessed by providing a pot of soup for a supper or two.

Lent literature pamphlets will be available in the front entrance of the Church next Sunday. Please help yourself

Fun Friday for the mission team from Concordia University College of Alberta will be happening February 17th @ 6pm here in the fellowship hall. It will be a potluck and a great opportunity to meet and mingle with the team before they head out on Saturday morning. If you know you will be coming, please sign one of the sign-up sheets (on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall) to let us know how many will be attending, what type of dish you will be providing and if you want to help with the set up or clean up. If you have any questions please contact Jeanette Domes or Tammy Koebernick.

Sermons on Line Did you know that you can listen to Pastor Craig's sermon on line in the comfort of your own home. The sermon is recorded and posted under Audio Sermons each week on our website ; oursaviourlutheranchurch.ca. If you have any questions or difficulties please talk to Gary Zielke .

Hobby/Crafternoon Fridays at Kathy Benders – everyone is invited to take time out of their week to work on a favourite hobby or craft, from 1:30-4:30 on Fridays at 806 Mulholland Drive. Tea and Coffee available for anyone who just wants to drop in. We will have this every Friday so you can leave your stuff if that makes it easier. Painting, scrapbooking, jewellery, knitting, needlework, beading, card making, etching, anything at all is welcome. Helps us have the discipline of getting to those projects! If you just want to check it out, or have a coffee, join us in fellowship.

Garden Cuttings if you have a garden which cuttings of flowers could be taken throughout the year to decorate the Sunday Service, Helga Becker and Carol Zielke would love to hear from you.

Traveling to Peru and the Amazon: Led by Lois and Paul Edelen from their trip to South America. **The location has changed;** it will be Friday Feb. 24th at Brian and Doreen Hagedorns house, starting at 6:45 for refreshments, 7pm presentation.