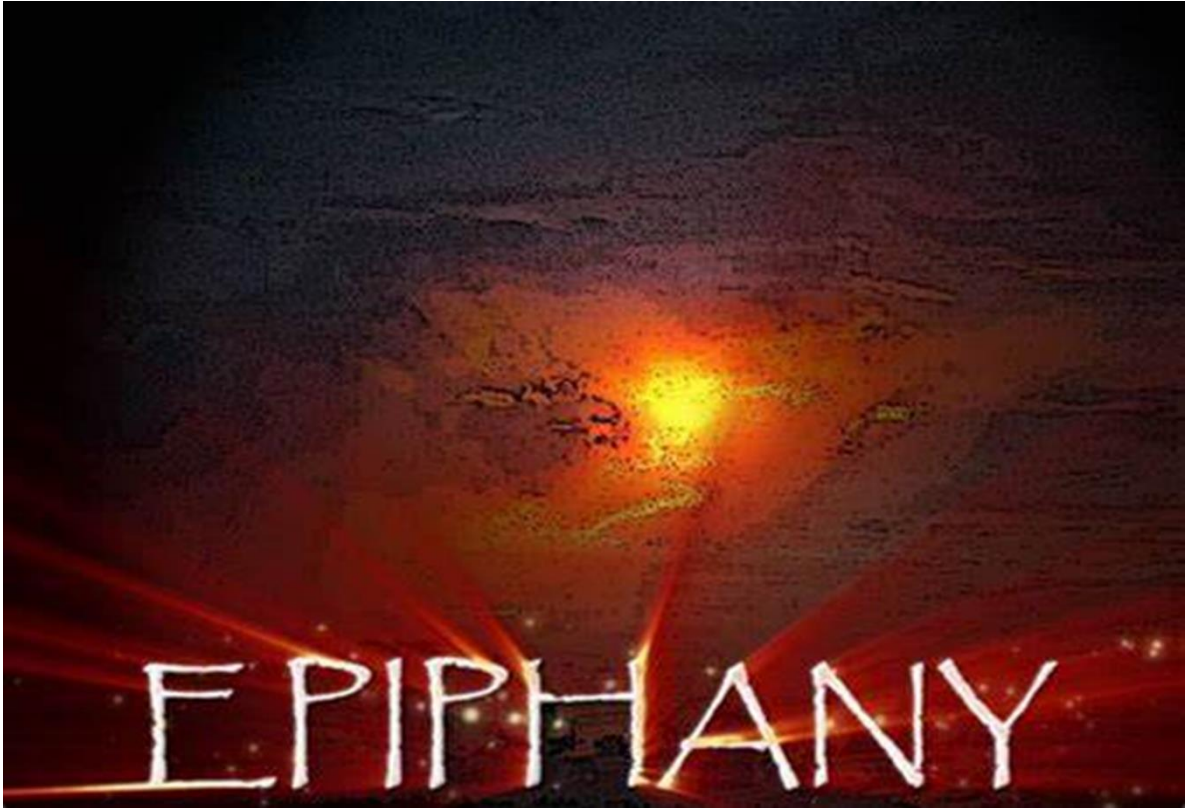


February 23, 2025 | 10:30

*Epiphany 7*



Preacher: Pastor Carlton Andersen

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*We at St. Luke's dedicate ourselves to grow in faith and love, to serve together, and to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

## WELCOME &amp; GREETING

## CALL TO WORSHIP

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

**C: but his delight is in the law of the Lord.**

P: He is like a tree planted by streams of water

**C: that yields its fruit in due season**

P: Its leaf does not wither

**C: In all he does he prospers**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Brothers and sisters, as we gather to hear the words and teaching of our Lord today, let us prepare by confessing our need to hear Him.

**C: Lord God, heavenly Father, we confess the sins of our minds, our speech, our actions, and even our inactions. We beg Your mercy and forgiveness. We ask for Your grace to fill us with faith in Your Son, our Lord, to lead and guide us through all our days that we rejoice in the new, eternal life He has won for us by His cross and resurrection.**

P: In His mercy, God has given His Son to die for you and to give you the forgiveness of all your sins. Upon this your confession, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Father in heaven, by Your mighty Word grant to us every spiritual blessing in Christ, Your Son, that He guide us through our days, keeping us safe from everything that would distract us from His constant guiding and care; through Jesus Christ, Your Son,

our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

OPENING SONG~ 'We Believe'

1 In this time of desperation  
When all we know is doubt and fear  
There is only one foundation  
We believe, we believe  
In this broken generation  
When all is dark, You help us see  
There is only one salvation  
We believe, we believe

**Chorus** We believe in God the Father  
We believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit  
And He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion  
We believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection  
And He's comin' back again, we believe

2 So, let our faith be more than anthems  
Greater than the songs we sing  
And in our weakness and temptations  
We believe, we believe! **Chorus**

3 Let the lost be found and the dead be raised!  
In the here and now, let love invade!  
Let the church live loud, our God we'll say  
We believe, we believe!  
And the gates of hell will not prevail!  
For the power of God, has torn the veil!

Now we know Your love will never fail!  
We believe, we believe!

Ending        We believe in God the Father  
                  We believe in Jesus Christ  
                  We believe in the Holy Spirit  
                  And He's given us new life!  
                  We believe in the crucifixion!  
                  We believe that He conquered death!  
                  We believe in the resurrection!  
                  And He's comin' back,  
                  He's comin' back again!  
                  He's comin' back again!  
                  We believe!  
                  We believe

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#### FIRST READING~ Isaiah 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

<sup>2</sup>In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

<sup>5</sup>Come, O house of Jacob,  
let us walk in the light of the LORD.

R:        This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:        Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING~ 1 Corinthians 15:42-50

<sup>42</sup>So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; <sup>43</sup>it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; <sup>44</sup>it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup>So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.

<sup>50</sup>I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING~ ~ Matthew 6:25-34

<sup>25</sup>Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? <sup>27</sup>Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

<sup>28</sup>"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. <sup>29</sup>Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup>For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup>But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

<sup>34</sup>Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to You O Christ**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### MESSAGE SONG~ 'King of Kings'

1 In the darkness we were waiting  
Without hope without light  
Till from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfil the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

**Chorus** Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings

2 To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You die **Chorus**

3 And the morning that You rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored

4 And the Church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint  
By His blood and in His Name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me

**Chorus** Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings

**Chorus** Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings  
Praise forever to the King of kings

## MESSAGE

THE GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS & WE CARE CARDS

OFFERING SONG ~ SOLO~ 'Holy Forever'

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.** *(after final petition: Amen.)*

## THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Guests Please Note: As Lutheran Christians we believe in the Real Presence of Christ in Holy Communion; that as we participate in the sacrament we receive His body and blood. If you are confirmed and trust in Jesus and Savior and Lord and accept this understanding of communion you are invited to commune with us. There is a choice of individual or communion cup. You may choose a Gluten free wafer from the brass container as the host is served.

WORDS OF PRAISE & INVITATION

P: The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and Praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ..... this do in remembrance of me.



## LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us...

**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.**

## DISTRIBUTION AND SONG(S)~ 'Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone'

1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now I'm found;  
Was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved,  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed.

**Chorus**      My chains are gone I've been set free  
My God my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains  
Unending love amazing grace.

3. The Lord has promised good to me;  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be.  
As long as life endures.      Chorus
4. The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine.  
But God who called me here below.  
Will be forever mine.  
Will be forever mine!  
You are forever mine

'O Come to the Alter'

- 1        Are you hurting and broken within  
          Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin  
          Jesus is calling  
          Have you come to the end of yourself  
          Do you thirst for a drink from the well  
          Jesus is calling

**Chorus**    O come to the altar  
              The Father's arms are open wide  
              Forgiveness was bought with  
              The precious blood of Jesus Christ

- 2        Leave behind your regrets and mistakes  
          Come today there's no reason to wait  
          Jesus is calling  
          Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy  
          From the ashes a new life is born  
          Jesus is calling

**Chorus**    O come to the altar  
              The Father's arms are open wide  
              Forgiveness was bought with  
              The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Forgiveness was bought with  
The precious blood

Oh what a Savior  
Isn't He wonderful  
Sing alleluia, Christ is risen  
Bow down before Him  
For He is Lord of all  
Sing alleluia, Christ is risen

**Chorus 2x** O come to the altar  
The Father's arms are open wide  
Forgiveness was bought with  
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

The Father's arms are open wide

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, through Your Son You have promised us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. Guard our hearts in all times of temptation, move us to seek your will, remembering all that our Savior accomplished for us. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

#### CLOSING SONG ~ 'I Can Only Imagine'

1 I can only imagine  
What it will be like  
When I walk by Your side  
I can only imagine  
What my eyes will see  
When Your face is before me  
I can only imagine

#### **Chorus**

Surrounded by Your glory  
What will my heart feel  
Will I dance for You Jesus  
Or in awe of You be still  
Will I stand in Your presence  
Or to my knees will I fall  
Will I sing hallelujah  
Will I be able to speak at all  
I can only imagine (yeah)

I can only imagine

2 I can only imagine  
When that day comes  
And I find myself standing in the Son  
I can only imagine  
When all I will do  
Is forever forever worship You  
I can only imagine  
I can only imagine

### **Chorus 2x**

I can only imagine  
I can only imagine  
I can only imagine  
I can only imagine

### **Ending**

I can only imagine when all I will do  
Is forever forever worship You  
I can only imagine

### SENDING

P: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

**C: but his delight is in the law of the Lord.**

P: He is like a tree planted by streams of water

**C: that yields it fruit in due season.**

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 & Amen!**

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God!**

POST-SERVICE MUSIC