

January 18, 2026 | 9:30 am

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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As children of God and disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate and lift up people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, economic statuses, political affiliation, appearances, family status, and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another.

All, without exception, are welcome in this place.



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH BOYERTOWN

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AUTHENTIC WORSHIP INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS SACRIFICIAL SERVICE RADICAL GENEROSITY

# CORE VALUES

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, BOYERTOWN

AUTHENTIC  
WORSHIP



INTENTIONAL  
RELATIONSHIPS



SACRIFICIAL  
SERVICE



RADICAL  
GENEROSITY



## BAPTISMAL PROMISE

GIFTS OF  
DISCIPLESHIP



**LIVE**  
among God's faithful people



**HEAR**  
the word of God



**SHARE**  
in the Lord's Supper



**PROCLAIM**  
the good news of God in Christ  
through word and deed



**SERVE**  
all people, following the example of Jesus



**STRIVE**  
for justice and peace in all the earth

# WELCOME

You are a blessing to us, and we're glad you're here today!

## NEW HERE?

Please do not feel obligated to contribute an offering - you are our guest! Rather, please ask an usher for a Let's Get Acquainted card and drop it in the offering plate.

Restrooms are located on the same level as the sanctuary. Exit the back of the sanctuary, turn left into Parish House, turn left again at ramp and continue midway down hallway. Restrooms are on the right.

Gluten-free communion wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle.

## WHERE DO MY KIDS GO?

Children are always welcome to worship. Sunday School is offered for children ages 3 through 6th grade. Families are encouraged to begin worship together at 9:30 in the Sanctuary. Children are dismissed from worship and escorted to their classroom, located on the second floor of the Parish House. Children are released to parents at worship conclusion, approximately 10:30 am.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

The importance of prayer is affirmed throughout the Bible. As a church we are committed to pray - your needs are important to us. Prayer request cards can be obtained from an usher and may be filled out and dropped in the offering plate.

## GATHERING TIMES

Sunday | 9:30 am | Sanctuary

**Worship Celebration with Holy Communion**

**Livestream on YouTube (St John's ELC Boyertown)**

Thursday | 8:00 pm

**Service Broadcast on Comcast Channel 98**

## GET CONNECTED

Connect with God, each other and our community! Follow us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram!



## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Acolyte	Grant Hersperger	Media	Shannon Omlor
Altar Assistants	Angie Berkosky, Mel Roth	Musician	Sam Kulp
Altar Guild	Shirley Hartman, Sue Hill	Prayer	Michele Eidle
Assisting Minister	Mel Roth	Sound	Ashley Gheer
Lector	Jennifer Schlegel	Video	Abbe Grofe
Ushers	Andy & Susan Varzally, Carol Sematis, Terry Wadsworth		



## Second Sunday after Epiphany

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

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### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

*The congregation may stand.*

### CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.** Amen.

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

## Hail to the Lord's Anointed

## ELW 311

*Inspired by Psalm 72, we praise Jesus Christ as God's chosen King. We celebrate his mission to bring justice, break oppression, and establish peace.*

1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;

Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!  
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.  
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.

You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive  
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to  
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,  
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -

free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and  
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are  
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from  
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a

rule in eq - - ui - ty.  
 pre - cious in - - your sight.  
 hill to val - - ley flow.  
 king - dom with - - out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.  
 Music: FREUT EÜCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953  
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa  
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

*Children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

*The congregation may be seated.*

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 49:1-7**

*Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.*

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." <sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— <sup>6</sup> he says, "It is too

light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” <sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING**

**1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

*Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

## GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you O Lord.**

**John 1:29-42**

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup> And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.” <sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” <sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## SERMON

**Pastor Bob Machamer**

*The congregation may stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult**

**ELW 696**

*In the Holy Gospel, we recognize the difference between our neighbors in faith and others not moved by the Word of the Lord. As the hymn states, we are called to look to Jesus for guidance and support even through seemingly difficult challenges.*

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our  
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -

sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"  
kin - dred, leav - ing, all for Je - sus, sake.  
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895  
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851-1922

**THE APOSTLES' 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,  
he 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.

#### PRAYER PETITION

#### Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

*Sung through twice.*

ELW 752



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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*The congregation may kneel.*

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*During this time of prayer, you are encouraged to meditate fully  
on the prayers offered by the reader.*

*Prayer response:*

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **OFFERING MUSIC**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **COMMUNION MUSIC**

### **The Table**

**Chris Tomlin**

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I won't hunger anymore at His table.

Come all you weary, come and find

His yoke is easy, His burden light.

He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

On the night of his betrayal  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

*The congregation may be seated.*

### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*All without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Please fill out a communion card and hand to an usher or place in the box at back of sanctuary. Today we receive the sacrament at the altar rail. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle. Return to your seats by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.*

*The congregation may stand.*

### **BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

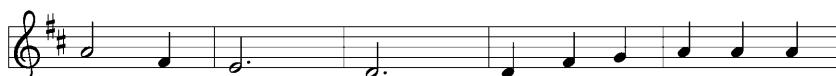
May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN****I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light****ELW 815**

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* is a hymn tune written by Kathleen Thomerson, an organist and hymnwriter. Connecting to today's second reading, we are guided by the light and faith of Jesus Christ. We are called to be faithful servants of God and live as His Word tells us to.



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



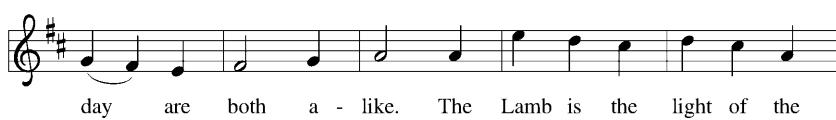
fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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**GUESTS** are always welcome to the Table!

**MEMBERS (two types)**  
Voting & Non-voting

### KEEPING MEMBERSHIP SIMPLE

1. The only way you can ever be removed from the membership roll at St. John's, or any ELCA congregation:
  - You request a transfer
  - You ask to be removed
  - You depart this life
2. Voting members must make a record of having:
  - Filled out a communion card and received the Lord's Supper ONE time per year
  - Contributed ONE time per year, making sure your name is included



# THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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## SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor Bob's Ordination Anniversary

9:30 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	Parish House, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
10:45 AM	Caring & Correspondence	Room 220
10:45 AM	Service MAG	Conference Room

## MONDAY, JANUARY 19 – Martin Luther King, Jr Day

Preschool Closed

10:00 AM	Yoga Class	Room 205
6:30 PM	Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

6:00 PM	Building A Better Boyertown	Room 213
6:30 PM	The Chosen	Conference Room

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

9:30 AM	Pottstown Soup Kitchen	Off-site
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## THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Southern Lights Conference

10:00 AM	Chestnut Knoll Service	Chestnut Knoll
10:00 AM	Operation 143 Delivery	Off-site
8:00 PM	Worship Broadcast	Comcast Ch 98

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

Southern Lights Conference

7:00 AM	Men's Small Group Bible Study	Telephone Conference
10:00 AM	Move & Groove Class	Room 205

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Southern Lights Conference

4:30 PM	Come to the Table	Fellowship Hall/Parking Lot
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## SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Southern Lights Conference

9:30 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	Parish House, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor

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## PURPOSE STATEMENT

We believe God's purpose for the people of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to develop joy-filled children of God who love the Lord and share God's Word.

*We do this by:*

- Maintaining a trusting and welcoming environment.
- Praying daily.
- Reading scripture regularly.
- Sharing our faith through action-based service.
- Encouraging holy conversations.
- Feeding our faith with music.

*With a focus on:*

- Activities that build relationships.
- Worship that is relevant.
- Meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community.

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Pastor Bob Machamer

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Linda Rohrbach, Treasurer



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Office Hours | Monday-Thursday 8:30am - 3:30pm | Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm