

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin
February 23/24, 2019

The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



Opening Hymn **594** *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It*

Holy Baptism (10:15) *Alexis Jo Kolaske*

Opening Litany

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Today's Old Testament lesson is from the Bible's first book. The story is part of the larger portion of Scripture known as the Joseph Story or Joseph Narrative, Genesis chapters 37–50, the longest narrative in Genesis – there is more verbiage dedicated to Joseph than any other character in the Book of Genesis, including Adam, Noah, Abraham, and Moses. Have you read the story of Joseph?

We could read those chapters at home this weekend.

Today's reading is focused on the moment that Joseph reveals his true identity to his brothers.

We recall, his brothers earlier threw him into a pit, and Joseph ended up as a slave in Egypt.

Yes, then Joseph is thrown into prison for three years until he is finally brought up to interpret Pharaoh's dreams and carry out the mission of saving and storing grain in order to preserve the land and people during the upcoming seven year drought.

Next, his brothers, seeking grain, come before Joseph, although his identity is a secret.

Correct, but now, Joseph shows himself to them and they are terrified!

They should be terrified! Joseph is the second most important man in all the land!

That, and the last time the brothers and Joseph interacted the boys were throwing him into a pit.

They intended to kill him!

Joseph could have harbored a grudge.

He could have let them starve.

They deserved death.

They received life.

The story gives two primary, related truths. First, God is in control. He, not the brothers, caused Joseph to arrive in Egypt.

Joseph said, “It was not you who sent me here, but God.”

Later, Joseph said,

“You meant it for evil, but God meant it for good.”

And that is the second point –

God will use evil for good.

Two points – One, God is in control. And two,

God will use evil for good.

The story also points to a primary quality of God Himself.

God is merciful.

He is merciful, even to us, and, just as Joseph has mercy upon his brothers, displaying the very mercy of God, so does Jesus teach us to do so in today’s Gospel reading. Jesus said,

“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

bless those who curse you,

pray for those who abuse you

Be merciful,

even as your Father is merciful...

Forgive,

and you will be forgiven.”

O Lord, teach us to be merciful.

O Lord, lead us to be merciful to our enemies, and to all who are in need.

O Lord, Joseph’s brothers are not the only ones deserving of your punishment.

Thank you, O Lord, for being merciful to me, a sinner.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading — Genesis 45:3–15

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. ⁴So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.’ ¹²And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — 1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42

For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death . . . ³⁰Why am I in danger every hour? ³¹I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! ³²What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” ³³Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” ³⁴Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame. ³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”

³⁶You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ³⁹For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. ⁴²So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Response **486** *If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death*

The Holy Gospel — Luke 6:27–38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. ³²“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. ³⁵But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed **inside back cover of hymnal**

Hymn **814** *O Bless the Lord, My Soul*

Sermon **Who's Lying?** *(1 Corinthians 15: 21–26, 30–42)*

Offering *Please complete the friendship register found at the end of the pew.*

Prayer of the Church

Benediction

Closing Hymn **851** *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*



Acknowledgements

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Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy	Rev. Mark R. Palmer	Sermon	Rev. Timothy J. Shoup
Organists	Saturday – Mrs. Debbie Welch	Sunday – Mrs. Lorraine Doell	
Acolytes	Beckett Hartlaben	Cory Wussow	Kaitlyn Kroening

Prayers

In Need of Healing . . . *June Bethke, John Frank, Shirley Kieckhafer, Gregory Kopitske, Jr., Cory Kosbob, Robert Luepke, Audrey Moede, Joann Neitzel, Jerry Schoepke, Brittany Slack, Tracy Sundstrom, James Watry, Jr., and Roger Wood.*



Baptism . . . *Alexis Jo Kolaske, daughter of Ben and Stephanie Kolaske, born December 20, 2018. Her sponsors are Mickayla Kolaske and Mackenzie Ullmer.*

Announcements

55+ Group . . . will meet on Tuesday, February 26 at noon in the fellowship hall. The lunch will be potluck. The program for the afternoon will be playing Bunco, an entertaining game and fun for all. We hope you can join us.

St. Paul Lutheran School Shoe Drive . . . St. Paul is collecting shoes to raise money towards new bleachers in our gym. Please consider donating **new or gently used** shoes; tennis shoes, heels, sandals, boots or work boots. Collection boxes are in the church and school entrances. Questions may be directed to St. Paul school, 715-758-8532.

Our Way Home Bible Study . . . The 6:30pm Bible study that was originally scheduled for Monday, February 25, will be held this Sunday, February 24, at 2:00pm and then resume as normal on Monday, March 11 at 6:30pm. The 2:00pm Bible study will be this Monday, February 25 as normal and will resume March 11 at 2:00pm.

Attended/Communed- February 16/17, 2019

Saturday	2/16	7:00pm	125/ 84
Sunday	2/17	8:00am	161/145
Sunday	2/17	10:15am	<u>164/124</u>
	Total		450/353

Unused offering envelopes . . . are recycled and used for chapel offerings. Please drop off unused envelopes in the box provided in the narthex or the church office.

The Ladies Aid Annual Ash Wednesday Chili Dinner . . . will be served on Wednesday, March 6, 11:00am – 7:00pm in the fellowship hall. The menu will include chili, toasted cheese sandwiches, bars, and beverages. Prices: Adult – \$8.00; Children ages 6 through 10 – \$4.00; and children 5 or under are free. Ash Wednesday services will be held at 10:00am and 7:00pm. Proceeds will help support Christian education at Wolf River Lutheran High School.

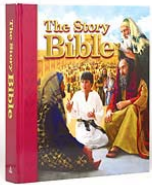


The Lutheran Hour . . . "Is God Everybody's Father?" (John 8)

A Christian can say, "I am not Jesus, but we have the same Father." Tune in next Sunday to hear Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler at 7:30am on WTCH/960 AM, at 10:00am on WRVM/102.7 FM, or at [.org](#).

A special thank you to all who helped make the Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser at Wolf River Lutheran High School last Sunday a huge success. Whether you just came to eat or donated food items for the meal or bake sale or contributed money toward the greenhouse and other horticulture class needs, you were important in making the fundraiser the success it turned out to be. Thanks so much for your support.

Zion Lutheran Church Spring Soup Dinner . . . at 118 Church St., Embarrass, will be Sunday, March 3, 11:00am – 1:00pm. Menu includes all-you-can-eat chicken noodle soup, pea soup, chili, and desserts. Adults \$8, children 5–12 \$4, under 5 are free.



BRING IT HOME — *Family Time with Great Bible Stories*

The page numbers refer to the children's Bible titled "The Story Bible", or use your own Bible.

Week 17 — February 24 – March 2, 2019

The Christmas Story, continued

1. The Birth of Jesus

Page 283–286 — Luke 2

2. The Visit of the Wise Men

Page 287–289 — Matthew 2

3. The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Page 290–292 — Luke 2

Jesus and John the Baptist, introduction page 293

4. John Prepares the Way of the Lord

Pages 295–296 — Matthew 3; Luke 3

5. The Baptism of Jesus

Page 297–299 — Matthew 3

Acolyte Schedule Next Week

March 2 Aspen Brunner

March 3 Morgan Staszak

Baylie Diemel

SCRIP Schedule Next Week

March 2 Sandy Staszak

March 3 Barb Swiecichowski

Peggy Buchholz

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- SUN. 2/24** 8:00am Worship
9:00am Fellowship (PTL)
9:15am SPYRT – Bible Bowl Practice in Youth Room
9:15am Sunday School
9:15am Bible Study
10:15am Worship
- MON. 2/25** 7:30am Strong Bones
2:00pm Bible Study
6:30pm Bible Study
- TUES. 2/26** 7:00am Bible Study
8:00am Quilting
12:00pm 55+ Group
- WED. 2/27** 1:30pm Meadowview
4:00pm–6:00pm Food Pantry
5:00pm Public School Confirmation Class
6:00pm 5th/6th Grade Confirmation Class
6:00pm Youth Milk Cap Counting; Bible Bowl Practice
6:00pm Bell Choir
7:05pm Adult Choir
- THURS. 2/28** 2:00pm Women’s Bible Study
- FRI. 3/1** 7:30am Strong Bones
- SAT. 3/2** 7:00pm Worship — Holy Communion
- SUN. 3/3** 8:00am Worship — Holy Communion
9:00am Fellowship (Parish Fellowship #1)
9:15am SPYRT – Bible Bowl Practice in Youth Room
9:15am Sunday School
9:15am Bible Study
10:15am Worship — Holy Communion



Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor

Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor

Mr. Gerald R. Schmidt, Principal

Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Music Director

Church Office 715-758-8559 School Office 715-758-8532

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