

Jesus did this, the first of his signs,  
in Cana of Galilee

JOHN 2:11

**Called by the Spirit, we serve Christ, sharing God's love with all.**

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**WEBSITE: [firstlutherantopeka.org](http://firstlutherantopeka.org)**

**1234 Fairlawn Road, Topeka, KS 66604**

**Church office: (785) 272-5302 CDO office: (785) 272-5999**

*Ministers*  
*Senior Pastor*  
*Coordinator of Stewardship and Outreach*  
*Children's Day Out (CDO) Director*  
*Caring for Kids 1<sup>st</sup> Director*  
*Organist*  
*Director of Music*  
*Director of Handbell Choirs*  
*Secretary*  
*Assistant Secretary*  
*Bookkeeper*  
*Missionaries in Russia*  
*Missionaries for Ripe For Harvest World Outreach*

*All Members of First*  
*Pastor Jenny Jackson*  
*Pastor Bob Dealey*  
*Julie Lamott*  
*Julie Bradley*  
*Jerry Anderson*  
*Mark Fuller*  
*Linda Anderson*  
*LaDonna J. Little*  
*Jill Loomans*  
*Cindy Crawford*  
*Rev. Bradn & Natasha Buerkle*  
*Jim & Dawn Anderson*

**A BRIEF WORD ABOUT WORSHIP PRECAUTIONS.**

**MASKS:** A mask must be worn during the entire time in church, covering the mouth and nose. This is done to provide protection for others and for your own safety.

**MAINTAINING SOCIAL DISTANCING IS A HIGH PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES DURING IN-PERSON WORSHIP:** All members are to maintain a 6-foot distance from other people/households at all times. This includes gathering in the parking lot, arriving or exiting through church doors, or standing in the fellowship areas. Ushers and greeters will be present to help with arrival, seating, communion, and departing church.



# THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

---

HOLY COMMUNION, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING TWO

5:00 P.M. & 10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 15 & 16, 2022

*Before worship, talk to God. During worship, let God talk to you. After worship, talk to your fellow worshipper.*

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE** “*Adagio in A Minor*” (BWV 564)

(J. S. Bach)

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

### CHIMES

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

P: Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

**C: Amen.**

### 314 GATHERING SONG “*Arise, Your Light Has Come!*”

### GREETING

P: The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

*Congregation shall sit.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.*

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

*The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.*

<sup>1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. <sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.

<sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

<sup>4</sup>You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. <sup>5</sup>For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 36:5-10 (Spoken Responsively with Lector)

<sup>5</sup>Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds.

**<sup>6</sup>Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>How priceless is your love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

**<sup>8</sup>They feast upon the abundance of your house; you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

<sup>9</sup>For with you is the well of life, and in your light we see light.

**<sup>10</sup>Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you, and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

*The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing one another's spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup>Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

page 124

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*Repeat alleluia*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL: John 2:1-11**

*Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup>When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." <sup>6</sup>Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup>He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. <sup>9</sup>When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup>and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." <sup>11</sup>Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Congregation shall sit.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

## **312 HYMN OF THE DAY** “*Jesus, Come! For We Invite You*”

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

### **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.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

A: By your Spirit, activate within your church gifts of faith, healing, and prophecy. Unite those who profess your name across congregations, denominations, and geographic boundaries. Open our hearts to recognize and celebrate surprising miracles. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your creation reflects your generosity. Bless farmers, migrant farmworkers, orchard-keepers, ranchers, and all who tend the abundance of the land. Protect food and water sources from destruction, that all can eat and drink and be satisfied. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: By your Spirit, grant wisdom, knowledge, and discernment to those who hold leadership positions at any level. Direct policymakers toward compassionate decisions that build up safe and just communities. Lead all authorities in seeking and serving the common good. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: As Jesus provided generously in a moment of need, provide generous gifts of healing for those in need this day especially Sara, Joyce, Carolyn, David, Kevin, Laura, Lois and Phil, as well as our homebound members, all unable to worship this weekend, and all family, friends and even enemies we name now, either out loud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). Surround them with your unwavering presence. Provide abundantly for all who are hungry or thirsty, all seeking shelter, and all who seek peace. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You see us for who we are and you delight in us. Embrace those struggling with self-worth, wrestling with self-identity, or facing significant life transition. Remind us that nothing can separate us from your love. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You bless us through the spiritual gifts of the saints who have gone before us. We give thanks for the life of Martin Luther King Jr. and all who have modeled the way of courageous faith. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you. **R:** Peace be with you.

**Brief word about peace:** *As we practice Social Distancing, the sharing of the peace will take place as we remain in our pews: waving, bowing, blessing, or sharing the peace sign with our fellow worshipers.*

*Congregation shall sit.*

**OFFERING VOLUNTARY** “Air”

*(F. Couperin)*

**Brief word about offering:** *Offering plates are available at the back of the worship space, on the bulletin table. To give online, please go to [FirstLutheranTopeka.org](http://FirstLutheranTopeka.org) and click on ‘contribute’.*

***Please place attendance form in the offering plate.***

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.

**C: You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

page 129

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

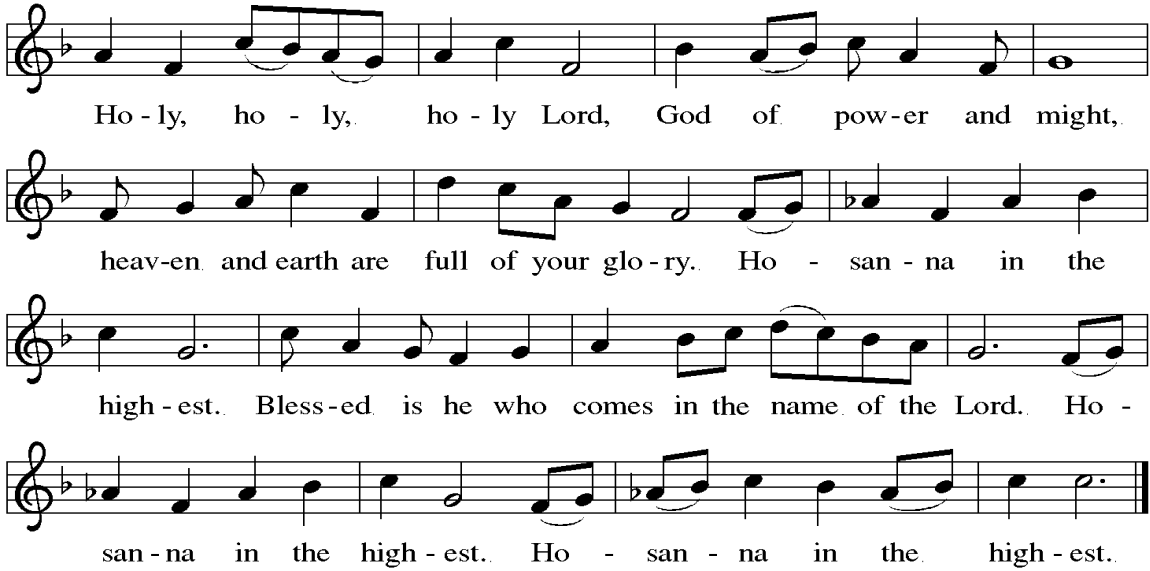
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

P: Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

*Congregation shall sit.*

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

**Brief word about communion:** *The process for receiving communion will be explained by the Pastor. For these services, wine or grape juice will not be distributed. Pastor will bring you communion in your pew. Hand sanitizer is available in the pews to use before receiving communion.*

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" (J. Cruger / arr. D. Busarow)

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

**Congregation: Amen**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

BLESSING

P: God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, † bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

C: Amen.

## 310 SENDING SONG “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

**Brief word about dismissal:** *Since our fellowship space is small and we are practicing social distancing, we encourage you to enjoy conversation in the parking lot. May God go with you, sustain you, and renew your spirit.*

### DISMISSAL

A: Called by the spirit,

C: **We serve Christ, sharing God’s love with all.**

A: Go in peace. Let your light shine.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE “Fantasia”

(J. Pachelbel)

---

**PERMISSIONS:** Liturgy, Hymns, Voluntaries, Anthems and Livestreaming reproduced under CCLI License 2223794 and/or Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB1216798, Publishers, OneLicense.net A-710318; All other music and lyrics are in the Public Domain. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

---

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Rick & Julie Bender in honor of their grandkids.

**ETERNAL CANDLE FOR JANUARY** is given by Sue Wild in memory of her great aunt, Helen Radtke.

### THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

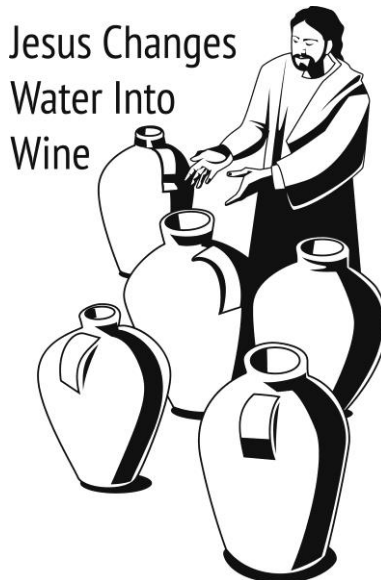
Sara Welch (home), Joyce Koenig (home), Carolyn Sandquist (home), David Schmidt (home), Kevin Eaton (home), Martha Donohoe (home), Laura Martin (home), Lois Lykins (home), Phil Engelhardt (home), Verla Buch (home), Blake Hopper (home), Shad Horchem (Shirley Perry’s brother-in-law), Manny Ramos (Shirley Perry’s nephew-in-law), Evelyn Ijams (CDO Student), Monica Collins (friend of Barb Collins), Michael Kuner (friend of Mark Fuller), JoAnn Likness (friend of Barb Collins), Heidi Mark (Bill & Joyce’s daughter), Richard Holliday (Marian Orton’s son), Amanda Gill (friend of Trudi Myers), Drew Hartz (Steve & Kathy Couch’s son-in-law), Sheila Mitchell (Shirley Brower’s niece), Deloris Patton (Nancy & Charlie Vaughn’s sister-in-law), Don Kaphingst (Margaret Stewart’s brother), Linda Byrd (friend of Barb Collins), Newt Newstrom (Dawn Graham’s father), William Durham (Trudi Myers’ son-in-law), Tavia Shaker (friend of Lindsay Blank), Pat Grant (friend of Ron Bessler), Dan Fraleigh (Sherrie Petersen’s brother-in-law), Velda Jacobs (Eileen Caspers’ aunt), Lewis Sanders (Rachelle Witherspoon’s father), Syndee Haake (daughter of friend of Nancy Vaughn), Blanche Stephansen (Ron Bessler’s sister), Nicole Klein (Patti’s God-daughter), Georgi Peterson (Rhonda Dealey’s mother), Lawrence & Lenette Kottas (Eileen Caspers’ parents), John Browne (Penny & Marvin Boleski’s brother-in-law), Camille Baehni Engler (former member), Brennan Soukup (Julie Bender’s cousin), C.A. & Mary Lou Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders’ parents), Heather Roesch (Tracy’s sister-in-law), Katelynn Herring (Jeanie Schuler’s great niece), Linda Myers (Trudi’s daughter-in-law), David Metzenthin (Bud’s son).

**OUR CONDOLENCES** to *Debbie Grondahl* on the death of her mother, Doris Dodson.

<b>LAY MINISTERS 1/16</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Jenn Betz
<b>Lector</b>	Bryan Harold
<b>Acolyte</b>	Emma Schultz
<b>Greeter / Ushers</b>	Kathy Couch, JoAnn Stanley / Diane Dukat, Bob Wollin
<b>Council Member</b>	LaVerne Engelhardt
<b>Bus Driver &amp; Host/Hostess</b>	Chris & Cindy Lear
<b>Saturday Lector</b>	Tina Lewis
<b>Altar Guild Setup/Clean up</b>	Nancy Vaughn, Pat Drake, Barb Collins, Nancy Besta, Karon Gambrill
<b>Tech Team</b>	Austin Jackson, John Hanna

## LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

<b>LAY MINISTERS 1/23</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	John Hanna
<b>Lector</b>	Randy Debenham
<b>Acolyte</b>	Lizzy Keehn
<b>Greeter / Ushers</b>	Diane Dukat, Sara Welch / Richard Price, Bryan Price
<b>Council Member</b>	Bill Barker
<b>Bus Driver &amp; Host/Hostess</b>	Randy Debenham, Barb Collins
<b>Saturday Lector</b>	Schultz Family
<b>Altar Guild Setup/Clean up</b>	Mo Krumins, Jeanie Schuler, Barb Collins, Nancy Besta, Karon Gambrill
<b>Tech Team</b>	Jenn Betz, Austin Jackson, Stephen Blank



# ✠ IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WEEK ✠

CDO (Children's Day Out) Preschool 9 a-3 p - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9-11:30 a – Thursday

**Sunday, January 16**

## **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

**Monday, January 17**

## **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY**

NO CDO

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

**Tuesday, January 18**

6:00 p.m. – Den Meetings

**Wednesday, January 19**

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

4:00-8:00 p.m. – CDO Fundraiser at Godfather's Pizza (17<sup>th</sup> & Fairlawn)

6:00 p.m. – Den Meeting

**Thursday, January 20**

5:30 p.m. – Ministry Moving Forward Meeting (Zoom)

5:30 p.m. – Den Meeting

5:30 p.m. – Endowment Committee

6:30 p.m. – CDO Board

Choir Rehearsals “paused” until February

**Friday, January 21**

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

**Saturday, January 22**

5:00 p.m. – Worship

**Sunday, January 23**

## **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:15 a.m. – Guest Speaker – Rabbi Moti Rieber

## **LESSONS JANUARY 22 & 23**

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

# PARISH NOTICES

**TAKE A NIGHT OFF FROM COOKING AND HELP CDO!**

**Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-8:00 p.m.**, a CDO Fundraiser at Godfathers Pizza (17<sup>th</sup> & Fairlawn).  
**20% of the sales will go to CDO.** Can be used for dine-in and carryout--just mention it's for CDO.

# ANNUAL MEETING



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**~~VERY IMPORTANT~~**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**JANUARY 30, 2022**

**Immediately following worship in the sanctuary.**

We will be hosting a four-week series of classes entitled **“THE ART OF RADICAL HOSPITALITY”**, beginning **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**. In-person classes will be offered in the church **sanctuary**, beginning at **11:15 a.m.** and **ZOOM** classes will be offered on Sundays, beginning at **1:30 p.m.** Each class will last approximately 45 minutes. Please call the church office at **(785) 272-5302 TO REGISTER** for the class and so that a book may be ordered for you. Pastor Bob Dealey will be teaching both in-person and ZOOM classes.

**HOPE YOU'RE READY FOR A NEW BOOK TO STUDY!**

We will be reading and discussing **N.T. Wright's book “Surprised by Hope”**. The study will begin the second week of February, and we will meet every other week by Zoom. We will have two discussion sessions as last year. One meeting on **Monday at 1:00 p.m. and the other on Friday at 7:00 p.m.** **The first sessions will start February 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Since this book is on the resurrection of our Lord, our sessions are timed out to finish the week before Holy Week. This leads us right up to our celebration of Christ's resurrection! Contact the church office if you would like more information or to join in.



## DOORSTEP'S "SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY" FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>

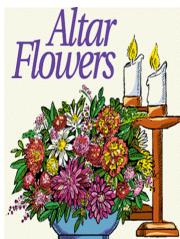
Bring soup and crackers to help stock Doorstep's pantry!



**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>!** Doorstep is asking for donations for SouperBowl Sunday! **Please bring SOUP AND CRACKERS to restock Doorsteps pantry.** A can of soup can be a meal, and in the past, with a successful collection, Doorstep has had soup and crackers to last them into the summer months! Please remember Doorstep when you go grocery shopping, and pick up a few items for your neighbors in need.



**ETERNAL CANDLES** can be found in both the main Worship Center and our beautiful Chapel. In **2022** you may **DONATE** both candles in remembrance or in honor of someone for the entire month. Please contact LaDonna, in the church office, (785) 272-5302 or email her at [1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net) to sign-up for a month and give information that will be included in the bulletin. **The cost will be \$20 for the month. Available months are: February and October.**



**PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US HAVE FRESH FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR IN 2022.  
OPEN 2022 DATES FOR BOTH VASES (unless indicated otherwise) ARE:**

4/24 (one vase); 5/1 (one vase), 5/15, 5/29; 6/5; 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/31;  
8/7, 8/28; 11/20 (one vase); 12/11 (one vase).

**Please call the church office at (785) 272-5302 or Jeanie Schuler at 785-845-7964  
if you have questions.**

## Water Is Life

Many of us are accustomed to having fresh, clean water available whenever we want it. Yet residents of the city of Flint, Michigan, have not had clean tap water for more than seven years. And because of global climate change, other people are discovering the catastrophic and life-altering effects of prolonged drought—not enough water—or greatly increased flooding—too much water. Water can be an immense force of destruction. Yet, without it, there is no life. In fact, people protesting the route of the Dakota Access Pipeline, which would run under part of a lake near the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, adopted the chant “Mni wiconi,” which means “water is life” in the language of the Dakota Sioux.

Water, both as a symbol and as a physical reality, flows through all of the Bible, from the first moments of creation to the people thirsting on their journey through the wilderness in Exodus and through the river in the book of Revelation. In the Gospel of John, water is a potent symbol of God’s power. If water is life, the one who can walk on water amid a destructive storm or, in today’s reading, turn water into wine, commands life itself. As Jesus quietly demonstrates his power over life itself at Cana, we see that in God, life is unlimitedly abundant. After Jesus’ intervention there was no lack of wine; the wedding party continued with joy. Perhaps we are so accustomed to everything in our lives being finite and measurable that we struggle to accept life as it comes to us from God. But again and again in John’s gospel, Jesus demonstrates that this is what the kingdom of God is like: overflowing, life-giving, and abundant for all.

Cover: *Wedding Feast* by John August Swanson. Copyright © 2021 John August Swanson/Eyekons. Used by permission.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States, Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at [www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org).

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

Tracks 1 and 2  
20220116-EPI2 ELCA-L