



Apostles Evangelical Lutheran Church & Preschool

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Mission Statement of Apostles Evangelical Lutheran Church & Preschool of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

As God's disciples, we the men, women and children of Apostles, are united in the preaching, teaching and sharing of God's Word in its truth and purity. By God's grace, we will nurture believers and joyfully spread the Word of God in our community and throughout the world, all to His glory.



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 24, 2009

Prayer before Worship

Jesus Christ, you displayed your power and majesty long ago through miracles and your resurrection from the dead. With the same power you used to conquer death, come to us to conquer our fear, doubts and unbelief. Powerfully fill us with the truth of salvation through your forgiveness so that we can confidently live for you and proclaim your life saving message to others! Come to rule my heart today. Amen

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Service of the Word

OPENING HYMN

(CEL 85)

Sung through twice by the congregation:

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics under the first staff are: "Je - sus, name a - bove all names. beau - ti - ful Sav - ior,". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "glo - ri - ous Lord. Em - man - u - el, God is". The third staff concludes the phrase with lyrics: "with us, bless - ed Re - deem - er. Liv - ing Word". The music is written in a style typical of a congregational hymn book, with a clear melody line and accompaniment.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May

God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Oh, Taste and See". It consists of seven staves of music in a treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a C-clef and the lyrics "C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are". The second staff continues with "they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -". The third staff continues with "ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -". The fourth staff continues with "ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -". The fifth staff continues with "ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.". The sixth staff continues with "Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.". The seventh staff ends with a double bar line.

P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the broken-hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

“No More Hiding”

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching, preaching, and healing every disease. Alleluia.

ALLELUIA RESPONSE



GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

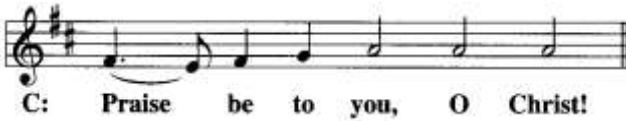
14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. 17 The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,

because he has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, 21 and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."



HYMN OF THE DAY

How Great Thou Art
(Hymn 256 vs. 1,3,4)

THE SERMON ~ Acts 4:23-31 ~

UNITE IN ORDER TO DIVIDE

I. Fight As One

II. One Fights For Us

23 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. 25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

"Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?

26 The kings of the earth take their stand
and the rulers gather together
against the Lord
and against his Anointed One.'

27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant

Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. 29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven.

And is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

Guests and visitors, please do not feel that we expect an offering from you; but we thank you if you wish to assist us in our efforts to carry out our ministry of the gospel. "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

*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.*

BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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



HYMN

Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul
(Hymn 238 vs. 1, 5)