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January 12, 2025

Epiphany Sunday

We saw his star...  
and have come to  
worship Him."

Matthew 2:2



**We Welcome Our Visitors** who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

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✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 72 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

**Greeting and prayer:** (Pastor)

**Opening Hymn: 409 *Hail, O Source of Every Blessing***

LSB 409

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

(Worship Supplement, p. 12)

### **Invocation**

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### **Confession and Absolution**

*We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

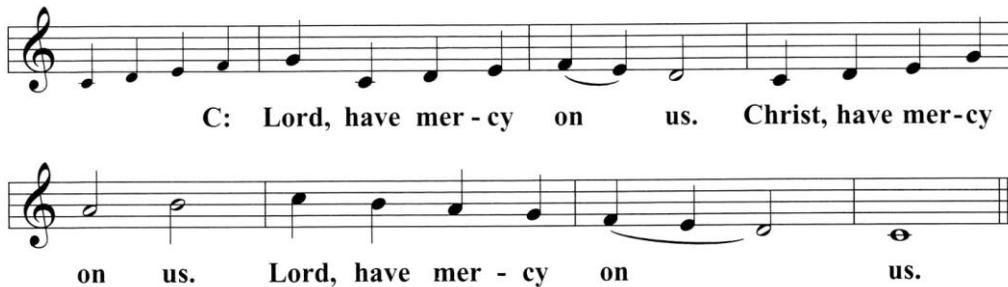
**P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful by nature. 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 upon 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. Through faith in Him, which was created in you by the Holy Spirit, you are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C** Amen.

**Kyrie** *Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.* W.S. p. 13



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

**Gloria in Excelsis** *Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."* W.S. p. 13



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,  
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,  
Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:  
We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,  
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,  
Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.  
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.  
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** We pray:

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence. We pray this in Jesus' name, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## First Reading

**Isaiah 60:1-6 (EHV)**

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD is dawning upon you.

<sup>2</sup> Look, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness covers the peoples,  
but the LORD will dawn upon you, and his glory will be seen over you.

<sup>3</sup> Nations [Gentiles] will walk to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup> Look up. Look all around and see!

All of them have been gathered. They are coming to you.

Your sons will come from far away, and people will carry your daughters on their side.

<sup>5</sup> Then you will look and be radiant.

Your heart will race with excitement and burst with joy.

For great riches from the sea will be delivered to you.

The wealth of the nations will come to you.

<sup>6</sup> Caravans of camels will cover your land,  
young camels from Midian and Ephah.

All those from Sheba will come.

They will carry gold and incense,

and they will announce the good news of the praise of the LORD.

## Psalm of the Day – Psalm 8:1-2; 3-5 (Worship Supplement – p. 27)

### O LORD, OUR LORD

*Antiphon*



I will praise Your name for - ev - er, my King and my God.



## Second Reading

## Ephesians 3:2-12 (EHV)

**P** The second reading is from Ephesians 3:2-12

**C** Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

<sup>2</sup> Surely you have heard of the administration of God's grace given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation (as I have already written briefly). <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup> This mystery was not made known to people in past generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets. <sup>6</sup> This mystery is that in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and people who also share in the promise through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> I became a servant of this gospel, in keeping with the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ <sup>9</sup> and to enlighten everyone about the administration of this mystery. In past ages this mystery remained hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup> He did this so that, through the church, the multifaceted wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was done according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup> In him we can freely approach God with confidence through faith in him.

**P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

## Alleluia and Verse

*When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Alleluia!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"*

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows four staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The first staff contains the lyrics 'C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. The second staff contains 'These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that'. The third staff contains 'Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.'. The fourth staff contains 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and a final whole note on a bar line.

**☩ 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 sits 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.**

**Hymn of the Day: 396 *Arise and Shine in Splendor***

LSB 396

**Sermon Text: Matthew 2:1-12 (EHV)**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, <sup>2</sup>“Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>He gathered together all the people’s chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. <sup>11</sup> After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

## **Sermon Theme: How to Celebrate Epiphany**

### **1. Seek Jesus**

### **2. Worship Jesus**

### **3. Present Our Gifts to Jesus**

## **Offertory**

*W.S. p. 16*



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me  
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly  
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

**Offering** *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

**Choir Song: "Brightest and Best"**

Hail the bless'd morn, see the great Mediator  
Down from the regions of glory descend!  
Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger,  
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

Refrain

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.  
Star in the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,  
Low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall.  
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker, and Monarch, and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion,  
Odours of Edom and off'rings divine,  
Gems of the mountains and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

**Epiphany Prayer / Prayer of the Church (RESPONSIVE)** *We bring our prayers to God.*

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, at just the right time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

**C** **You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**

**P** Beloved Son of the Father, You were worshiped by the Magi and baptized by John, You came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

**C** **You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

**P** Prince of peace, shine like a beacon of light for us and for the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak Your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

**C** **Move us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of Your Gospel.**

**P** Lord of the Church, let Your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve You and each other in willing thankfulness and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember Your love and rejoice in Your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

**C** **Be gracious to all people, O Lord, and lead us to reflect Your mercy and love in everything we say and do.**

**P** Dear Heavenly Father, You are the Creator and Preserver of all things and You have deep love and mercy for all that You have created. As our hearts ache at the images and videos of the devastation that the wildfires in Los Angeles and Southern California have caused, we plead for Your mercy and Your grace on the people who have been affected by this disaster. We especially pray for those who have lost loved ones, and those who have lost homes and property. Be an ever-present comfort and strength to those who have suffered such great losses and turn their hearts to You, the One who can truly rebuild lives and truly heal for all eternity. As we are shocked and saddened by the loss of life and property that we hear and see reported, we also thank you for Your loving mercy that spared and rescued so many from danger and loss. Be with those who are fighting these fires. Be their protection. Give them strength, endurance, and courage in the midst of danger, and give them wisdom to fight the fires effectively. We pray that you would mercifully put out these fires and prevent and more from occurring. Graciously prevent any more loss of land or property or life, according to Your will.

**C** **O Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**P** Hear us now, O Lord, as we bring You our private prayers and petitions:

*(Silent prayer)*

**P** Finally, O Lord, bring us and all Your believers to our heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of Your glory and with all Your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph. In Your name, O Savior, we pray all these things, as we pray now the prayer that You taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

**G** **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.**

**Benediction** *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**G** A-men, a-men, a - men.

**Closing Hymn: 399 *The Star Proclaims...*** (please stand for last verse)

LSB 399

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## Announcements



**Welcome!** We welcome all our visitors this morning.  
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today:  
1/12/25

**Choir Practice – 8am**  
**Worship – 9am**  
**Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am**  
**Christmas “Un-decorating” (Activity Group #5) - 11am**

This Week:

Tuesday – **Worship at New Perspective (Franklin) – 11am**  
**Board of Elders – 6:30pm**

Wednesday – Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm (Zoom & In-Person)

Thursday – Church Council Meeting – 6pm

Church Cleaning: Church Cleaning: Team #10 (1/11-1/17); Team #1 (1/18-1/24)

Next Sunday: **Choir Practice – 8am**

1/19/25 **Worship – 9am**

**Children’s Christmas Eve Practice** (sanctuary) **& Bible Class – 10:15am**

**Sunday School Teachers Meeting – 11:15am** (Pastor’s Office)

**Shut-in/Recovery Care Packages Sign-up Sheet in Entryway** – Please see the sign up sheet in the church entryway if you’d like to provide items for the shut-in care packages. Please bring the items to the kitchen by next **Sunday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>**.

**Sunday Bible Class – Creation-themed Video & Discussion – Sun. 1/19-Sun. 2/2** – Beginning next Sunday (1/19) we’ll be watching and discussing the video “Is Genesis History?” for the next three Sunday Bible Class periods (until Sunday 2/2). Please join us!

**Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30pm** – Please make plans to join us either in-person or online via Zoom for our Wednesday Evening Bible Class. We will be studying selected Psalms. To join online please click on Pastor Luke’s Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>

**Pastoral “Get to Know Each Other” Visits / Pastor Luke’s Contact Info** – In this New Year I am continuing to make “face to face” visits with our members. These include a short devotion and some time to get to know each other. Wherever is most convenient and comfortable for you will work just fine for me (my office, your home, a coffee shop, etc.). Feel free to contact me via email, text, or phone call if you know of a day and time that will work for you. If I don’t hear from you, rest assured, I will be contacting you! I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know each other better soon! In Christ, Pastor Luke

#### **Pastor’s Contact Info**

Email: [LBerthal@messiahhc.org](mailto:LBerthal@messiahhc.org) † Cell: **402-389-2147** † Church Office: **414-427-9337**

**CLC Call News** - Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, SD and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD has **received** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN has **received** the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD.

**2025 CLC Mission Helper Trip – Application deadline is Mon. Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>** - The application deadline for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal is **TOMORROW**. Applications need to be submitted by **Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Space is limited for this trip, but there are still spots remaining, so please apply TODAY. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>

# CLC World Missions Prayer List – January 2025

...pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified... 2 Thessalonians 3:1



**Myanmar** (South Asia) – On December 28th, the military forcibly entered the CLC-Myanmar orphanage home, where the Kinship orphans live with Pastor Kham and his wife. They took one of the orphans, a fifteen-year-old boy, to be conscripted into the army. That day, more than 100 young boys were taken from the region. The military agreed to release any boy whose family could pay a hefty bribe. Money was quickly borrowed to pay the bribe, and the orphan was released before he could be sent away to an unknown location, potentially never to be seen again. The CLC

Board of Missions has approved a grant from Kinship to repay the loan, helping to alleviate further hardships for Pastor Kham and his family. The harsh military rule and civil war have been ongoing for nearly four years since the [military coup in February 2021](#). Our brothers and sisters of the CLC-M have suffered greatly and live in constant fear as much of the fiercest war has been fought in the region where they are located. Thank the Lord for the safe return of the boy and for providing the resources to assist our brothers and sisters during these difficult times. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers, asking for peace, justice, good government, and relief for all who are affected by this conflict.

**Bangladesh** (South Asia) – The CLC will sponsor a four-day pastoral training seminar in Gopalganj for the pastors and leaders of the Bangladesh Lutheran Church Mission (BLCM) in mid-January. Missionary Ohlmann and Pastor Monotosh will lead the studies. More than fifty pastors and church leaders are expected to attend. Plans for the BLCM building project have received government approval, and the necessary permits are ready to be issued. The contractor is prepared to begin construction as soon as funding becomes available. The Board of Missions has approved an MDF grant to support the construction of this multipurpose building, which will serve the BLCM as a Bible Institute for training faithful church workers, a place for worship, and housing for teachers and students. In mid-January, Missionary Ohlmann will spend two weeks in Bangladesh teaching at the seminar and visiting several congregations and preaching stations of the BLCM for outreach. Ask the Lord to bless the pastoral training seminar and Gospel outreach. Continue to pray for the building project and that the Lord would move the hearts of His people to give generously for this important work.

**The Philippines** (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Palangyos had several new opportunities to preach the Good News as part of the Lutheran Autonomous Mission in the Philippines (LAMP) December outreach program. The Christmas outreach was conducted both in rural and urban areas. Missionary Ohlmann will spend ten days in the Philippines working with Pastor Palangyos and the LAMP in late January and early February. Plans include visiting an independent Lutheran congregation with no pastor in a mountain village. Ask the Lord to strengthen the faith of His children of the LAMP and to fill them with zeal to spread the Gospel. And ask for our Savior to bless the outreach efforts of the LAMP so that many more may join us in repenting of our sins and rejoicing in our forgiveness in Jesus Christ.

**India** (South Asia) – Southern India, where the CLCI and BELC are located, has recently experienced historically heavy rainfall in late December, leading to significant flooding and damage to church buildings and homes of many members. The CLC has faced difficulties in

sending funds to India due to restrictions imposed by the pro-Hindu/anti-Christian government on charitable contributions from abroad. No funds can be sent until a solution is found. Pray that the Lord will protect, support, and strengthen the faith of His children in India during the challenges brought about by the recent floods, and ask Him to provide a way for the CLC to continue supporting the ongoing training of faithful pastors and church leaders.

**Tanzania** (East Africa) – Four students, Elinaja, Jasper, Raphael, and Marko, [graduated from the seminary](#) at the end of November. Four students will return to the seminary when the new school year begins on January 20th. The seminary also expects an additional 3 or 4 new students. A pastoral conference is scheduled for Jan. 13-15 in Arusha. Missionary Naumann and Paula are scheduled to return to Tanzania on January 9th. Praise God for the privilege of partnering with the TZCLC in training men to be faithful preachers and teachers of God's saving Word. Ask for God's continued blessing, guidance, and provision for Wittenberg Seminary and the work of the TZCLC. And ask the Lord to bless the upcoming pastoral conference.

**Nepal** (South Asia) – Missionary Ohlmann visited [Nepal in December](#). While in Nepal, he taught the fifteen Kinship supported students enrolled in the Himalayan Lutheran Bible Institute (HLBI). He and Raju also led studies at a regional pastoral conference organized by the HCLCN, with more than fifty pastors, students, and church leaders in attendance. Thank the Lord for blessing the visit and granting safe travels for Missionary Ohlmann to and from the mission field and for those who traveled many kilometers to attend the pastoral training. Thank the Lord for the fifteen men who have dedicated their time and lives to training for the Gospel ministry. Ask for the Lord's continued blessings of the Gospel outreach and ongoing ministry of the HCLC in Nepal.

**Pakistan** (South Asia) – Pastor G. and the believers in Faisalabad continue to participate in weekly online video classes with Pastor Daub and conduct weekly worship services on the roof of Pastor G's home. The congregation has grown and they need a larger space to meet. Praise and thank the Lord for the growth of this faithful and confessional Lutheran congregation. Ask the Lord to continue to bless these believers in Faisalabad as they grow in their faith and understanding of God's saving word.

**Liberia** (West Africa) – CLC Board of Missions Chairman Joel Krafft and Missionary Ohlmann had the privilege of [visiting Liberia](#) in mid-November. While their travels were delayed due to airline issues, delays, and missed connections, and they arrived a few days late, they were able to accomplish most of the goals for their visit. They attended and presented God's word at a four-day pastoral conference and had the opportunity to meet with several independent pastors who have been working with Pastor Joseph Kwiwalazu and Pastor John Hein over the past couple of years. Thank the Lord for safe travels and a productive visit to Liberia. Pray for God's blessings and provision for spreading the Gospel in Liberia and the developing opportunities among the independent pastors in Liberia and neighboring Guinea. Pray for the Lord's blessings on visitation preparations. Ask the Lord to bless the cancer treatments that John Hein is receiving so he can resume his work in Liberia.

**Nigeria** (West Africa) – The NCLC has recently met its fundraising goal for a building project they have been planning for more than twenty-five years. Their plans have received approval from the local government, and they began brick-making and foundation work in late October. They hope to complete the project by March. The CLC Board of Missions has approved an MDF grant to help with construction costs. The building will include two large classrooms, a study room, a library/computer room, and an office for faculty. With an increase in enrollment and expectations for even larger enrollment next year, this new building is essential. Ask the Lord to bless this project and to provide necessary funding through the offerings of NCLC members and MDF offerings of CLC members. Thank the Lord for the privilege of working together in this effort to train faithful workers in His Nigerian harvest of souls!

**Kenya** (East Africa) – The CLC Kinship-supported schools will soon begin a new school year. Pastor Jasper, who recently graduated from Wittenberg Seminary in Tanzania, will begin daily devotions, Bible study, and Catechism instruction with the students at the school in Moi's Bridge. The Kenya-CLC is currently facing leadership and organizational challenges at St. David's Kinship School in Etago. Please pray that the Lord grants the necessary wisdom, love, patience, diligence, and clear direction as we seek His blessings for the upcoming meetings, correspondence, and crucial decisions that the leaders of the KCLC, CLC Kinship Committee, and CLC Board of Missions need to make.

**Uganda** (East Africa) – Missionary Naumann and Pastor Andrew Schaller (representing the CLC Board of Doctrine), will visit Uganda in mid-February to conduct the face-to-face colloquy with the leaders of the Confessional Lutheran Synod of Uganda (CLSU). During their time in Uganda, they will also provide pastoral training at a conference held by the Confessional Church of the Reformation in Uganda (CCRU), with which the CLC is already in fellowship. Please pray for safe and smooth travels for Pastor Schaller and Missionary Naumann. Ask the Lord to bless the colloquy that it will reveal a unity of faith and teaching so that we may work together in a God-pleasing way. Pray also for God's blessings on the CCRU conference.

**Missionary Peter Evensen** (Togo, West Africa) – Missionary Evensen returned to Togo after several months in the U.S. following necessary knee surgery and other medical problems. He has resumed his missionary duties at Mt. Horeb Lutheran Seminary and in the local congregation in Lomé. Thank the Lord for His protection and healing during Missionary Evensen's health issues, and pray that the Lord will bless the doctors and the care he is currently receiving for inflammation in his left eye. Pray also for the evangelism work that the three students are doing as they finish their final months of study so that they may be able to establish congregations and preaching stations to serve.

**Missionary Bruce Naumann** (Tanzania-East Africa) – Missionary Naumann and Paula were blessed and thankful to spend a few weeks in December and early January visiting family on furlough in the U.S. They returned to Tanzania on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Following a TZCLC Pastoral Conference, classes at the seminary will begin on January 20<sup>th</sup>. In mid-February, Missionary Naumann and Paula will travel to Uganda. Pastor Andrew Schaller will meet them there to conduct a colloquy with the Confessional Lutheran Synod of Uganda. You can follow Missionary Naumann's blog at <https://clc-tz.blogspot.com/>. Praise the Lord for all that Missionary Naumann is accomplishing, thank the Lord for the faithful support of His servant Paula, and ask our Savior to grant wisdom, patience, love, and all that is necessary to continue our Savior's work in East Africa.

**Missionary Todd Ohlmann** – Missionary Ohlmann will depart on January 14<sup>th</sup> for a one-month visit with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Bangladesh and the Philippines. He also plans visits to Nigeria, DR Congo, and Zambia in the coming months. Ask the Lord to bless and provide for all the necessary preparations for these trips to take place. Please continue to pray for his wife, Beth, as she cares for her elderly father, who longs for his heavenly home. You can read reports and see pictures here: [missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com](http://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com)

**Ongoing Opportunities** – Please continue to pray for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, who, by God's grace, are dedicated to proclaiming the truths of God's saving Word for the salvation of souls as they trust the promise of our Savior that His Word will not return to Him void but will accomplish that for which He sends it.



## Bible Readings:

1/12	Gen. 10; Psalm 12; Matt. 7:1-23
1/13	Gen. 11:1-9; Psalm 13; Matt. 7:24-8:13
1/14	Gen. 11:10-32; Psalm 14; Matt. 8:14-34
1/15	Gen. 12; Psalm 15; Matt. 9: 1-13
1/ 16	Gen. 13; Psalm 16; Matt. 9:14-31
1/17	Gen. 14; Psalm 17; Matt. 9:32-10:4
1/18	Gen. 15; Psalm 18:1-30; Matt. 5-25



SCAN FOR  
ONLINE  
OFFERING

## January Ushers

Erik Nelson  
Tony Blue  
Chris Blue

K/M Winters  
A/L Hart  
P/E Tiefel  
E. Gurgel  
M/T Mueller

### January Slideshow

Kenny Winters

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings:	\$7,989.50	\$205,738.53
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,571.29	\$231,424.83
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$581.79)	(\$25,686.30)
Missions:	\$100.00	\$1,605.00
MDF:	\$50.00	\$710.00
Kinship:	\$30.00	\$2,501.96

**Attendance Last Sun. (1/5): 106**

**New Year's Eve (12/31): 77**

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