

This Week at VIC

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Today 1/23	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	12:00 noon	Fellowship Lunch
Tuesday, 1/25	9:00 a.m.	Matins Service
	9:30 a.m. – noon	Circuit Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Sunday, 1/30	10:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	12:00 noon	Fellowship Lunch
	12:45 p.m.	Voters' Meeting

Weekly Stewardship Focus

1 Corinthians 12:16 – "And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body." The Lord has called each of us individually and given each of us unique gifts. He has made our whole lives holy in our Baptism and has called us to a life together in the Church, His body. You are a part of that body, and that body needs you and the gifts the Lord has given you. This is your holy calling from the Lord.

Life Thought in the Church Year for January 23 – Epiphany III –

Did Nehemiah's people weep for gladness or grief at the Word of the Lord (8:9)? Were they ashamed or excited to hear how He values even the seemingly weakest among us (1 Corinthians 12:22)? Did they resist or insist on acclaiming and proclaiming His favor unto people of whatever abilities or impairments (Luke 4:18-19)? Will we let these gracious words of good news fall silent before the altars of abortion and assisted suicide?

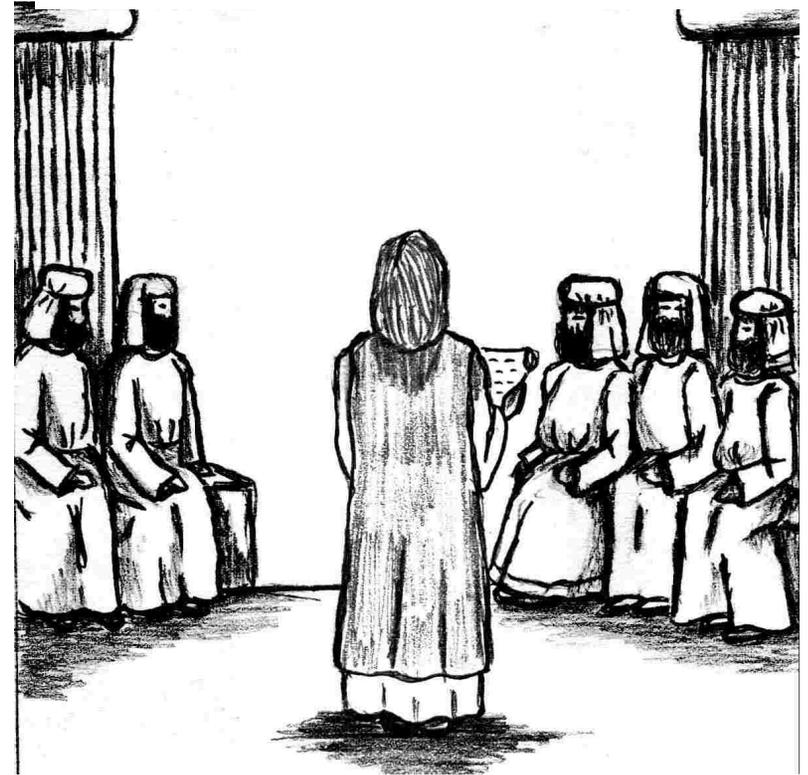
Life Quote in the Church Year for January 23 "The Lord called all things into being, from the greatest to the least, with His mighty mere Word. But He formed the human bodies with His own fingers and His very breath. He lovingly, intimately, and meticulously knits us together in our mothers' wombs." Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

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Victory in Christ Lutheran Church

Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.



Third Sunday after the Epiphany
January 23, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Victory in Christ Lutheran Church
508 Main Street
Newark, Texas 76071
817-489-5400

Pastor Philip Schielke

Pastor's Email: pastor@viclutheranchurch.org

Church Website: www.viclutheranchurch.org

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WELCOME! We thank God for you and pray that He will richly bless our worship together.

Communion: We welcome all of our guests worshiping with us today and pray your faith is strengthened. God's Word declares to us that the bread and wine we receive in the Lord's Supper is the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ given for the forgiveness of sins and nourishing of faith (Matt. 26: 26-28; Mark 14: 22-24; Luke 22: 19-21; 1 Cor. 11: 23-26). When receiving His true body and blood, all communicants are to be united in their understanding and confession of Jesus Christ and all of His teaching (Jon. 17: 22; 1 Cor. 1: 10). An unworthy reception of this gift results in one who "eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Cor. 11: 29). Therefore, if you are still learning Lutheran doctrine or are not part of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, we invite you forward for a blessing and encourage you to speak with the pastor *before* the service in order to learn more about our teaching on the Lord's Supper.

Hymn of Invocation: #523 – O Word of God Incarnate

Divine Service Setting Three: pg. 184

Introit

Psalm 102:18-22; antiphon: Psalm 102:13 (ESV)

¹³ You will arise and have pity on / Zion;

it is the time to favor her; the appointed / time has come.

¹⁸ **Let this be recorded for a genera- / tion to come,
so that a people yet to be created may / praise the LORD:**

¹⁹ that he looked down from his / holy height;
from heaven the LORD looked / at the earth,

²⁰ **to hear the groans of the / prisoners,
to set free those who were / doomed to die,**

²¹ that they may declare in Zion the name / of the LORD,
and in Jerusa- / lem his praise,

²² **when peoples gather to- / gether,
and kingdoms, to wor- / ship the LORD.**

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit;
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

¹³ You will arise and have pity on / Zion;

it is the time to favor her; the appointed / time has come.

Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (English Standard Version)

Ezra Reads the Law

¹ And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶ And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸ They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

This Day Is Holy

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (English Standard Version)

One Body with Many Members

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear

should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:16-30 (English Standard Version)

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

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

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious

words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." ²⁴ And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵ But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶ and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷ And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away.

Sermon Hymn: #839 – O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Sermon:

Communion Hymn: #623 – Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

Closing Hymn: #577 – Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION:

- The contribution statements (tax receipts) for 2021 are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please check your report carefully and report discrepancies to Cheryl Foltz. All corrections must be received no later than 1/31/22 to allow Cheryl to complete year-end procedures. Once this process has been completed, no changes may be made to the records. *If you have any other questions, please contact Cheryl.*
- *All donations received for flowers, Easter lilies, and poinsettias* are included on your tax receipts. However, if you kept the flowers, you should not claim these proceeds as a tax deduction. If you did not keep the flowers, the tax deduction is legitimate.
- All donations received for designated funds will be used towards the original intent of the donor. Any monies remaining after the fulfillment of the original intent will be re-designated to the General Fund at the end of the calendar year and used at the discretion of Victory in Christ Lutheran Church.

Announcements

Flower Sign-up Sheet – There is a Flower sign-up sheet near the bulletin board in the hallway. If you would like to donate flowers for a special occasion or for a specific Sunday, please sign-up on the bulletin board. If you donate flowers, please place them on the flower pedestals in the altar area. If you wish flowers to be purchased for a specific Sunday, let Donna Schober know so she can get the flowers and place a check for \$40 in the offering earmarked Flowers.

Offering Envelopes - The contribution envelopes for 2022 are available for pickup in the fellowship hall. Assigned envelope numbers change each year, so please do not use the old 2021 envelopes.

Voters' Meeting – There will be a voters' meeting on Sunday, January 30, following the noon meal.

Altar Guild Sign-up – Please sign-up to serve on the Altar Guild for the 2022 year. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

General Fund Income –

Weekly Budgeted Income	\$ 3,164.16
Actual Income Received Last Week	\$ 2,032.00
Year to Date Budgeted Income	\$ 79,104.00
Year to Date Actual Income	\$ 78,818.44

The Readings for today –

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

Luke 4:16–30

The Lord Is Manifested as Our Savior through the Preaching of the Gospel

When Jesus opens His mouth to preach, gracious words flow from His lips. The Scriptures are, indeed, fulfilled in your hearing (Luke 4:21–22). For Christ was anointed by the Spirit of the Lord *"to proclaim good news to the poor," "to proclaim liberty to the captives"* and *"to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor"* (Luke 4:18–19). By this proclamation, Christ releases His people from captivity and gathers them to Himself in His Church. So it was when the Lord released His people from Babylon and returned them to Jerusalem. *"Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people,"* sanctified the whole congregation by the reading and preaching of the Law (Neh. 8:8–9). As the people then were urged to *"eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready"* (Neh. 8:10), so are you anointed by the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ to share in His feast and to serve the fellow members of His Body with His good gifts, *"giving greater honor to the part that lacked it"* (1 Cor. 12:12, 24).

A Look Ahead to Next Sunday –

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4–10 (17–19)

1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:13

Luke 4:31–44

Jesus Has Authority to Forgive Your Sins and Give You Life

Jesus was sent to *"preach the good news of the kingdom of God"* (Luke 4:43). His preaching is an epiphany, or manifestation, of God because His Word reveals the authority of His cross and resurrection, by which He has atoned for the sins of the world. By the preaching of His Gospel in every place, He silences the unclean spirits and casts out demons, heals the diseases of body and soul, and restores life and health to His creation (Luke 4:40–41). For the sake of His divine love, He is *"patient and kind"* toward us; He *"bears all things," "endures all things"* and delivers up His body to save us (1 Cor. 13:3–4, 7). So also for the sake of His love, He calls and sends His prophets, as ministers of His Word, *"to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant"* (Jer. 1:10).