



Dennis J. Valleau, Pastor Kurt Maciejczak, Principal, Gr. 6-8
Miss Molly Ring, Gr. 3-5 Mrs. Rachel Kanter, Gr. 1-2
Miss Rachel Kitzberger, Gr. K Miss Melissa Poppy, Gr. PK

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Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 14 & 15, 2009

WELCOME! If you're a friend, who's been here before, welcome back. If you're a first time guest, welcome! If we can serve you in any way, please let us know.

God bless your worship!

Worship Theme: *Jesus shows himself as the Son of God, the Savior, through His miracles and by His compassion.*

♪ Opening Hymn: **390**

Liturgy: Service of the Word, **p. 38**

Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-14 (*Elisha the prophet heals Naaman's leprosy. Naaman is an Aramean, an enemy of Israel. Through a young Israelite girl, the Lord leads Naaman to the doorstep of Elisha and through Elisha to the Lord*)

1 Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

2 Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

4 Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. 5 "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. 6 The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

7 As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

8 When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him

this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." 9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

11 But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" 14 So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 32, **p. 78** (*This great penitential song comes directly out of David's life experience. He provides us with powerful images of both sin and forgiveness.*)

Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (*Paul spells out a clear, concise motto for his and every believer's life: "Run in such a way as to get the prize."*)

24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26 Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. 27 No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. (NIV)

Reading: Mark 1: 40-45 (*Moved by compassion, Jesus touches and heals a leper. Although warned not to, the healed man spreads the news about Jesus. The upsurge in Jesus' popularity prevented Him from going into the towns of Galilee.*)

40 A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean."

41 Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" 42 Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.

43 Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: 44 "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." 45 Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere. (NIV)

Special Music: Sunday "As A Little Child"

♪ Sermon Hymn: 754 (Christian Worship Supplement) **(printed for you)**
Sermon: 2 Kings 5:1-14 **"God comes to us in simple ways"**
Apostles' Creed **p.41**

Offering *(Please sign our Friendship Register)*
Visitors: *Please take an envelope from the left pocket of the Friendship Register. It includes a survey which we hope you will take home, complete, and mail back to us. Your response will be shared with the consultants currently working with our congregation. A sample copy of the visitor survey is posted at the Church Information Center.*

Prayer:
P: O Lord God, Heavenly Father, in You we put our trust. From the day of our birth to the present, Your goodness and love has never failed us.

C: Therefore we come into Your presence with great confidence, believing You will hear and answer our prayers.

P: You have shown us love beyond measure by sending Your own son, Jesus, to suffer and die for us.

C: May the unselfish love of Jesus be a constant reminder to us of your great love for us, and an example of love for us to follow in our own lives.

P: But Jesus' death was not the end of the story. Today we have been reminded of how the work Jesus has accomplished has become ours through the simple Gospel message.

C: May we put our trust on all Christ has done for us, believing the simple message of the Gospel with open and childlike hearts.

P: May the victory Christ has won give us strength and guidance to for our faith and our daily lives.

C: Fill us with confidence in Jesus, our victorious Savior. (Special prayers)

P: We come to You now with our private petitions: (Silent prayer)

P: Guide us and keep us always in Your love as we join in praying,

ALL: (Lord's Prayer)

♪ Hymn: 358 vs. 1-4,
Closing Prayer and Benediction **p. 43**
♪ Hymn: 358 vs. 5-7

IN SERVICE TODAY: Pastor Dennis J. Valleau; **At the Organ:** Joyce Zillgitt; **Flower Committee** for February is Bonnie Dwelle and Cheryl Glander; **Greeters:** 8:15: Nate & Lisa Schulz; 10:45: Marvin & Roberta Wempner, Paul Johnson; **Ushers:** Saturday: Bryce Hinck, Ben Hinck, Steve Weinrich, Bob Hinck; 8:15: Jim Meincke, Morris Meincke, Craig Carlson, Ryan Marking; 10:45: Delmar Holst, Jim Dose, Steve Bremer, John Kackmann; **Video:** Chris Beckmann, Marv Howatt, Roger Tomfohrde

JUBILEE INFORMATION Offering envelopes remain available at the Church Information Center. (Be sure to include your offering envelope number.) You may send it in directly to the Wisconsin Synod if you prefer. Those who would like to give offerings throughout the coming months can request multiple envelopes through our church office.

CHURCH MINISTRY WORKSHOP will be held in Belle Plaine on Saturday, March 7. Information is available at the Church Information Center. Note that car-pooling will be available!

PLEASE HELP! Each member of St. John's is receiving a survey in the mail to be filled out and returned to the church. Your responses are vitally important to us. PLEASE set aside time to read, consider, and respond to this survey. Your Parish Assistance Committee thanks you for your response!

ADULT BIBLE CLASS this morning will focus on the new Christian Worship Supplement. Be with us as Bob Wolff guides us through some of the hymns and worship resources in this new supplement. Next week we will return to our study of "Heirs Together of God's Gracious Gift of Life" – our study of the shared and unique calling God has given to men and women. Welcome!

AUTISM SEMINAR is being presented by Jesus Cares Ministries on March 28 in Madison, Wisconsin. More information is available at the Church Information Center.

CAMP WHITEWATER forms are at the Church Information Center. Forms are there both for campers and for counselors. Sign up soon! Space is limited!

LAST SUNDAY OFFERING will be held after each service next weekend. This offering is designated for our own congregation's Contingency Fund. This fund has been largely depleted due to moving expenses for called workers and other unbudgeted expenses. Your gifts for our Contingency Fund will go a long way toward helping the congregation meet its unexpected needs.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Miss Katie Koch whom we have called to be our Learning Center director and Pre-School teacher. May God guide her as she considers whether to accept our call or continue to serve her current call at Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

WELCOME goes out to **Miss Elisabeth Zuehlke** from Martin Luther College who is serving in our school as a student teacher for the coming weeks. She is teaching in Miss Ring's classroom.

FINANCIAL DETAILS - To clarify the discussion at the voter's meeting of January 20, 2009, we offer the following information: Gifts given for church window repairs are \$2,666.50 and are being held in the Church Trust Fund. Gifts given for under balcony lighting are \$2,895.15 and are being held in the General Memorial Fund. The insurance settlement for hail damage to the church and parsonage is \$33,541.60 and is being held in the Church Trust Fund. A gift for the kitchen fund of \$1,000 is being held in the Church Trust Fund. If you have questions, please contact Greg Langfield, treasurer.

TEENS - We're still looking for volunteers to assist with the Ash Wednesday Supper.

Contact Marilyn Tomfohrde if you can serve.

BIRTHDAYS this week - Orlan Glander, Marcella Haglund, Donna Mickelson, LaDora Bremer, Alexas Brunkow, Anna May Duden, Tiffanie Hoops-Blakstad, Dean Klein, Joan Kohrs, Joann Cox, Amberrae Gadiant, Mary Jo Kehren, Richard McQuiston, Alan Peters, Fay Anding, Bob Dose, Brent Doty, Bob Hoops, Connor Schulz, Connie Sturgis

BIRTHDAYS last week - Brian Handshaw, Don Palmer, Emily Ziebell, Joyce Heimer, Linka Kennedy, Sylvia Kriett, Lois Holter, Shari Witt, Phyllis Hinck, Larry Watson, Debbie Dammann, Duane Sprick, Dianne Wolff, Margaret Froyd, Marjorie Mickelson, Nathan Sanford, Delores Springer

Opportunities for Learning, Service, and Fellowship

February 15-22, 2009

Monday - NO SCHOOL ♣5:00 PM *Jesus Cares* service ♣7:00 PM School Board

Tuesday - ♣7:00 PM Bible Information Class

Wednesday - ♣8:30 AM Chapel Service ♣3:30 PM Confirmation Class ♣7:00 PM Choir

Thursday - ♣9:30 AM Women's Bible Study ♣6:30 PM Basketball @ Cannon Falls

Saturday - ♣5:30 PM Communion Worship Service

Sunday - ♣8:15 & 10:45 AM Communion Worship Services ♣9:20 AM Sunday School

♣9:30 AM Teen Bible Class ♣9:30 AM Adult Bible Class

TIRED OF LOOKING FOR AN OFFERING ENVELOPE EACH WEEK? Perhaps this is the time to consider the "Simply Giving" program of Thrivent. Thrivent will cover all costs to have your regular church offerings (weekly, monthly, etc.) directly deposited in the church account from your savings or checking account. Members who make use of this service find it convenient and helpful. Forms are at the Church Information Center.

THRIVENT MEMBERS - Remember, you can maximize your contribution to St. John's by making a gift directly to our school which will be partly matched by Thrivent. Both your gift and the matching gift will be used for budgeted school expenses. You must follow the guidelines and fill out the proper forms. Forms are available at the Church Information Center.

WE RESPOND TO JESUS' LOVE

Attendance Last Weekend: Saturday: 87 Sunday: 8:15, 138 — 10:45, 94