

First English Lutheran Church

1311 East 18th Street

Spencer, Iowa 51301

8:00 am Communion Service

Paul E. Kaldahl, Pastor

Epiphany VI

Bonnie Kabrick, DCE

February 16, 2020

Kristin Kaldahl, Organist

Phone: 262-5598

Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

Hymn – LSB # 537 “Beautiful Savior”

Welcome

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God’s Holy Word says that Jesus said to His disciples, “if anyone wants to come with Me, he must forget himself, carry his cross and follow Me.”

C: Jesus, we want to follow You. Teach us to turn our backs on our own desires and wants.

P: Jesus said, “Let him forget himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.”

C: Jesus, give us the mind and heart and will to follow You faithfully.

(A time of silence for private confession)

The Confession of Sins and Absolution

P: Lord, Jesus Christ,

ALL: I confess to You, that there are many times that I do not like the choices You put before me. Forgetting self, carrying a cross, and following You are not always appealing to me. I have too often chosen a lifestyle that does not bear witness to You or bring glory to Your name. Because of my sinful nature, I have been an obstacle in Your way. Because of Your death and resurrection on my behalf, I ask that You forgive me and everything that I have thought, said, and done that prevented me from truly following after You, and which made me a stumbling block to others.

Pardon and Forgiveness

P: As a called and ordained servant of God’s Word and by His command and standing in His place, I forgive you all your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalms 119:1-8

P: Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!

C: Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

P: You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

C: Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

P: Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

C: I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules.

P: I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!

Old Testament – Deuteronomy 30:15-20 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you, life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle – 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(please rise)

Holy Gospel – Matthew 5:20-37 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into

hell. ³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn – LSB #685 “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

- I believe in God the Father, the maker of all things and all people.
 - I believe that He has created me and all that I have and has given me gifts beyond measure and price.
 - I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the only Savior of the world. I believe that He died on a cross for my sin, conquered eternal death and the power of evil, and was raised to life on the third day. His life is mine, His resurrection is mine. New life is mine because of the words and works of Jesus.
 - I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the Comforter and Counselor from God. I believe that the Holy Spirit is present here among us and lives within each person of the Christian faith. The Holy Spirit creates faith in my heart, calls me to the Gospel, and guides me to obey in holy words and deeds. He creates and builds the church of Christ on earth.
 - I believe that I have the forgiveness of sins, the power to stand in strength against all adversity in this life, and the promise of an everlasting life to come. Because I do, I will listen to the call of my Lord and Savior to take up His Cross and follow after Him.
- This I truly believe. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Hymn – LSB #956 “Create In Me”

Prayer

Lord’s Prayer (See inside back cover of hymnal)

LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The cup of blessing, which we bless, is it not the Communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the Communion of the body of Christ?

C: For we being many, are one bread and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread.

P: When we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we share in the suffering and death of Christ. In our participation we proclaim His victory over sin, death, and the grave until He comes again in glory!

C: Reveal Yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of this bread and taking of the wine, for this is where scripture tells us we can find You. Your body and blood is located here for the forgiveness of our sin.

The Consecration

(sung to the tune “Just As I Am” – LSB #570)

C: The night Lord Jesus was betrayed,
He took the bread, and when He’d prayed,
He broke and gave them of the bread
And unto His disciples said:

(Pastor says the Words of Institution for the bread)

C: Then when the sacred meal was o’er;
Our blessed Savior spoke once more.
He offered thanks and lifted up,
To give to all, the blessed cup.

(Pastor says the Words of Institution for the wine)

Agnus Dei: (Lamb of God) tune: “Just As I Am”

C: O Lamb of God, You take away,
The sin of all; now hear us pray,
And grant us from our sin release:
Have mercy on us! Grant us peace!

Distribution of Holy Communion Hymns

LSB #822 “Alleluia! Let Praises Ring”

LSB #525 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

AGPS #168 “Lord of All Nations”

AGPS #237 “They’ll Know We are Christians”

Thanksgiving: tune: “Just As I Am”

C: Oh, thank the Lord, Whose goodness sure
And steadfast love fore’er endure!
Our eyes have seen, Our ears have heard,
And we have tasted of His Word.

The Benediction

P: Go out now, into the world in which you live and work, determined to carry out and glory in the cross of Jesus Christ. As you go in the knowledge that you do the will of the One Who sends you; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, will sustain you and bless you, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn – LSB # 725 “Children of the Heavenly Father”

Announcements and Postlude

† † † **HOLY COMMUNION** † † †

We ask our visitors to note that our Lutheran understanding of Holy Communion is different than that of most other churches. We have always believed that Christ’s body and blood are present, in a very real way, in, with, and under the bread and wine (“*This is my body . . . This is my blood.*” Matt. 26:26,28). We also believe that this eating and drinking of Christ’s body and blood forgives our sins and strengthens our faith.

By communing together, we become united, not only in saving faith, but also in belief regarding the scriptural teachings of the Lord's Supper. Expressions of unity we feel should be honest. We love and respect other Christians who believe differently, and welcome all to worship with us. ***Because of our understanding of communion fellowship, we invite only members of First English Lutheran Church and those who are members of the Lutheran Church Missouri synod (LCMS) to commune here.***

If you are a member of the LCMS, please follow the four steps of preparation for Holy Communion, which are printed out on the white cards found in the rack on the pew in front of you. When you attend Holy Communion, please register by filling out one of the white cards and pass them to the inner aisle during the offering so that the ushers can collect it.

For those who prefer, the cup in the center of the communion tray is grape juice with a drop of wine. If you do not feel secure taking the individual cup from the tray, please hold out your hand to indicate your concern and the cup will be handed to you. Small children are invited to accompany their parents if they desire to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

† † **VISITORS AND MEMBERS** † †

Sometime during the service we ask that everyone fill out one of the cards found in the pew racks so that we might have a record of your worship with us today. For our visitors we ask that you please sign our Guest Register on the table next to the front door as you leave. We are pleased to have you join us this morning as we praise our great God and encourage you to visit us again when possible.

Epiphany VI
February 16, 2020
8:00 a.m. Communion Service

For I tell you,
unless your
righteousness
exceeds that of
the scribes and
Pharisees, you will
never enter the
kingdom of
heaven.

Matthew 5:20

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Spencer, Iowa

www.spencer-church.com

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