

February 7, 2010

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Invocation

Hymn 528 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Confession of Sin and Claim for Forgiveness

My Father in heaven, I know that You love me. From the day of eternity You foreknew me in love. You have paid the price of my cleansing and my adoption by giving Jesus to be my Substitute in the pains of hell. You have clothed me with His righteousness and have called me by His Name. I know that I am Your child in Jesus. Dear Father, I come before You to confess that I have sinned against You this last week. Sometimes when I was tempted to sin, by the powers of Your Holy Spirit and my new nature I was able to say victoriously, "No, I will not sin." But sometimes I did sin. Sometimes the old Adam within me arose and I committed sins of word and deed, and so often I did sin in the quiet recesses of my mind. And, You, my Father, know these sins very well. My Father, I come to You and confess my sins without excuse. And I come confidently because I know that You have and You will totally forgive me because of Your grace in Jesus. But I still want to confess, I need to confess, in order to get this off my conscience. And I need to hear Your words of forgiveness once again.

Pronouncement of Forgiveness

Prayer

Songs of Adoration & Praise

Unison Reading – Psalm 42

*As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, O God.*

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When can I go and meet with God?

*My tears have been my food
day and night,*

while men say to me all day long,

"Where is your God?"

*These things I remember
as I pour out my soul:*

*how I used to go with the multitude,
leading the procession to the house of God,
with shouts of joy and thanksgiving
among the festive throng.*

Why are you downcast, O my soul?

Why so disturbed within me?

*Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.*

*My soul is downcast within me;
therefore I will remember you*

*from the land of the Jordan,
the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.*

*Deep calls to deep
in the roar of your waterfalls;
all your waves and breakers
have swept over me.*

*By day the LORD directs his love,
at night his song is with me—
a prayer to the God of my life.*

*I say to God my Rock,
"Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I go about mourning,
oppressed by the enemy?"
My bones suffer mortal agony
as my foes taunt me,
saying to me all day long,
"Where is your God?"
Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.*

Old Testament Reading – Daniel 4:28-37

(page 878, large print page 1378)

Epistle Reading – 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

(page 1149, large print page 1806)

Gospel Reading – Luke 17:11-19

(page 1037, large print page 1627)

The Nicene Creed

(on the last page of our hymnal)

Children's Church

The Sermon

The Sermon Prayer

Explanation of the Lord's Supper

The Words of Institution

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer Requests

Offering Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Hymn 763 "When Peace, like a River"

In His Service

Time of Prayer – Elders

Greeters – Andrew & Kelly VanHoveln, Olivia and Elizabeth

Communion Setup – Mike & Mary Petit

Scripture Reader – Andrew VanHoveln

Sound Tech – Tom Hanson

Children's Church – Nancy King

Fellowship – Mike & Judy Adams

This Week at Beautiful Savior

Today 8:30am Time of Prayer

9:00am Communion Service

10:20am Fellowship

10:30am SS, JHBC, HSBS, ABS

Monday 7:00pm Rejoice Practice

Tuesday 7:00pm Adult Information Class

Wednesday No Youth Confirmation Class

Thursday 8:30am Women's Bible Study

Friday PADS
(at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Lindenhurst)

Saturday 8:00am Iron Sharpens Iron
(at McDonald's in Antioch)

Sunday 8:30am Time of Prayer
9:00am Worship Service
10:20am Fellowship
10:20am Vine & Branches Pictures
10:30am SS, JHBC, HSBS, ABS
10:30am Board of Trustees

Announcements

Visitors We rejoice that you are worshiping our Lord with us today. You are invited to join us in Fellowship after the Worship Service. Please sign our Guest Register and come and worship our Lord with us again.

Special Prayer Requests

Our nation and our world, that unborn human babies might enjoy the protection of law.

Karolina Sehmer and the baby in her womb which is due in early March.

Annie, Bill, Carol, Craig, Dale, Dorothy, Mark, Molly, Richard, Terry, Tricia, and Elesh & his family, for their conversion to Jesus.

Our congregational sharing of the Gospel, that we share the treasure we have.

Our Vacation Bible School this summer (July 19 – July 23).

The persecuted Church worldwide.

Taylor Granitz (Doyle), who is suffering from cysts in her brain.

Jeanette Arft, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Barb Graf, who is battling cancer.

Evie Boilini, who has continual pain in her back.

Drew (15 years old, known by the Zenners), who has acute leukemia.

Sue Smith, who is suffering from various physical afflictions.

Kaylee Price, who is recovering from surgery.

Marie Keuss, who has serious health complications.

Leslie Hinrichs, who has lost vision in one eye.

Bruce (brother-in-law of Mike & Judy Adams), who is battling cancer.

Karl Krass (known by Gary Hadad), who has two brain tumors.

Joey (infant great-grandson of Len & Helen Case), diagnosed with cerebral palsy.

George (father of George Rowe), who is recovering from a broken hip.

Judy Wiegel, who is recovering from complications due to a fall.

Yanai Adaky (son-in-law of Helen Case), who needs a heart transplant.

Jeanne (known by Holly Adams), a young mother who is battling brain cancer.

Jill Duin (known by Mike & Judy Adams), who has advanced cancer.

Jack (uncle of Wayne King), who is undergoing chemotherapy and radiation.
(Please also pray specifically for Jack's wife, Marlene.)
Ruth (known by Mike & Judy Adams), who is battling cancer.
Betty Ray, who continues to experience deteriorating vision.
Ed (uncle of Harold Lucas), who has severe heart problems.
Dale Worswick (nephew of Len Case), who is ill and needs a lung transplant.
Jim Schultz, who is battling cancer.
LaVerne Pullman, who might be undergoing hip replacement surgery.
Wayne (relative of Betty Ruff), who is recovering from a stroke.
Billy Lyrberg (relative of Dennis Odelius), who is very ill.
Pam (wife of Alan Butterworth), who is serving in Afghanistan.
Nick (nephew of Abbey Kadera), who is serving in Iraq.
Naul (friend of Abbey Kadera), who is serving in Iraq.
Patrick Swanson (known by the Kings), who is serving in Iraq.
Michael, who is serving in the Middle East.
Peter, who is serving in the Middle East.
Several individuals who are struggling with alcohol and nicotine addictions.
Brian Keuss (son of Glenn & Marie), whose funding at Bethesda is endangered.
That God will lead us to the best decisions about the lower level of our church.
Vilma Gebeck, who is in the Philippines.
That Joe & Vilma Gebeck might sell their house in the Philippines.
Greg & Shannon (daughter of Dennis & Lynne Holmes), as they seek to sell their house.
A family in our congregation which has a very difficult neighbor.

Prayer Requests re Work

Scott Hanson, looking for work as a systems analyst or additional part-time work.
Kyle Gebeck, who is looking for work in business administration.
Nathan Sehmer, who is looking for work.
Karla Lauer, who is looking for work.
Bill Wittkamp, who is looking for carpenter work.
Jesse Hayhurst, who is looking for work.
Diana Glanert (sister of Pastor Gruen), who is looking for work in Milwaukee.
Several individuals who are looking for work or whose jobs are in danger.
The business owned by Bill & Rose Murry.
The construction business owned by Doug & Julie Graf and Scott & Deana Case.
The construction business owned by Mark (foster son of Tom Purnell) & Janet Steele.

Birthdays

8 – Jamie Doyle
9 – Marie Keuss, Sharon Wick
10 – Josh Moore
12 – Melissa Rau
13 – Kory Lauer

Elsie Stauner Memorial It is the will of Elsie's family that any memorials given in her name be applied to the seminary tuition of Brett Hinrichs when he enters the LCMS seminary this fall to prepare for the pastoral ministry. Please make out any checks to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church which will hold the memorial money until this fall.

Mural Committee The Mural Committee is ready to take your picture for the Vine & Branches starting next Sunday, February 14, immediately after church. After considering many locations,

and practicing taking each other's photos, we are ready. It was determined that the best place will be in front of the mural. (We are sorry that this will cramp our coffee and fellowship space for a few weeks.) We ask that your family wear the same color, or a similar color for the photo, and also, solids work best, so please no patterns. The photos are completely voluntary. If Sundays do not work for your family, please let Bev Walczak or Bonnie Ruttenberg know, so we can schedule a time that will work best for you. Thank you for cooperation and help.

Volunteers Needed We need volunteers to clean the church sanctuary in the first months of 2010. We have decided to do that work ourselves rather than hiring someone to do it. That has really saved on our church budget. The sign up sheet is in the narthex on the window shelf next to the church office. It takes about 1 to 1½ hours each week. For more information, please contact Dale & Betty Ruff at 847-838-1308.

Aid for Haiti Thrivent Financial is matching dollars sent to help Haiti \$.50 on the \$1.00. If BSLC collects all the donations for Haiti, and sends them through Thrivent we can take advantage of this offer. The money will be sent to the same charity that individuals might choose, LCMS World Relief. Individuals can also give through Thrivent's website to receive the matching funds, Thrivent.com/helpinghaiti. Thrivent's offer is effective through March 31, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact Bev Walczak.

Christian Youth Theater Presentation The members of Christian Youth Theater will be performing the play Jungle Book at various times from February 11 to February 14 at the James Lumber Center of College of Lake County. All three Rau children will be involved in some capacity. If you would like more information, please call Lynnae Rau at 224-643-7818.

Vacation Bible School The dates for Vacation Bible School this summer have been set. Our VBS will be conducted from Monday July 19 to Friday July 23. The times will be from 9am to noon. There will be a closing ceremony on Friday evening at 7pm. Pastor Gruen will be coordinating the VBS if no one else comes forward. Tabra Gonski will be leading the music and skits. More information will be coming. Please mark your calendars now. Please begin praying for God's direction on families whom you can invite.

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The Sermon Texts

John 9

¹As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some claimed that he was.

Others said, "No, he only looks like him."

But he himself insisted, "I am the man."

¹⁰"How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded.

¹¹He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

¹²"Where is this man?" they asked him.

"I don't know," he said.

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?" So they were divided.

¹⁷Finally they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. ¹⁹"Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?"

²⁰"We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. ²¹But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. ²³That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God," they said. "We know this man is a sinner."

²⁵He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

²⁶Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

²⁷He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?"

²⁸Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! ²⁹We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from."

³⁰The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. ³²Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

³⁴To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁶"Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

³⁷Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

³⁸Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

³⁹Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

⁴⁰Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"

⁴¹Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

⁷To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

The Sermon Theme

So that the Work of God Might be Displayed in His Life