

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

God Delivers More than We Ask, Not Less

January 19, 2025





4651 Kernan Blvd S, Jacksonville, FL 32224 (904) 642-8900

8:00am Worship

9:15am Bible Class and

Sunday School

10:30am Worship with

Livestream

victorylutheran.org



Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube!



Victory is affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Welcome to Victory!

- Thank you for choosing to worship the Triune God with us! May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as we join together in worship.
- We prepare for worship by quietly meditating on the theme for the day and respectfully listening to the music chosen and prepared by our musicians.
- If you are looking for a church home, we would be thrilled to serve your spiritual needs. Our name comes from 1 Corinthians 15:57: "Thanks be to God! He gives us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ!"
- Our mission as a Christian congregation is to: "Win souls for Christ and coach Christians for life."
- Please sign the Connection Card inside the worship folder to give us a record of your visit, and so we can properly thank you for joining us!
- Restrooms are located in the hallway to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Changing tables are available in both the women's and men's restrooms.
- A Quiet Room for children who need a quiet moment with a caretaker is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

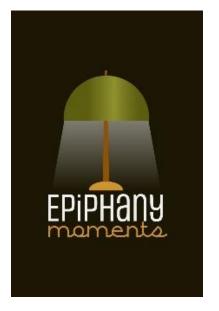
Today's Worship: God Delivers More than We Ask, Not Less

It is easy for us to assume that if God says "no" to a request, we are getting less than we wanted. We need to have an epiphany moment, seeing the reality—that God always wants more for us than we want from him. Saying "yes" to all our requests would often result in us receiving less joy, less blessing, a lesser life. So, when God says "no" to our request, we can be assured it is because he wants to give us more. Far more than existing as a "help desk" or 911 dispatch, God's love for us is like that of a groom for his bride. His love for us exceeds all expectation and understanding. In that love, God always delivers more than we ask, not less.

Current Sermon Series: Epiphany Moments

"Epiphany" comes from a Greek word that means "reveal." When someone has an epiphany, it's not that reality changed. The way they see that reality is what changed, for a deeper truth has been revealed. An epiphany is an "a-ha!" moment causing us to look at things very differently.

In the Church Year, Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. In this season we will come to understand that when we have Jesus in our lives, it does not always mean our reality drastically changes. It simply means that we see reality differently (and better). Jesus always provides an abundance of epiphany moments.



Jan. 19	God Delivers More than We Ask, Not Less
Jan. 26	Rejection Is Not Proof of Failure
Feb. 2	Popularity Is Not Proof of Success
Feb. 9	The Least Qualified Are the First Sent
Feb. 16	Blessings Are Cursed; Curses Are Blessed
Feb. 23	Love Your Enemies, Overcoming Evil with Good

The Service: Setting Two

Opening Hymn CW386 | Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



Invocation

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart:

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

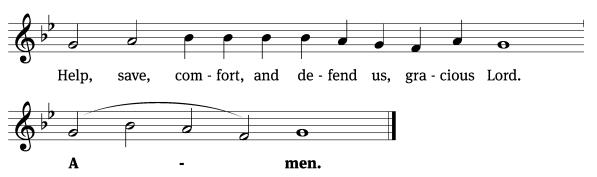
praise, let us



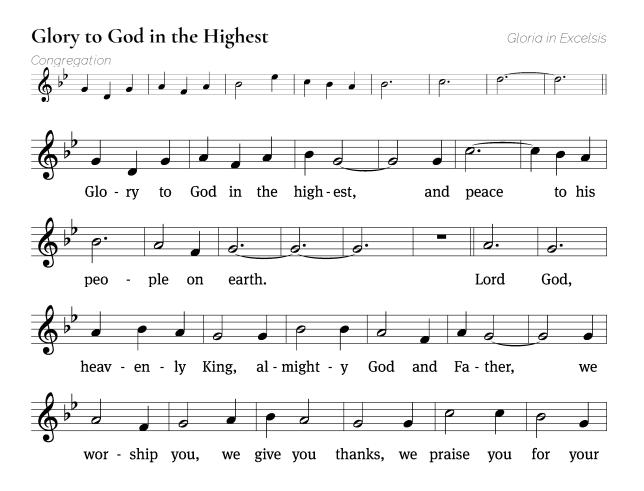
Lord,

have mer - cy.

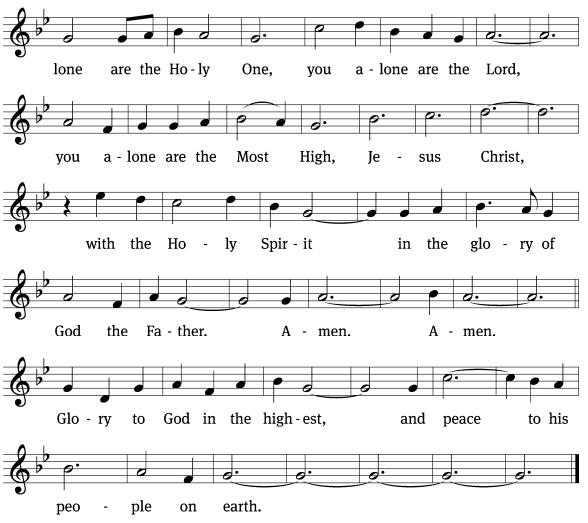
pray to the Lord.



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The Word

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5

Isaiah pictures the Church's relationship with God as a happy marriage

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn. her salvation like a blazing torch. ²The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. ³You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the LORD will take delight in you, and your land will be married. ⁵As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

Paul teaches that God wants us to have a life that is fuller than we could possibly imagine

¹⁴For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

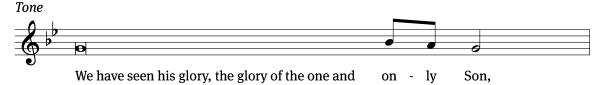
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 1:14

Congregation







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Gospel Reading John 2:1-11

Jesus delivers more than his mother asks, turning water into the choicest of wine

¹On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ²and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

⁴"Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."

⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

⁶Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

⁷Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.

⁸Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, ⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside ¹⁰ and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

¹¹What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Children's Message

All children are invited to join Pastor Phil at the front of the sanctuary for a message based on today's sermon, specifically designed for them! If children would feel more comfortable, an adult is welcome to come up with them.

Children's Church (10:30am Service)

Children ages 3–5 can be dismissed to the kitchen classroom for Children's Church. Children will return from Children's Church to the sanctuary after the conclusion of the sermon.



Sermon

Pastor Phil Hoyer

Jesus—The Savior for All Occasions!

Always powerful!
 Always Trustworthy!

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Brief intercessory prayers may be added

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Offering

Guests: This is the moment in our worship when members and friends of Victory Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support his saving work in Jacksonville, St. Johns County, and beyond. If you are our guest today, you are welcome to participate in this offering, but don't feel forced to! You can also give an online thank offering by using the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code.

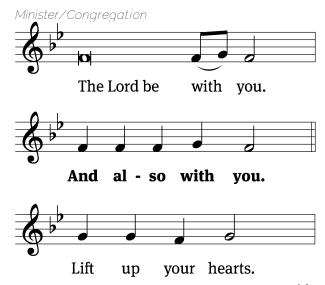




Please also fill out the Connection Card found inside your worship folder and drop it in the basket on the back (blue) table. You can also scan the QR code on the left to fill out an online Connection Card.

The Sacrament

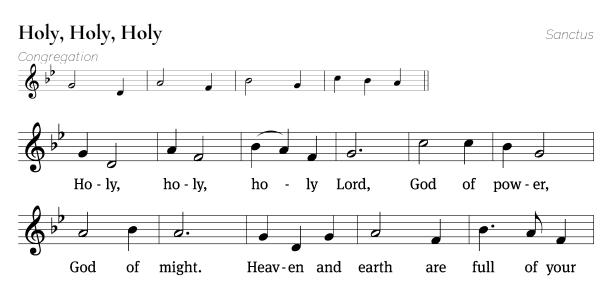
Preface

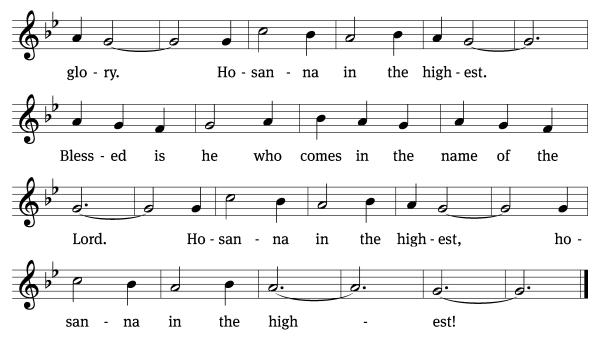




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It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:





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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

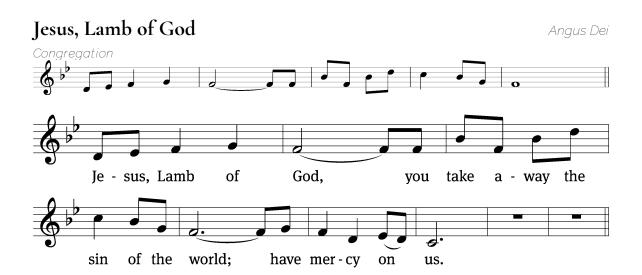
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

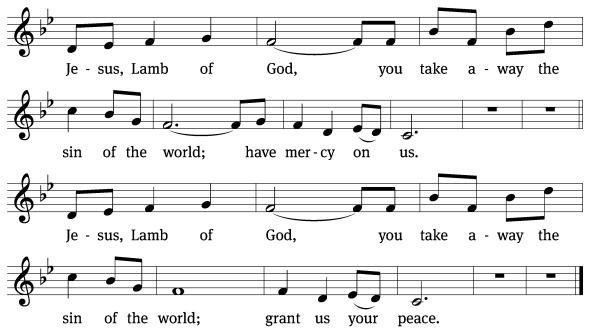
Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen**.





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Distribution

Guests: Scripture teaches that when Christians partake of the Lord's Supper together, they are expressing their unity of faith. Through this act they are confessing that they agree on all the teachings of Scripture. We do not wish to put our guests in the position of making such a confession without knowing our teachings. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of this or another WELS or ELS congregation come to receive communion at this time. If you desire communion fellowship with us, please speak to our pastor. We are eager to help anyone take this step.

10:30am Service: At the direction of the ushers, proceed to the front to receive the Lord's Supper. Couples and families are encouraged to stand together to receive each of the elements. When it is your turn, step forward to receive the bread. When you are ready, continue on to receive the wine in the same manner. Please take your time—there is no rush. After you have received both elements, please return to your seat using the side aisles. The wine cups may be placed in the receptacles at the end of the pews.

Those who would like to receive the Lord's Supper the traditional way may wait for the continual group to be served first and then proceed to the altar to receive the Lord's Supper. When all have communed, the minister will give the blessing.

Distribution Hymn

CW510 | In Christ Alone

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

CW385 vs. 1-2 | Christ Begins



Pianist Mrs. Katie Seelman

Guitarist Mr. Jake Seelman

Acknowledgments

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PUT THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR! FEBRUARY 16TH, 4:00PM INSTALLATION SERVICE OF PASTOR JONATHAN KOLANDER. WITH MEAL TO FOLLOW.

(Pictured with pastor is his wife, Jenny, and first grandchild, Sienna.)

Save the Date!

On **Thursday, March 20th** at **7pm**, the Prep Singers of Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, Wisconsin will be performing a selection of sacred choral pieces at Victory. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear musically gifted future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers as they give praise to God. There is no cost to attend. Approximately twenty volunteers are needed to host the students and directors. Please consider being a host. Choir tours such as this would not be possible without the hospitality of congregation members like you. If you are interested in hosting, contact Staff Minister Mielke at **jmielke@victorylutheran.org** or **(941) 735–6962**

Can you help with housing the choir?

There will be 16 boys with two sets of triples and five sets of doubles. There will be 20 girls with two sets of triples and seven sets of doubles. There are also three adults with

two men and one woman together if possible. We house. Those who house get them back by 8:00AM that each of their students their travels.

The congregation is also choir at 5:30pm before We will need some happy task.



who would like to stay have a total of 39 people to the students will need to on Friday and make sure gets a bag lunch to take on

responsible to feed the their concert on Thursday. hands to help with this

A list of the students will be placed by the mailboxes along with a sign-up sheet. If you know some of these students you can have them stay at your home. Thank you for serving the Savior through this special opportunity we have to hear them sing praise to our God.

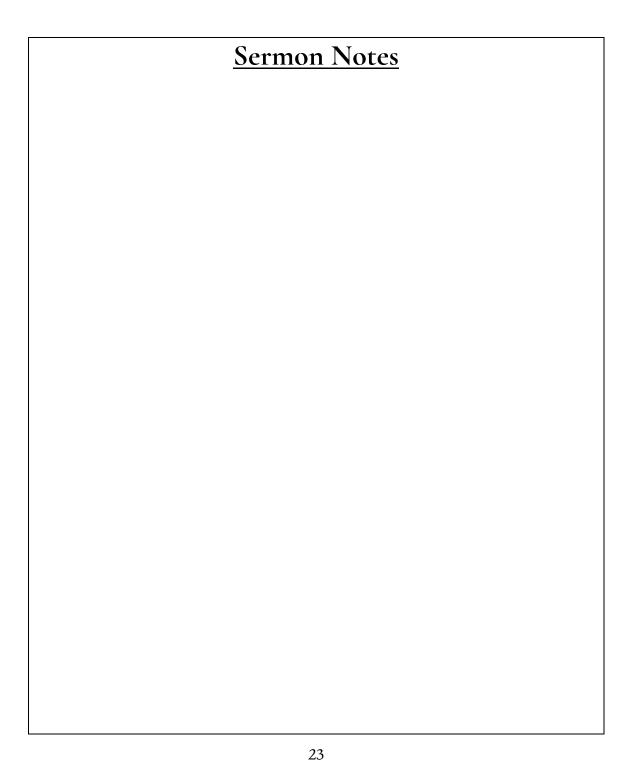


My Worship Notes



For children to use during worship.

Name:	DATE:
What is the name of the church sea What is the color of the church tod Blue White Purple Re	
This is in the: 🔲 Old Testame	ent
	Ty favorite song today was:
Baptism? Yes No No No No	Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:
What did you learn about God toda	ay?





Contact Information

Brad Smith, Office Manager — (904) 642–8900 office@victorylutheran.org

Phil Hoyer, Vacancy Pastor — (904) 307-6717 philhoyer@gmail.com

Anne Grotefend, Preschool Director — (904) 955–1926 director@victorypreschool.org

Jarrett Mielke, Staff Minister — (941) 735-6962 jmielke@victorylutheran.org

Victory is a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

