

Email Blast for February 23



7th Sunday after Epiphany

Kent Memorial Lutheran Church

184 Sunset Hill Drive
Sunrise Beach, Missouri 65079

The Rev. Edward L. Foster, Pastor

February 23, 2025

Hearing God's Call & Responding in Love,
We Share Jesus With All!

FROM PASTOR ED

This week's Gospel lesson is once again as challenging as it is familiar. Jesus offers us a new ethic, a new way of relating to one another that is based upon the mercy and love of God. Love your enemies, Jesus commands us, do good to those who harm you, turn the other cheek. These actions seem nonsensical to us, even foolhardy, but viewed through the lens of the cross and the mercy God has shown to us, they become our joyful expression of love for God and our love for our neighbor.

The weather predictions are ominous this week, stay tuned for updates on meetings and worship for

Sunday.

Stay warm and stay safe.
God bless you all, shalom,
Pastor Ed

OUR 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM:

To join a worship service, please contact the church at 573-374-5267 for assistance.

Welcome to Worship

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

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Prelude

Come to the Table

Joyce Wanamaker

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

C: Amen.

P: Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Mighty and loving God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

P: Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace (We share a sign of peace with one another.)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

ELW # 835, v. 1, 4 & 6

Liturgy Setting 4

ELW p. 147

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Canticle of Praise: Glory to God in the highest

ELW p. 148

Prayer of the Day

All: O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Ed

Special Music

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Tracy Garrett &
Margo Strothmann

First Reading

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Old Testament

L: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (congregation reads responsively)

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the Lord and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight in the Lord,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,
and see what God will do.

⁶ **The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O Lord;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ You, O Lord, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

New Testament

L: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Announcement

Pastor Ed Foster

P: The gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

Luke 6:27-38

New Testament

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Pastor Ed Foster

Hymn of the Day

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

ELW # 707, v. 1 & 2

Profession of Faith–Apostle’s Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

P: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Reception of Offerings *Please fill out the red friendship pad and pass it to your neighbor.*

Offertory

Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace

Joyce Wanamaker

Offering Prayer

P: God of grace,

C: your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

Holy Communion

ELW p. 152

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

Words of Institution

The 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.

Distribution

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our savior. Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. You may commune in place using a communion kit, if preferred.

Communion Hymns

*Jesus, Come! For We Invite You
Around You, O Lord Jesus
Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

ELW # 312
ELW # 468
ELW # 789

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Hymn

We All Are One in Mission

ELW # 576

The Dismissal

P: Hearing God's call and responding in love,
C: we share Jesus with all!

Postlude

O Word of God Incarnate

Joyce Wanamaker

Fellowship Time

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

WORSHIP LEADERS

- PastorEd Foster
- Organist/PianistJoyce Wanamaker
- Choir Director.....Tracy Garrett
- Choir Accompanist..... Tracey Atzeni
- Handbells Director..... Toni Wagner

- Altar Guild.....Judy Ward
- Greeters/Ushers Mike & Judy Ward
- Liturgist Katie Heaford
- Lector..... Mike & Judy Ward
- Sound & Zoom Technician..... Sam Foster
- Coffee Fellowship.....

COMING THIS WEEK

February 23-March 2

Today	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts)
		Handbells Rehearsal
Monday	9:00 a.m.	75 th Anniversary Committee
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Lake Jazz Band Rehearsal
Friday	11:30 a.m.	Blood Drive (-5:30 p.m.)
Sunday		TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship (coffee & donuts)
		Handbells Rehearsal

✠ *Prayer Concerns* ✠

OUR MEMBERS

Karen Thompson
Joe Poretta
Donald Brumm

Marsha Gust
Geri Riley
Stan Field

Pat Embich
Jim Gilbert
Gene Page

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Dave Newton
Tara Boos
Jennifer Blomberg
Elenor Garrison (7 yr. old)
Michelle Becker
Cooper Cupp (6 yr. old)
William Niemann
Kyle Pedersen
John Welsh

Tom Williams
Inge Robbins
Maria Garrick & family
Art McCray
Mary Ann Carter
Brandon Rodewald
Doug Jones
Patrick Parkhurst
Cindy Holm

Stacy Carey
Ryan Dillman
Trudy Hamilton
Wayne Jackson
Gil Wilde
Tamara McClain
Mike Holmes
Steve Hughes
Marcille Bohling

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Julie (Ziehl) Anderson
Evan Beaupre
Michelle Becker
Jessica Birdsong
Cindy Campbell
Shirley Clark
Evelyn Clements
Chuck Cuthbertson
Ron Ferguson
Stacey Fleck

Al Gann
Ken Gerardy
Carla Glusing
Ruth Goddard & family
Jeanne Hines
Teresa Joslin
Linda Kimberling
Ed Krueger
Blanch Lacroix
Jodi (Ziehl) Redmond

Ron Roberts
Marcia Robbins
Michele Schafer
Dave Shaver
Dianne Steingrubey
Esther Strothmann
Karen Tischnor
Theresa White
Bernie Wiegel
Jerry Williams

REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Christopher Babcock	Tanner Glodt	Jordan Lindeman
Eric Blomberg	Kristine Hubbard	Glenn Maddock
Ben Brammeier	Jason Ites	Tristan Morgan
Salathiel (Sal) Caudill	Jason Judge	Adam Peterson
Dylan Craig	Adam Kralina	
Aaron Davis	Matt Lee	

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 23

WELCOME TO KENT MEMORIAL Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. Communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is our Savior. We invite you to stay for coffee and fellowship (and donuts!) after the service. If you are visiting for the first time or searching for a church home, please include your address and phone number on the Red Friendship Pad and let us know. First time here? Please introduce yourself to Pastor Ed at the end of the service.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR last Sunday were given by Larry & Suzanne Lutjen in memory of Sharon; this morning's flowers are given by Vanessa Hebrank & Tracy Garrett in honor of Margo's birthday (2/24).

CARE CORE for February is Cindy Mohling, 319-269-9853; for March is Kathy Fair, 319-350-2901

KENT'S 75TH BIRTHDAY In 2026, Kent Memorial Church will be 75 years old. The Long Range Planning Committee has been charged with the task of planning the events and/or projects to celebrate. Some ideas/events have been suggested by existing Kent Committees (much appreciated!) but any Kent member who has a project/event or an idea for a project/event let the Long Range Planning Committee know so your idea may be discussed. 75th Anniversary Planning Committee members are: Tracey Atzeni, Sally Burke, Kathy Fair, Kat LaCroix, Karen Thompson, Mike Ward, Gerry Williams & Bill Work, Chair. Our next meeting is February 24, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. (This meeting is open to all who wish to attend)

VOLUNTEER AT COMMUNITY FOR CHRIST Time to volunteer at Community for Christ on Tue. Mar. 4th, Thur. Mar. 6 and Sat. Mar. 8th. Signup sheet is on the infamous sign-up sheet board. This is truly neighbors helping neighbors. Won't you please consider volunteering? Thank you! Questions? Talk to Jim Mellody or Chuck Wanamaker.

BLOOD DRIVE FEBRUARY 28 11:30AM -5:30PM **Take the 56-Day Challenge! Give blood * Save lives * Repeat! All blood types needed.** Please join us for this Kent Memorial Lutheran Church blood drive on February 28, 11:30a.m. – 5:30p.m. Appointments are strongly encouraged. Get a free hoodie for all donors, while supplies last. Eat tasty snacks. Save lives! To schedule your appointment, call 417-227-5006 or visit donor.cbco.org. Thank you!

VERY IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR DONORS! You are hopefully aware of CBCO's 56-Day Challenge. This is a year-long promotion to encourage donors to give more frequently. CBCO holds monthly drawings (beginning in March) and one lucky donor is selected each month. They earn entries based on the number of times they've given and if their name is drawn, they win a \$1000 Visa card for each donation they've made up to that point. BUT, they have to register by Feb. 28th to be entered in the drawings for 2025. They just need to register now and then give blood anytime in 2025. The only exception is first-time donors who will have 7 days after their initial donation to register for the challenge. This email contains the link for your donors to register. Please forward it out and encourage your blood donors to register NOW so they don't miss their opportunity to win big! PLUS, it provides extra incentive for your donors to give when your blood drive rolls around. Thank you so much for your support! For more information about the 56-Day Challenge, go to <https://www.cbco.org/2025-56-day/>

WELCA WEDNESDAY will be February 26 at Studebaker's in Camdenton at 11:30 a.m. Please sign up on the WELCA sign-up board in the fellowship hall so we know how many seats we need. If you would like to meet at church and carpool, we will leave Kent at 10:45 a.m.

THRIVENT DESIGNATION Through Thrivent Choice®, Thrivent members can contribute to organizations and causes they care about—and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funding through Choice Dollars®. Please consider going into your Thrivent account online and designating Kent as that organization. In the last year, these distributions allowed Kent to contribute \$2,500 to Kent Social Ministry, \$2,000 to the SE US Flood/Hurricane victims, and \$2,000 to the CA Wildfire victims. If you have questions about this, please contact Joyce Wanamaker or Kathy Fair.

COUNTY PROPERTY TAX FREEZE If you are 62 years of age or over, are the owner of a homestead in Missouri, and are liable for the payment of real property taxes on such homestead, you may qualify for the freeze. The amount of the taxes will freeze, and not increase, when the taxpayer becomes age 62. Only taxes will be frozen, not assessments or levees. For example, remodeling which expands square footage and results in a 50 percent increase in the assessment will trigger a reassessment of the property taxes. Individuals need to apply annually (prior to June 30) at your County Assessor/Collector office to have their taxes frozen by bringing your ID and proof of property tax payment. If you have questions about this, please contact Al Mohling at (319) 493-8796.

LOVE YOUR HEART BRUNCH Join Lake Regional Hospital at On the Rise Restaurant for "Love Your Heart Brunch" benefitting Lake Regional at 9:30 a.m. Friday, February 28. Enjoy an upscale brunch buffet with signature drinks, and learn from Lake Regional Cardiovascular-thoracic Surgeon Randy G. Brown, M.D., FACS, and Lake Regional CEO Kevin McRoberts, FACHE, what's next for Lake Regional's heart program. Tickets are \$75 (gratuities not included) and available at OnTheRise.givesmart.com.

EASTER PAGEANT Easter is April 20 this year and it will be the 55th performance of "He Is Risen!" Cast members of all ages are needed to make this beloved annual event a success. If you want to be in on the fun of sharing the Easter story, see Gail Kruse.