

ANNOUNCEMENTS
WEEK OF JANUARY 24, 2021

IN OUR PRAYERS: Ed Clifford; Ashlyn; Jim Lambert; Chuck Kellogg; Stan & Priscilla Peters; Ken Myers; Ken Keily

YOUTH GROUP RETREAT! Friday and Saturday, February 26-27 the youth group will venture to Camp Lutherhaven for an overnight. Join us for time away in fellowship and the study of God's Word around the theme "I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life." See Pastor or Sem. Marks to sign up! Cost: \$20 per youth to cover food for the weekend.

MASK-REQUIRED SERVICES are held **every** Wednesday at 11:00am.

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are in your mailboxes! Be sure to pick them up if you haven't already.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Old Testament highlights

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: the Book of Isaiah

CALENDAR

Sun. Jan. 24 (Transfiguration)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30am Confirmation
Wed. Jan. 27	11:00am Holy Communion (mask req'd.) 7:00pm Holy Communion
Thu. Jan. 28	7:00pm Bible Study
Sun. Jan. 31 (Septuagesima)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study / Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation 6:00pm Youth Group
Tue. Feb. 2	6:30 / 7:00pm Elders / Council
Wed.-Fri. Feb. 3-5	Pastor @ conference

INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY DEVOTIONS

These suggestions can help you and your family stay connected to the church year and focus on what we hear, sing, and pray together on Sunday. Each week looks forward to the next Sunday. Pick three days this week to do a short devotion. Each day you might do this:

1. Read one reading and the “Thinking About.” How do the readings fit together? What themes do you see?
2. Sing or read the hymn. Ask Pr. Mullet to borrow a hymnal. You should be able to find it on YouTube if it’s unfamiliar!
3. Pray the Collect of the Day and the Lord’s Prayer.

THIS COMING SUNDAY IS: January 31 / Septuagesima

OT: Exodus 17:1-7

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 9:24—10:5

HYMN: LSB 566

COLLECT OF THE DAY: O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THINKING ABOUT THE READINGS

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1–7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1–16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. *“For they were overthrown in the wilderness”* (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24–10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.