

Festival of St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 26, 2014

SERVICE NOTES:

- Please note the Psalm of the day is Psalm 84. The school children will sing “How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place”
- The following psalms in the front of the hymnal (page 64f) will aid you in your meditation before receiving the Lord’s Supper: Psalms 34, 42-43, 51, 84, 116, 150. Prayers for preparation for worship are on pages 10 and 11 in the hymnal. A form for preparation for Communion is on page 156.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. Our guests are kindly asked to note that it is our practice to first become a member of our communion fellowship before communing with us. Please speak to our pastor about becoming a member of our communion fellowship.

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THE DIVINE SERVICE (p. 26)
Service of Word and Sacrament

THE HYMN – #547 “We Bid You Welcome in the Name”

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

(hymnal, p. 26)

HOLY BAPTISM

Baptism of Kelden Beck Pearce, son of Daniel Pearce and Kyna Morgan-Pearce

REMAIN SEATED

The baptismal party gathers at the font.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ gave his Church the command to baptize when he said: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Scripture makes plain the universal need for Baptism. As children of Adam, we belong to a fallen race. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature and would be lost forever unless delivered by our Lord Jesus Christ. He willingly took on himself the curse of sin and by his death on the cross redeemed us and all people.

Christ’s almighty Word gives Baptism its power to save. The apostle Peter declares, “Baptism now saves you.” Scripture also clearly teaches that the power and promise of Baptism is intended for young and old alike. On the day of Pentecost the apostle testified, “The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” By water and the Spirit, we are born again and united with Christ and his people as members of the Church.

For the baptism of infants and young children

M: In bringing *this child* to Baptism, you are doing what is God-pleasing. Jesus himself invited little children to become a part of his kingdom when he said: "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

The minister marks the sign of the cross on each of those present for Baptism, saying:

M: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart † to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

PRAYER

M: Let us pray.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father, through your stern judgment the unbelieving world was destroyed by the flood, but according to your great mercy, you saved Noah and his family. You engulfed stubborn Pharaoh and his army in the waters of the Red Sea but led your people through those same waters to safety on dry land. In the waters of the Jordan your own Son was baptized and anointed with the Spirit. By these signs you foreshadowed the precious, cleansing bath which you give us in Holy Baptism.

Clinging to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on John and Ronan through this water of Baptism, drown in *him* all sin inherited from Adam and any other evil *he* may do. Set *him* apart from the unbelieving world and hold *him* safe and secure in the holy ark of the Church. Keep *him* always fervent in spirit and joyful in hope so that *he* may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

M: Let us confess the faith of the Church, the faith into which *this child* will be baptized, the Apostles' Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

The minister says to the parents or guardians of each infant or young child presented for baptism:

M: Do you desire to have your child baptized into this Christian faith?

R: **Yes.**

The minister applies water to the one being baptized as he says:

M: Kelden Beck Pearce, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The minister, laying his hand on the one baptized, says:

M: The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven.

May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

EXHORTATION TO PARENTS

If the parents are present for the baptism of a child, the minister may say:

M: Dear parents, our Lord Jesus Christ, in instituting Baptism, not only commanded that children should be baptized, but that they should be taught to obey everything he has commanded us. I therefore ask you:

Do you sincerely intend to bring up Kelden in the way of the Lord and to instruct *him* in the truths of God's saving Word so that *he* may grow in faith, serve God with a Christian life, and remain in *his* baptismal grace unto the end? If so, answer: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

R: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

EXHORTATION TO SPONSORS

M: Dear sponsors, Kelden has been baptized in the name of the triune God. It is your privilege and responsibility to remember *him* in your prayers, to remind *him* of *his* baptism, and, as far as possible, to give your counsel and aid that *he* may be brought up in the true knowledge of God according to the teachings of Scriptures as confessed by our Lutheran Church. If you intend gladly and willingly to do this, then answer: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

R: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

EXHORTATION TO THE CONGREGATION

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love, therefore, urges, all of us to assist in whatever manner possible so that all who are baptized may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

C: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

BAPTISMAL GARMENT

M: This white garment shows that Christ has taken away your sin and put on you his perfect robe of righteousness.

BAPTISMAL CANDLE

A baptismal candle may be lit from the paschal or altar candle and be given to the baptized (or to the parent or sponsor of a child) by the minister who says:

M: Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Receive this burning light. Live always by the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for his coming, that you may meet him with joy and enter with him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom, which shall have no end.

Light this candle again and again in years to come on anniversaries of this day, and recall what God has done for John and Ronan through the gift of his Son and through Baptism which unites *them* with Jesus in his death to sin and resurrection to new life.

PRAYER

M: Let us pray.

M: Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the gift of Baptism by which you wash away sin and give us a new and eternal life. Help us each day to remember that through Baptism you clothe us with Christ that we may stand holy and righteous before you. Look with favor on John and Ronan that *they* may be kept safe by the gift of your Spirit, grow daily in your grace, and live forever by the power of the risen Christ. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to all the baptized, so that all may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

The minister dismisses the baptismal party, saying:

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord † Jesus Christ, strengthen you by his Spirit, that Christ, dwelling in your hearts by faith, may fill you with all spiritual blessings.

Go in peace.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(hymnal, p. 27)

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

(hymnal, p. 29)

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The Service of the Word

FIRST READING – Acts 20:28-35

PSALM OF THE DAY – Psalm 84 – Children sing “How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place”

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Refrain: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord God of hosts.

My weary soul is yearning to live in the house of the Lord.
My heart and soul ring out their joy, to God, the living God. (Refrain)

The sparrow will build a home, the swallow a nest for her brood.
They seek their shelter in your home, O King, O Lord of hosts! (Refrain)

How happy those who live with you, endlessly singing your praise.
The way to Zion known by heart to those whose strength you are. (Refrain)

SECOND READING – Titus 1:1-9

VERSE OF THE DAY – Alleluia! Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 24:42-47

HYMN OF THE DAY - #552 (vs. 1,5,3) “By All Your Saints Still Striving”

THE SERMON

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NICENE CREED (hymnal, p. 31)

OFFERING

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (hymnal, p. 32)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (hymnal, p. 32)

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The Service of Holy Communion

THE SACRAMENT (hymnal, p. 33)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS -

#546 "Lord Jesus, You Have Come"

#313 "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior"

THE THANKSGIVING (hymnal, p. 36)

BENEDICTION (hymnal, p. 37)

OFFICIANTS:

Preacher & Celebrant: Pastor Paul Schaefer

Communion Assistants: Jim Cutler and Richard Cording

Organist: Mrs. Jan Jacobi

Choir: School Children

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

Monday	- 7:00 PM	Monday Evening Divine Service
Tuesday	- 7:00 PM	Bd. of Elders
	- 7:30 PM	Bd. of Education
Wednesday	- 8:05 AM	Chapel
	- 9:00 AM	Bible Class
Thursday	- 6:15 PM	Handbells
	- 7:00 PM	Bible Information Class
	- 7:00 PM	Senior Choir
Sunday	- 8:30 AM	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
	- 9:30 AM	Divine Service

SERVING NEXT WEEK – Ushering: Team #3 Altar Guild: Gretchen Castellese

ATTENDANCE (Last Week) – Sunday: 110 Monday: 4

BACK PEWS – Please keep the back two pews for parents with young children.

SPECIAL VASE – Flowers are placed to the glory of God with gratitude and thanksgiving for 45 years of marriage by Tom & Carol Schwartz.

MESSENGER ARTICLES – Messenger Articles are due to the church office by **today**.

WELS CONNECTION – The WELS Connection will be shown in the church basement after church **today**. **The school families will be serving donuts to all who attend.**

PASTORAL CARE & MERCY – Please remember with prayers, cards and visits those whose needs have been reported.

SAVE THE DATE, Sunday, February 23rd - After church will be the Science Fair for our Day School (10:45 – 11:15) followed by a seminar from Pastor John Kenyon our WELS Planned Giving Counselor at 11:30. A sign up sheet is located in the narthex for signing up to attend and also to bring finger food. *Pastor Kenyon will be at HVL at 1:00 PM on the same day if you cannot stay at St. Peter's.* Also, if you are unable to make either seminar, you can still contact him for information or for a visit at 269-422-5279, or at 414-502-9226.

HAWK TALK – Did you know that Huron Valley Lutheran High School has been blessed to have Kris Ruth as a teacher since 1999? Mrs. Ruth, a member of Peace, Livonia, teaches Pre-Algebra, Phy Ed, English 9, Geography and Yearbook-Journalism, and also serves as the coach for the Girls Basketball and Girls Volleyball teams. We thank the Lord for her dedicated service to God's holy people in Christ, training future generations. Visit www.hvlhs.org for more information and a photo.

PASTOR SCHAEFER'S 25th ANNIVERSARY - There will be a celebration to honor Pastor Schaefer's 25 years in the ministry on Sunday, March 2nd. There will be a special service at 4 PM which will be followed by a celebratory meal at 5 PM. We will need volunteers to help. A SignUpGenius email will be sent this week. You can use this email to sign up to help or donate. For those who would prefer not to deal with the internet, you can call the church office to offer your time. Thank you for noting this and we hope to have everyone attend.

20th ANNUAL TODAY'S CHRISTIAN WOMEN – Registration materials are available at the communion registry for those wishing to attend this event.

HVL HOMECOMING & TAILGATE PARTY – Alumni, parents past and present, and all HVL supporters are invited to join us for an evening of fun and fellowship at this year's homecoming which is Friday, February 14th. All are invited to join us from 5:00 – 7:00 for some burgers and hot dogs. JV basketball starts at 5:30, then homecoming festivities, followed by the varsity game.

SUPER BOWL - The Bd. of Stewardship will be hosting a "Super Bowl" Party after church **next** Sunday, February 2nd.

First Lesson – Acts 20:28-35

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears. “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Second Lesson – Titus 1:1-9

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God’s elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer is entrusted with God’s work, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

Gospel – Matthew 24:42-47

“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. “Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. I tell you the truth, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.