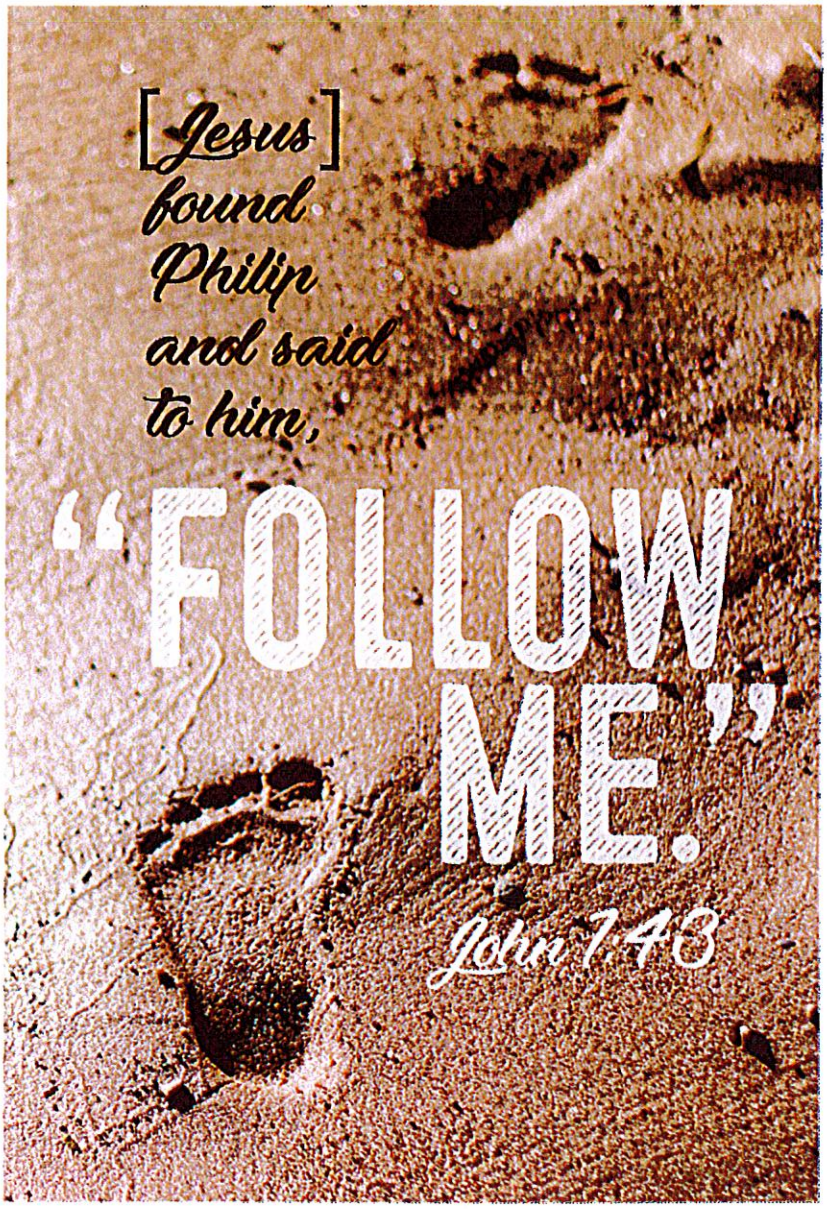
January 17, 2021



First Lutheran Church
7400 W. Lapham St.
West Allis, WI 53214

First Lutheran Church

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Welcome to Worship!

We're glad you're here. As a community of faith we come together to give thanks and praise to God who has abundantly blessed each one of us. If you are a guest and are interested in finding out more about our congregation please contact the church office.

This is Christ's Church.
There is a place for you here.

We are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities, and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world! Thanks for worshiping with us! We hope to see you again soon!

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Order of Worship

Prelude - "O Zion Haste", #668

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C: Amen.

L: Holy God,

C: you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

L: How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of ☩ Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

C: Amen.

L: 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.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray.

C: Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading - 1 Samuel 3:1-20

[1]Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

[2]At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see,
was lying down in his room; [3]the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was
lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. [4]Then the LORD called,
"Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" [5]and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for
you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.
[6]The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am,
for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." [7]Now Samuel
did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to
him. [8]The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and
said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the
boy. [9]Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say,
'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
[10]Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And
Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [11]Then the LORD said to Samuel,
"See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who
hears of it tingle. [12]On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning
his house, from beginning to end. [13]For I have told him that I am about to punish his
house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God,
and he did not restrain them. [14]Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of
Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."
[15]Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the
LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. [16]But Eli called Samuel and said,
"Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." [17]Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do
not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from
me of all that he told you." [18]So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him.
Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."
[19]As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the
ground. [20]And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy
prophet of the LORD.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading - John 1:43-51

[43]The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow
me." [44]Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. [45]Philip found
Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and
also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." [46]Nathanael said to him,

"Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."
47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an
Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to
know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."
49 Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" 50 Jesus
answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You
will see greater things than these." 51 And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will
see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of
Man."

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon **Pastor Joshua Graber**

Hymn of the Day - "Here I Am, Lord", #574

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

Affirmation of Faith

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, 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.

Prayers of Intercession

L: Let us pray, **C: Have mercy O God.**

Sharing the Peace

Offering Prayer

L: Gracious God,

C: O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

Communion - "The Great Thanksgiving"

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

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

Words of Institution

L: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

C: 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

This is the Lord's meal. Jesus is the host. We are his guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live!

Post Communion Prayer

L: Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude - "Will You Come and Follow Me", #798

Organist - Gary Hanson
Soloist - Stuart Mitchell

As a community we pray:

For those with immediate needs of healing and strength:

Carline Erickson, Diane Gallegos, Dale Hedman, Joan Hirschinger, James Ribnek, Mary Selner, Peggy Smith, Jan Stasiak, Rachel Tripi, Cooper Venticue, Tracy Wymelenberg, Kimberly Zappa and Becky

For those who are sick with coronavirus and for the health care professionals who are caring for them.

For our homebound members (in italics) & those with ongoing concerns:

Aaron Behnke, *John Bennethum,* Janell Cyrus, Mary Dana, Gayle Falk, *Terry Favre,* Betty and Emil Grulke, Gary Hanson, Shannon Irvine, *John Isaacson,* Elle Konetzki, Carrie Pflugradt, *Lavone Reis,* Kathy Santos, Jamie Schoberg, Nanette Steves, Carla Syut, Joyce and Don Thornwall, Dave Wegener, Anne Wehauson, *Jeanette Zeinert* and *Pat Zuback*

For all those serving in the armed forces:

Robert Chrzanowski, Andrew Dowd and David MacDonald

Birthdays

1/21 - John Isaacson