



The Messenger

International Lutheran Church

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR CARL

THE EPIPHANY OF THE SON OF GOD IN WHY HE CAME OUT

And he [Jesus] said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out" (Mark 1:38 ESV). Jesus' response to the disciples' early morning search for Him ends in good news for all. While Peter's home, his family and the people of Capernaum were the focus of the Son of God well into the night, they were not the exclusive or only thing on His mind. The good news must be preached, shared, and delivered both near and far!

Here at International Lutheran Church, we are reading through the Gospel of Mark and seeing how Jesus is revealed as the Son of God during this Epiphany season. We pick up the events from last week with a favorite word of Mark in the first part of his gospel - "immediately." As the amazing events in the synagogue just steps away are fresh in their minds, Jesus is now in the home of Simon and Andrew. But Simon's mother-in-law is in a bad way. She has a fever and is in bed. We have no doubt felt "under the weather" or in a bad way one time or another. The spread of the Covid-19 virus has made us especially sensitive to a cough or snuffle we might hear as we go through our "normal" everyday lives. But illness is nothing to sneeze at. That is why Jesus' care for Simon's mother-in-law is so revealing. Even a fever is cast out of His presence as He takes her by the hand. She springs to life and service, doing what she loved best by welcoming and caring for the needs of those who come under her roof. Jesus' healing is inspiring. That the whole village of Capernaum would be "at the door" and into the night is probably not surprising. Good news travels fast. But maybe not always fast enough, at least for God's Kingdom.

Jesus' early morning disappearance shows us just exactly what the Son of God, the Son of the Father has come out to do. After spending that needed time alone in communion

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

ANYTIME Worship Service
(to be available online prerecorded)

9:00 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m. *Socially Responsible Services*

7:00 p.m. Bible Study - (regularly scheduled at
9:00 a.m.; to be available
online livestream)

THIS WEEK

Wed., 2/10 Bible Study
(to be available online livestream)

with God, Jesus is ready to move on and to go into all the nearby towns and villages. His purpose is to preach. His mission is to make known the grace and mercy of God. His Kingdom has come and is revealed in the healing of every disease and illness and in the casting out of the unclean spirits. The Gospel itself prefigures the very purpose of both the incarnation and the crucifixion. Jesus "came out" that we would be led out of Satan's grip and brought into the Kingdom of Light, His Kingdom of Grace. He "came out" so that we could come in! Through His death and resurrection, He has taken us "by the hand" and lifted us up, raised us up, forgiven us, given us new hope and a new life of service to our neighbor.

Epiphany is not just about us knowing that Jesus is the Son of God. Epiphany is about knowing that the Son of God came out in order to make us, once again, sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father. This passage ends where it began. "Immediately" or "at once" the news of Him spread. In and through you and me, the good news comes out to all.

Pastor Carl

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SERVICES

We will once again begin ILC's *Socially Responsible Services*. Current regulations allow for 10% capacity, meaning few slots for each worship. If you plan to attend, please sign up early, preferably before 12:00 noon on Saturday. The registration link is in the electronic version of *The Messenger*.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Printed Lenten devotionals from Lutheran Hour Ministries will be available at the church from this Sunday through the season.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

On Wednesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m. we will livestream an Ash Wednesday service via Zoom. Watch for more details.

MEN'S GROUP FELLOWSHIP

On Saturday, February 6 the ILC Men's Group will meet online. All men all welcome to join in from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The link is in the electronic version of *The Messenger*.

ILC OFFERINGS RECORD FOR LOCAL TAXES

If you need a donations statement for local taxes, please let us know by sending an email to seoulilc.church@gmail.com.

FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase flowers for beside the altar in order to honor or gift to someone, the cost is ₩35,000 for a potted arrangement. Please write to seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com with any questions or requests.



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

ONLINE GIVING

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN FAITHFULLY MAKING USE OF ONLINE GIVING.

Though we are not meeting in person, church operations still continue and to that end we encourage you to make use of offering your tithes and gifts via online giving. Giving in this way will be recorded for your personal end-of-year giving statement.

If you are unable or do not wish to give electronically, you may hold your offerings until we resume our normal worship schedule.

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READINGS

February 7: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	
OT	Isaiah 40:21-31
NT	1 Corinthians 9:16-27
Gospel	Mark 1:29-39
February 14: The Transfiguration of Our Lord	
OT	2 Kings 2:1-12
NT	2 Corinthians 3:12-18; 4:1-6
Gospel	Mark 9:2-9

