



Epiphany 6 Jesus' Sermon on the Plain

February 13, 2022

"He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Looking at his disciples, he said:

'Blessed are you . . .

Woe to you" (Luke 6:17-18, 20ff)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



THIS IS JESUS:

Thought
Provoking
Preacher

Luke 6:17-26

Our Gospel this week is Luke's version of Jesus' Sermon on the Mound. Different from Matthew's version is a teaching from Jesus containing both blessings and woes. The same kind of material is in Matthew, but there it is separated to make "ethical bookends" for all of Jesus' teaching. Our Lukan passage is a one-two power punch early in Jesus' ministry to awaken everyone on how to live.

Though the passage is addressed to Jesus' disciples, all of us who seek to be followers of Christ need to learn from its teaching. Jesus clearly says there is a right and a wrong way to live. Let's make sure we are going in the right direction.

Join us this Sunday, Invite a Friend to Worship Service --9:30 A.M.

Scripture Readings

I Corinthians 15:1-20

Luke 6:17-26

Happening Around St. James

Sunday School is meeting this week. Welcome all our young disciples

Adult Forum back in session.

Women's Bible Study.....Monday 11 A.M.

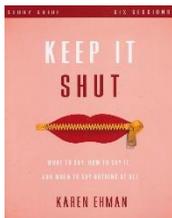
Men's Bible Study.....Tuesdays at 9 A.M.

Additional Bible Study Opportunity . . . included with this weekly update is a bible study for you to use in the comfort of your home.

- **Don't forget Monday will be Valentine's Day.** When I was in grade school, Valentine's Day was a big deal. Every student brought in a Valentine's Day card for each and every person in the class. At the end of the day, we went around to every classmate's desk, and

put a Valentine's card in everyone's shoebox. We went home and read and cherished each and every expression of love. Be sure to express your love to those who are special to you, spouses, children, grandchildren, friends and other special people in your life. Oh, for me that includes all of you. Happy Valentine's Day to each of you, my St James family.

- **Blood Drive . . .** Great success. Last weekend we had 19 units of blood donated. Incredible. What a blessing for all those who will receive the gift of life. Thank you St. James.
- **LENT . . .** hard to believe but Lent starts in 3 weeks. I need help. Looking for volunteers for 3 meditations (I have helps and examples for you to use), 5 prayers, 5 lay assistants, readers for Palm Sunday, readers for Good Friday. There is a signup sheet in the narthex if you would be willing to help. I will help you do whatever you sign up for and Joe Rudy has offered his assistance as well.
- **Ash Wednesday Service March 2nd, 7 P.M.** join us as we begin our Lenten journey to the cross. This year's theme is "The Bible's Cast of Characters." For those who would like we will be sharing in the Imposition of Ashes



- **Keep It Shut** coming Thursday, March 3rd at 6pm is a six-session, video-bases small group Bible study that explores how to control the tongue. Each session features a different character from the Bible, using them either as an example of someone to emulate or whose verbal actions we should avoid replicating. Please sign up on the sheet located in the Narthex. If you have questions, contact Tracy
- **VBS Is Coming** Dates are set . . . we'll be gathering on 5 Wednesdays starting June 15, 22, 29, July 13 & 20. From 6 to 8 pm. We are looking at some exciting materials. Right now, we are looking for a coordinator. You don't have to have kids to lead. If you are interested in leading this important education/fun/fellowship/adventure, please contact Joyce Kissell by March 6th. We are hoping to generate a lot of excitement.
- **Youth Progressive Dinner is set for April 30th.** Right now, we need 4 host homes to host a course . . . appetizer, salad, main course and dessert. If you are willing to host one of the courses, indicate you interest on the connection card.
- **Continue to Hold our Church in Prayer** as we await someone who can be a pastoral candidate. May the Holy Spirit move strong in our midst & in the heart of the person who will take the reins of pastoral leadership of St James.

Here are prayers from our Heartland Mission District for the month of February

- ✓ Pray for the crisis in the Ukraine. Pray for de-escalation, peace and strength for those that are suffering as a result of this conflict with Russia. Pray for the Christians in both countries - ask God to guide them as their faith is being tested in new ways. Pray for the safety of Americans that are in Ukraine.
- ✓ Pray for the Heartland Mission District Council of the NALC. Pray that the Council's planning for the 2022 Convocation, the construction and stocking of the new Disaster Relief Warehouse at Peace Lutheran in Connersville as well as other activities are strongly supported by the congregations in the district.

- ✓ Continue to pray for anyone impacted by the tornadoes in Kentucky and for all of those engaged in the disaster response including the NALC response teams and the two NALC congregations: St. Paul Lutheran Church in Metropolis, Illinois, and House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Elizabethtown, Kentucky that are hosting the NALC response efforts.
- ✓ Pray for blessings for the Heartland Mission District (HMD) congregation of Bethel Lutheran Church - Noblesville, IN - Pastors: Al Schoonover, David Hill and Douglas Gast.
- ✓ Continue to pray for guidance, support and strength from the Holy Spirit for seminarian Ben Black.

Thank you all for your prayers. I can be contacted at pastorstjamesnalc@gmail.com, or by phone 317 727-0612, or calling the St James office.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug