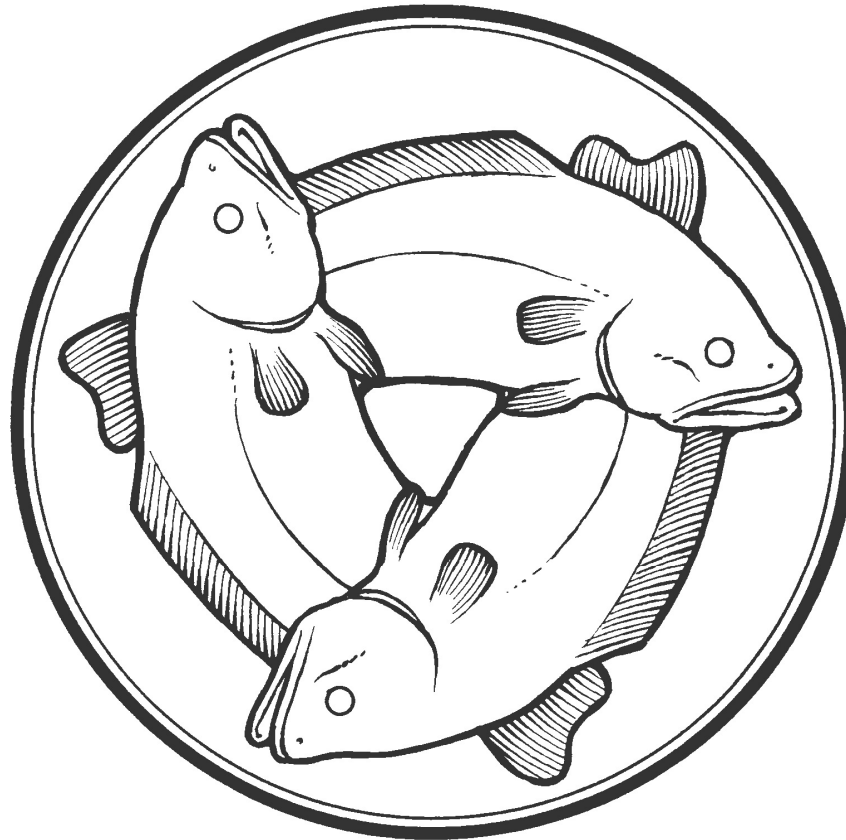


Christ Calls Us to Follow and Fish in His Kingdom!



"Growing God's Family..."

"One Step at a Time"

Jan. 18/21 ~ 3rd Sunday after Epiphany



Welcome to First German!

Jesus begins his teaching ministry in our gospel today. What's his message? What does it mean for you? Jesus shows his glory in teaching and even in the kind of people he calls to serve and follow him. The disciples weren't the rich and powerful or trendy and successful. They were simple fishermen, but God called them to do amazing things. Christ calls us to a full time following which means we leave behind sin and self. He sends out the call to all of us to follow him with a willingness to go fishing for others who need to hear the good news.

Christ Commissions His Followers to Go Fishing!

GUESTS: We consider it a privilege to worship the Lord Jesus with you today. If you have any questions, please speak with an usher or pastor. Worship with us again very soon!

A Cry Room is located at the back of church for those kids who need a little quiet time. We're glad you've brought children to worship the Lord!

Listening devices are available from an usher for those who might desire some assistance with hearing today.

Friendship Registers are found in each pew. We ask that everyone sign the friendship register, so that we might get to know you better.

SERVING THE LORD TODAY: Pastor Hoppe (presiding minister on Sunday), Pastor Schaefer (preacher), and Mr. Josh Wendt (organist).

DIVINE SERVICE

HYMN #283

Speak, O Savior; I am Listening

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' in a box. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy'. The second staff continues the lyrics: 'on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with some rests and slurs.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us, and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son(✠) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis

C Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. You are
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re -

ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
 earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the
 Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir-it in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
 earth. Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-6

Christ proclaims good news and plants his followers in this world.

1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.⁴ They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. ⁵ Aliens will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. ⁶ And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.

PSALM

Psalm 62 (Christian Worship p. 88)

Congregation sings the psalm together in unison.

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

The time is now to live for Christ.

29 What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; ³⁰ those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; ³¹ those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching, preaching, and healing every disease.
Alleluia!

The congregation then sings:

(Christian Worship Hymn 90 v.1)

The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;

The light has shone on them who long In shades of death have been.

In shades of death have been.

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:14-20

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" 16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." 18 At once they left their nets and followed him. 19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

M: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: *(spoken)* **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

APOSTLES' CREED

Confession of Faith

**C: 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.**

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY #85

O God from God, O light from Light

After verse 2 on Sunday, children ages 3-11 are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary for a children's message from the Pastor.

SERMON

Because this world is passing away...

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Following the sermon, please stand and sing...

C Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me.
 Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or
 take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
 store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
 hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Please sign the Friendship Register at this time.

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death. You came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

HYMN #453

Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke

Please stand.

PRAYER

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor (†) and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #334

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Please be seated.

Announcements for January 18/21, 2018

Altar Flowers: In memory of Ed & Marie Jachimstal, and John & Gladys Grapentine, from Tom & Linda Jachimstal. Thank you! Consider honoring someone special with flowers. We have many dates available in February and March. Please see the flower calendar in the hallway or contact the office and we will be happy to add your name. 920-684-0101

Readings: You can prepare for worship next weekend by checking out the readings for next Sunday. They are: Deut 18: 15-20, 2 Corinthians 5:14-21, Mark 1: 21-28.

Family Bible Hour: Today our time together in God's Word continues at **9:20 AM**. There are snacks and juice/coffee at 9 AM in the Heritage Hall.

- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY—REVELATION:** Pastor Schaefer will lead this NEW study in the Heritage Hall. Please read the note below.
- **TEEN BIBLE STUDY—Decisions, Decisions:** Teens (grades 7-12) will learn about how to make godly decisions. We meet in the Teen Group room.
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** All of our children (birth to grade 6) will gather in the school (see location signs). A "Little Lambs" program is cancelled for the time being.

REVELATION BIBLE STUDY: There is still room for you! The Lord gave this book for our comfort and we can understand this often difficult book. Join us to learn about what's going on in the world right now and what will be coming at the end of time—Jesus wins and by faith we conquer too! Join us every Sunday for this study.

Lenten Suppers: Contact Kevin Buch (973-0465) if you or your group would like to host a Lenten Supper. It's a great service opportunity and offers great fellowship for our church.

Pastors' Conference: Pastor Schaefer will be at a Pastors' Conference in Sturgeon Bay on January 22-23. This year Dr. Mark Braun of Wisconsin Lutheran College will be presenting on the book of Judges and the intertestamental period. Pastors go to school still!

Looking Ahead: In February **Lent begins** with our communion services on Ash Wednesday (Feb 14). We will focus on "Jesus Our Great High Priest" during our Wednesday worship. Sunday, February 18 will be our "**Recommitment Sunday**" to our capital campaign to "Preserve Our Past—Secure Our Future" effort. We will also hear more about our plans for the sanctuary improvements and vote on what those exactly will be. Also in February will be our **farewell** to Pastor Hoppe. On Feb 25 we will have a potluck meal with fried chicken provided. Please bring a dish to pass as we bid Pastor Hoppe a fond farewell and thank him for his service to Jesus.

Ladies Bible Class: Ladies Bible Class will resume January 23rd, at 1PM. We will be studying the Book of Ezekiel the prophet. All ladies are invited to attend this insightful and uplifting class, led by Ellie Waege.

F.G. Teens R.O.C.K. Meeting Night: Teens in grades 7-12 are invited to the F.G. Teens R.O.C.K. group meeting on Sunday, January 21 from 6 pm to 8 pm for a devotion and open gym/free time. Snacks and beverages will be available for sale. Check out our Facebook page.

MLC College Choir Coming! Join us on Saturday, February 17 at 7:00pm as the Martin Luther College Choir, under the direction of Prof. Adrian Smith, presents a choral concert titled, "The Way, The Truth, The Life". It features music for choir, congregation, and instruments that proclaim Jesus as the only way of salvation. **We are hosting the choir for this night.** That means that following the concert, our members are invited to open their homes. Please consider housing a pair of students; we have 50 young men and women in need of housing (25 pairs). It means having a place for two students to sleep, providing them breakfast on Sunday morning, and bringing them to First German by 7:15am. Please sign up under the Lord's Supper carving. We are also feeding the choir on Saturday evening at 5pm. If you are willing to help with this meal on Saturday, please also indicate that on the sign up sheet. Erin Meissner is coordinating things; reach her at 612-386-1266. Thank you!

Ark Encounter & Creation Museum Trip: Would you like to see a life-sized version of Noah's Ark and learn about the beauty of God's creation? Join a bus trip to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum on May 14-18 organized by one of our members. The trip is 5 days and 4 nights for only \$509 (per person, double occupancy). Information sheets are available under the Lord's Supper carving. We are giving members of First German the first opportunity to sign up (also under the Lord's Supper carving), but anyone is welcome to go on this trip. Please contact Allen Erdmann at 920-901-9011 with your questions.

Serving the Lord: The Board for Stewardship is seeking to fill two open positions: 1) HR administration 2) Scholarship administration. The number one qualification is to have a heart to serve. Volunteers do not need to have special technical backgrounds. Please answer the call and contact Tim Martinez at 920-629-2118. The Board for Stewardship welcomes Mike Nickels and Lisa Rosinsky who have volunteered to serve in a financial review capacity.

Other Ministry Notes...

LWMS: This month I have two important dates to share with you. The first is April 18 which is the date of the Shoreline Circuit's Spring Rally which will be held in Manitowoc at Immanuel Lutheran Church. The second is June 21-24, 2018 LWMS 55TH annual convention being held in Green Bay. Consider taking advantage of this opportunity to learn about WELS mission work throughout the world. Complete registration info and schedule for the Green Bay Convention will be available in the Church lobby. ***Elisabeth Knuth, LWMS Reporter*** (920-682-5131)

Spring Showcase: THE 3RD ANNUAL LANCER SPRING SHOWCASE TASTING EVENT FUNDRAISER is MARCH 24th and fast approaching, and you won't want to miss this great evening! Tickets are available online at www.mlhslancers.org/springshowcase ; \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. Enjoy an evening sampling wines and appetizers from area vendors, a selection of silent and live auction items, and a relaxing evening with Lancer parents, friends and families! If your congregation, family, or business would like to donate a theme basket or item for the auction, please contact Wendy at 629-5687 or wendyldiel@gmail.com by Feb 15th. We can't wait to see you – bring your friends and make this the best year yet!

CALLS ISSUED

On Tuesday, January 16, we issued two calls as a congregation. Please **reach out** to the following people as you have time. Even an email to say, "I'm here if you want to ask a question... I'm praying for you... First German is a great place to grow in the Lord and here's why..." Thanks for considering this important step and of course, keep them in your prayers! God bless!

Peter Micheel as principal. He serves at St. Mark's (94 students enrolled) in Eau Claire, WI. (Wife is Leah and he has four kids: 18, 17, 15, 12yrs old)
Home Phone: 715-835-6015
Cell Phone: 414-539-0145
email: pjmicheel@gmail.com

Joanne Mattes as 1-2 grade teacher. She is currently serving us until June 2018 - congregation voters moved to make her call full-time and permanent. (Married to Dane with two daughters, 10 and 9 years old)
Phone: 920-588-7596
email: jmattes@firstgerman.org

Our Attendance in God's House: 315
(Thursday: 33 Sunday 8:00: 140 10:30: 107 Hmong: 35)
Offerings to the Lord last week: \$ 10,108.51
Capital Campaign: \$640

Serving the Lord as Ushers

Church Calendar

Today:	8:00 AM Divine Service 9:20 AM Family Bible Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service 12:00 PM Hmong Divine Service 1:00 PM Hmong Bible Study	Jan 18/21 Thursday at 6:30 PM: Chris Spencer Sunday at 8:00 AM: Dave Reneau, Mike Mleziva, Aaron & Jacob Stecker Sunday at 10:30 AM: Randy Blattler, Marty Schaller
MONDAY	6:00 PM Hmong Ladies Bible Class Pastors' Conf. in Sturgeon Bay	Jan 25/28 (next week)
TUESDAY	1:00 Ladies Bible Class Resumes	Thursday at 6:30 PM: Allen Erdmann
WEDNESDAY	6:00 PM Public School Catechism 6:30 PM Adult Choir	Sunday at 8:00 AM: Don Knuth, Dave Reneau, Mike Mleziva
THURSDAY	6:30 PM Word & Sacrament	Sunday at 10:30 AM: Randy Blattler, Marty Schaller
01/28/2018		
SUNDAY:	8:00 AM Word & Sacrament 9:20 AM Family Bible Hour 10:30 AM Word & Sacrament 12:00 PM Hmong Word & Sacrament 1:00 PM Hmong Bible Study	

Our Vision for the Future: *Growing God's Family ... By Connecting to the Means of Grace.*
....By Connecting to Fellow Congregation Members.
....By Connecting to New Faces.

A MEMBER CONGREGATION OF W.E.L.S.

The people of our congregation and the pastors who shepherd us and the teachers who care for the souls of children in our school are eager to serve you with God's Word. Feel free to contact us with your questions or to worship with us again soon. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

www.firstgerman.org

*First German Evangelical Lutheran Church & School 1033 South 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220 ~ 684.0101
Pastor Ben Schaefer (629.0628) - Pastor Chris Hoppe (652.4003) - Pastor Maurice Hoppe, Visitation Pastor
Mr. Ryan Klatt, Principal - Mr. Jeff Schwede Executive Director (682-0728)*