

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God, C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives the sins of all who trust on the merit of Jesus Christ alone. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

P: However, to all unrepentant sinners and despisers of God, of His Words, and of His Holy Sacraments, I say from God's Word and in the name of Jesus Christ, that God has kept their sins and will certainly punish in time and eternity, so long as they, during this time of grace, refuse to turn from them and to repent. We wish them from the heart that they would repent.

C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

LBW #439 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

P: 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.

KYRIE (pgs. 57-58 LBW)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy. P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. C: Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE (pgs. 58-59 LBW)

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW) *P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you. P: Let us pray.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY *P: God of compassion, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies; in our words and deeds help us to be like him through whom we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen*

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 45:3-15

Pew Bible pg. 50

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 103:1-13

L: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

C: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

L: He forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities;

C: he redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with mercy and loving kindness.

L: he satisfies you with good things, and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

C: The LORD executes righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.

L: He made his ways known to Moses and his works to the children of Israel.

C: The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.

L: He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep his anger forever.

C: He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

L: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

C: As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.

L: As a father cares for his children, so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42

Pew Bible pg. 1205

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (pg. 62 LBW) **Congregation Sings: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 6:27-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 6th chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord. (After the Gospel is read) P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW #304 "Today Your Mercy Calls Us"

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 THE PEOPLE

L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) (Please rise) **Congregation Sings: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father, C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth....as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) (Please rise as you are able) **Congregation sings: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BENEDICTION (Sung)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN

LBW #370 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866
(217) 893-4550 (217) 892-8024 (fax)
amluthoffice@gmail.com www.alc-rantoul.org

*As days grow longer and we continue to celebrate your light this Epiphany season,
dear Jesus, help us spread kindness and compassion
in ever-widening circles as testimony to you.*

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Loretta Overholt Tracie Sisneros (sister/Sean O'Donnell)
Family of Joyce Higgins

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Glenn Behnke	John Keith	Dave Amborn	Pen Pendleton
Denny Doyle	Pr. Barb Busboom	Rodney Larkin	Rich Friemel
Geraldine Gorecki	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins	Kim Wyre
Jessica Hawn	Earl Smith	Gabbi Reynolds	Ben Moser
William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen	Mary Mallicoat
Nick Shepherd	Bob & Jenny Hobby	Michael Markarian	Joyce Keith
Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival	Joyce Williamson	

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Keith Dohleman	Rita Buenting	Ruth Lutz	Joan Mathis
Genet Dixon	Dave Overholt	Luella Loschen	

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Brian Griswold	Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti
Eli Baker			

TABLE GUILD

ACOLYTES

BULLETIN GREETERS

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

Sondra Sipes, Midge Seim
Daphnie Albers, Kali Schluter
Sue Coffin, Joan Mathis
Justin & Liam Kaiser
Sondra Sipes
Justin Kaiser
Richard Peavler
Marleen Peavler, John Lux, Connor Suits

WELCOME TO WORSHIP We welcome you to this time of worship and Christian fellowship. May the Word of God nourish you for your life and ministry in the days to come.

MIDWEEK WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will meet this Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. rather than on Wednesday.

OFFICE CLOSED The church office will be closed this Wednesday, February 26th.

CONGREGATIONAL BREAKFAST will be held next Sunday, March 2nd, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service in the ALC Youth Hall. This breakfast will be provided and served by the youth of our church. A freewill offering will be taken. Please plan to attend and support our youth!

SPECIAL MUSIC GROUP The Worship & Music Committee is exploring the revival of some type of musical group (singing and/or bell choir) to periodically offer anthems or other selected special music during worship services beginning as early as Holy Week. If you are interested in participating, please contact the church office by Monday, March 3rd.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE will be held next Wednesday, March 5th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary. Holy Communion will be served, and ashes will be imposed.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES will be held during Lent starting on Wednesday, March 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in the main Sanctuary.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS Beginning Wednesday, March 12th, there will be a light meal of soup and sandwiches prior to the midweek Lenten Service. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the Narthex if you can help with providing for a meal. The meal will be served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Youth Hall.

ANNUAL REPORTS There are still annual reports available to pick-up on the bookcase in the Narthex if you have not received one.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES The remainder of the 2025 offering envelopes are available to pick-up in the church office. If you would like envelopes and none were provided, please contact Judy Peck in the church office.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION If you would like to get ahold of Pastor Aaron, you may call him on his cell phone (618)200-0352 or email him at rev.daws25@gmail.com.

RANTOUL FOOD PANTRY Please remember that donation boxes are available in the Narthex and outside the church office for the Food Pantry.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 126

BROADCAST/FLOWER CHART The cost to sponsor the broadcast on WPXN is \$50. The cost to provide flowers for Sunday is \$25. Please sign up on the chart outside the Narthex and call the office with the details to print in the bulletin.

STUDENT CLOTHING DONATIONS We are continuing to partner with Northview Grade School collecting gently used clothing, and new socks, underwear and shoes for children ages K - 5th Grade (size 5T to Men's & Women's size small). A donation tub is in the Narthex.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 99; Hebrews 3:1-6; Luke 9:28-36

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 23

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School & Women's Bible Study

Monday, February 24

12:30 p.m. Quilting

Tuesday, February 25

1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, February 26 OFFICE CLOSED

5:30 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, February 27

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, March 2

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Congregational Breakfast
Adult Sunday School & Women's Bible Study

Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM

**Daily Prayers & Lessons – Week of the Seventh Sunday after
the Epiphany of Our Lord**

February 23, 2025 – March 1, 2025

Prayer: God of compassion, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies; in our words and deeds help us to be like him through whom we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Daily Lessons:

Sunday	Proverbs 22:1-29	Psalm 107	1 Corinthians 15:12-28
Monday	Proverbs 23:1-35	Psalm 108	1 Corinthians 15:29-41
Tuesday	Proverbs 24:1-34	Psalm 109	1 Corinthians 15:35-41
Wednesday	Proverbs 25:1-28	Psalm 110	1 Corinthians 15:42-58
Thursday	Proverbs 26:1-28	Psalm 111	1 Corinthians 16:1-9
Friday	Proverbs 27:1-27	Psalm 112	1 Corinthians 16:10-24
Saturday	Proverbs 28:1-28	Psalm 113	2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Morning Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve and keep us, this day also, from all sin and evil, that in all our thoughts, words, and deeds we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen

Mid-Day Prayer Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through your grace, eternal glory in the life to come; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever. Amen

Evening Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have this day so graciously protected us. We beg you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen