THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
“Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”
January 23 & 24, 2010

AS WE GATHER:  God has entered human history, and has revealed his glory in his Son, Jesus Christ. “The appointed time has come,” declares today’s Introit. The Old Testament Reading describes the public reading of the Word under the leadership of Nehemiah and Ezra. Because God’s Word holds center stage (literally), “this day is holy” (Neh 8:10). The Gospel tells of Jesus’ return to the synagogue in his childhood home, Nazareth. In his only recorded sermon in the formal worship setting, Jesus reads the word, Is 61:1-2, and then declares that “today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing” (Lk 4:21). The year of the Lord’s favor is now! May your hearing of God’s word today give you his strength and peace.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:  Almighty God, grant that your holy word that we hear this day, enter into our hearts through your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to
praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE

DIVINE SERVICE II, page 158
The Hymn of Praise: “Glory to God in the Highest”
Page 160

HYMNS: 83, 284, 287

OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY

IN OUR PRAYERS: We pray that the Lord would grant better health to our members, shut-ins, and friends of Ebenezer, especially:

- **Leonard Brune**, who has been hospitalized this past week at St. John’s Mercy in Washington.
- **Ada Groppe**, who is getting stronger everyday after a fall at her home.
- **Dorris Bade**, is recovering from a severe case of shingles in her face.
- **Robbie Bunge**, recovering from major elbow surgery.
- **Jim Kormeier**, who has been undergoing tests related to his kidney.
- **Mary Ann Bellis**, who will have surgery this Monday at St. John’s Mercy in Washington.
- **Mary Sprick**, who is doing much better and is able to get around, but underwent more tests by the doctor this week.

- **Elda Vohs**, who is at the New Haven Care Center.

- **Esther Voelker**, who is feeling much better after having heart problems.

- **Delores Roehrs**, who is recovering from a stroke at St. John’s Mercy Care Center off of Ballis Road, in St. John’s Mercy Skilled Nursing Center
  Room 77
  12120 Conway Road,
  St. Louis, Missouri 63141
  Cards would be appreciated to Doris.

- **Ruth Marks**, who is still at her apartment off of Sappington and Gravois in West County but is getting weaker.

- **Harvey Schroeder**, who is at the Veterans Home in St. James, Missouri.

- **Mildred Mann**, the mother of Judy Hubenthal who is a shut-in at her home with Alzheimer’s disease.

- **Ray and Irene Bargen**, who are the New Haven Care Center in New Haven.

- **Darleen McDaris**, who is still undergoing treatment for cancer.

- **Edna Deppermann**, who is at the New Haven Care Center.

- **Allen Gerdes**, who is at the New Haven Care Center.
- Ken Obermann, who is at the Grand View Care Center in Washington, Missouri.
- and all those we hold dear in our hearts.
- people in the country of Haiti, after the devastating earthquake. Lutheran World Relief has committed an initial $1,000,000 to the relief effort, and we will reevaluate that commitment as new reports emerge. LWR is currently planning a two-phase relief and recovery response through our partners on the ground in Haiti. LWR is also responding through the Action by Churches Together (ACT) alliance to support immediate relief efforts of food, water, medicine and shelter.

LWR will continue to evaluate the needs on the ground as search, rescue and relief efforts are updated. Every dollar donated to this life-saving effort is critical to providing the necessary emergency support to the people of Haiti.

If you would like to donate please give to:

LCMS Lutheran World Relief
1333 S Kirkwood Rd
St Louis, MO 63122

You also may give directly to our church with a marked envelope for Haiti relief and we will send it on to LCMS Lutheran Relief. Also our congregational website (ebenezerlutheranchurch.wordpress.com) has links to areas where you can give. Because of the long days, week, months and years ahead with the recovery of Haiti our
congregation will have activities to help our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Please keep reading the bulletin for updates.

We ask God to bless the many agencies of the Lutheran Church that minister to the deaf, the blind, and those with special needs, for our Missouri Synod, District and Circuit officials and the Missionaries serving around the world, especially Robin McCoy in Thailand, John Strasen and Mike and Cindy Rodewald in Africa and the Missionaries serving in Haiti.

We ask the Lord’s Blessings to be upon all our government officials and we pray for the safety of all our law enforcement people, EMT’s, firemen, and our men and women serving in the Armed Forces around the world.

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We welcome all our guests that are worshiping here with us today. We ask that you please sign the guest register near the Church entrance with your name, address and Church affiliation. Thank you.

Please note – The Quarterly Voter’s meeting has been set for February 1st. Please plan to attend this important first meeting of 2010.

“Thank you” – “I would like to thank Thrivent for the gift I received at the Senior Citizens party at Christmas and for the gifts from the Sunday School classes. I would also like
to thank the carolers who came to sing at the nursing home at Christmas time!”  

Sincerely, Edna Deppermann

Please take a moment to see the wonderful pictures taken by representatives from Orphan Grain Train. The pictures show the people using some of the material sent by Ebenezer. The pictures are on the table near the entrance. It is great to see Truman the Tiger and Citizen’s Bank represented on the bags given by Ebenezer Lutheran to the people in Nigeria.

Thrivent Choice Program – There has been an update on the Thrivent Choice program. The new information out is that every member will be given some money to donate to the church, etc. Only 30% of the Thrivent members will receive a letter with an amount of money on it to donate by calling in. Those 30% will be the people who have the most invested with Thrivent. If you are one of the 30%, please call in and consider donating your funds to Ebenezer.

Every member will receive a ballot early this spring to vote for a national charity to which Thrivent will donate one million dollars. If at least 15% of the membership return the ballots, they will donate an additional one million which will go proportionally to the first and second choices on the ballots received.

Watch the bulletin for any more changes in the program in the future.
More Thrivent News – Visit Thrivent.com to join us in “Helping Haiti” In addition to what our chapter may be planning to help earthquake victims in Haiti, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is launching a national $3 million “Helping Haiti’ effort at Thrivent.com/helpinghaiti. Thrivent will contribute $1, up to $1 million, for every $2 in donations members make by March 31 to the following: 
*Lutheran World Relief
*ELCA Disaster Response
*LCMS World Relief/Human Care
*WELS Committee on Relief

That means a potential of more than $3 million for relief efforts: $2 million – or more – from members and the added $1 million.

Our members are encouraged to partner with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in responding to this disaster to make donations at Thrivent.com/helpinghaiti or by calling 800-236-3736 between 7 AM and 6 PM Monday through Friday. When prompted, say “directory” and enter ext. 83003.

Watch the Website for additional information and resources, including bulletin inserts coming soon.

Times like these prove the power of a fraternal benefit society. By joining together as members and with the strength of our membership organization, we make a much greater difference. If you have questions about this disaster
response, please call the Fraternal Service Center at 800-236-3736.

We have recently learned that Susan Engelbrecht’s mother, Gert Wolka, passed away on November 22\textsuperscript{nd}. If anyone would like to send Susan and her family a card or word of comfort their address is 106 Davis Place, Collinsville, Illinois 62234.

**Camcorder needed** – We are in need of another camera to record services for our shut-ins and the website. If you have replaced an old one and would like to donate it, please contact Roland Walkenhorst at 573-459-6702 or accu@fidnet.com

Subscriptions to the **Lutheran Witness** are due February 1\textsuperscript{st}. Subscription rate is $15.00 for the year. Please let Mary know if you do not care to continue receiving the Lutheran Witness. Thank you.

The 2009 Contribution Statements are on the table at the back of Church. Please stop by to pick your statement up. The 2010 Church contribution envelopes are also there. Please pick up your envelopes if you have not already done so. Thank you!

**Those Serving Today**
Organist Saturday – Esther Voelker
Organist Sunday – Ruth Marschel
Head Usher Saturday – Tracey Bade
Head Usher Sunday – Lawrence Pelster
Altar Guild – Margaret Zastrow and Leola Deppermann
Choir Director – Kathy Scheer
Acolytes Scheduled to Serve – Joseph Kassebaum, Paul Kassebaum and Jacob Nelson

Our measure of love in giving at worship – Weekly envelopes $1,965.00; Plate $32.75; Sunday School $48.50; Energy $10.00; Portals of Prayer $10.00; Haitian Relief $20.00 Total $2,086.25. Attendance Saturday 21; Sunday 93. Sunday School attendance 18 children; 18 adults.

This Week at Ebenezer Lutheran Church
Tuesday – Men’s Club 7 PM
Wednesday – Confirmation 6:30 PM
SATURDAY - Worship – 3 PM