

February 16, 2025
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Black History Celebration



St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany – Black History

February 16, 2025

“St. Philip’s Evangelical Lutheran Church and School”

Pastor: Raymond Kimbrough

Principal: Jason Schapekahn

Welcome, Friend!

You Have Come To The Right Place!

Jesus Loves YOU!

WELCOME

Guests and visitors, we invite you to worship with us again in the future. For more information, please contact

Pastor Kimbrough at 414-263-1373

or Principal Jason Schapekahn at 414-659-4688.

THEME OF THE DAY

BLESSINGS ARE CURSED; CURSES ARE BLESSED

EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY

“This is good. That is bad.” We often think life is that simple. We believe we can assess a situation accurately and determine if it is positive or negative. It’s hubris. As Jesus gathered followers, he taught them that his kingdom runs exactly opposite to the principles and priorities of the world.

Therefore, much that we think is good is bad, and vice-versa.

If we want to accurately see the world, we need to have this epiphany. That which the world considers a blessing can often be a curse. Things like success and wealth and health can lead us away from our God. We become so enamored with those blessings that we forget about the Blessor. Conversely, there are hidden blessings in what we would normally consider curses. When we fail, when we suffer, and when things don’t go our way, it forces us to put our trust in God and for our souls to be satisfied in him. The reality is that perceived blessings can be cursed and perceived curses can be used for our blessing

GOSPEL CHOIR SELECTION

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

Amen.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of power and might, you know that we live in the midst of many great dangers, and in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Give us strength and protection to support us in all peril, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5–8

A blessed life is not connected to outward circumstances like health or wealth. Rather, the one who is blessed is the one who has been given the gift of faith, whose trust is in the LORD.

⁵This is what the LORD says:

“Cursed is the one who trusts in man,
who draws strength from mere flesh
and whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶That person will be like a bush in the wastelands;
they will not see prosperity when it comes.

They will dwell in the parched places of the desert,
in a salt land where no one lives.

⁷“But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.

⁸They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL CHOIR SELECTION – “God Is”

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7b–10

Paul had some infirmity he initially viewed as a weakness. He came to see it as a blessing as it forced him to rely on God’s strength.

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 121:8

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The LORD will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 6:17–26

In one of his most famous sermons Jesus teaches that the good things we seek are found in places we would least expect.

¹⁷He 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 around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

²⁰Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²²Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.

²³“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort.

²⁵Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,

for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Be seated

GOSPEL CHOIR SELECTIONS – “I UNDERSTAND” & “TWO WINGS”

Offering

*Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.
Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:
<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.*

General Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against
us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Thomas McNeal and Janet Fudge – Black History Sports Heroes

Closing Hymn – Lift Every Voice and Sing *(congregation please rise)*

Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies;
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee.
Shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand
True to our God, true to our native land.

St. Philip's Luthera School Children Choir Selection

*Every move I make, I make in you You make me move, Jesus
Every breath I take I breath in you Every step I take, I take in you
You are my way Jesus Every breath I take I breath in you
La La -La La La,La La- La La La La La -La La La, La La- La La La
Every move I make, I make in you You make me move Jesus
Every breath I take I breath in you Every step I take, I take in you
You are my way Jesus Every breath I take I breath in you
Waves of mercy Waves of grace Everywhere I look I see your face
Your love has captured me Oh my God, this love, how can it be?
La La -La La La,La La- La La La La La -La La La, La La- La La La
Every move I make, I make in you You make me move Jesus
Every breath I take I breath in you Every step I take, I take in you
You are my way Jesus Every breath I take I breath in you
Waves of mercy Waves of grace Everywhere I look I see your face
Your love has captured me Oh my God, this love, how can it be?
La La -La La La,La La- La La La La La -La La La, La La- La La La (Repeat 3 x)*

St. Philip's Lutheran School Children sing "The Blessing"

*Oh, may the peace of God be with you evermore,
And may the pow'r of his great love your soul again restore,
And may you always know his neverending care
And feel his gracious Spirit upon you ev'ry where.*

GOSPEL CHOIR SELECTION

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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"Our Mission Statement"

(Our Purpose as a Church)

Our mission here at St. Philip's Lutheran is outlined for us in Matthew 28:19: 'Go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them and baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.' Making disciples includes proclaiming God's Word in its truth and purity, strengthening the faith of those under our care, and reaching out to the people of our community, (including our unchurched friends and relatives).
Let us pray for and work together toward this goal.



St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

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Milwaukee, WI 53212

414 263-7614

splsoffice@stphilipmilwaukee.com

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

www.wels.net

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

Choirs

St. Philip's Gospel Choir

St. Philip's School Choir

In Our Prayers

Judi Tevich

Kitty Henderson

Natasha McCants

Melvin Reed

Sheila Kimbrough

Glen Thompson

David Ryles

Belinda Whitley

Erskin Henderson

St. Philip Lutheran School Families, Students & Staff

Next Week: February 23, 2025

Organ: Nicole Cottman

Lay Reader & Liturgy: Cody Bone

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

Monday, February 17

NO SCHOOL – Faculty Professional Day

Sunday, February 23

Bible Class 9:30AM

Worship with communion 10:30AM

CHURCH OFFERINGS UPDATE

	Week	Month	July to Date
	2-3 – 2-9-25	February	2024-2025
Budget	\$ 3,490.57	\$ 6,981.13	\$ 114,150.94
Actual	\$ 3,905.70	\$ 6,911.70	\$ 92,408.53
Over (Under)	\$ 415.13	(\$ 69.43)	(\$ 21,742.41)

*Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.
Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:
<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.*

As we enter 2025, we need to remember our commitment and responsibility to support our church. Expenses are constant, if you cannot attend each Sunday, we still need your offerings to offset our expenses. The eOffering program represents 42% of our income, this is a nice way to improve consistency in offerings.

For electronic offerings, you may notice a skip or stop of offerings – this is due to timing of the deposit or an end date of the permission to withdraw loaded in the system. For this you will need to go into the eOffering site and enter new end date.

CALL RECEIVED

Dear Members of St. Philip's,

On Monday, Feb. 10, I received a divine call from Wisconsin Lutheran School (WLS) in Racine to serve as the sixth-grade homeroom and middle school ELA and art teacher. I am truly humbled by this call and grateful for the opportunity to evaluate how my gifts might best be used to serve God's kingdom.

Over the next few weeks, I will be speaking with members of WLS to learn more about their ministry. I would also treasure any advice or encouragement that you may wish to share with me as I deliberate. Please keep me in your prayers as I embark on the deliberation process, as well as for my students here at St. Philip's. I trust that God will bless both the ministry at St. Philip's and at WLS.

In Christ,
Lisa Chamberlain

CALL ACCEPTED

Dear Members of St. Philip's Church and School,

Over the past weeks, I have had the privilege of deliberating where I could best serve God's kingdom. This process was humbling and full of many blessings. I am thankful for the words of encouragement and input that I received during this time.

After prayerful consideration, I am accepting the call to serve at Garden Homes as their 5th and 6th grade ELA teacher, starting next year. I am passionate about being a part of the ministry happening in Milwaukee, and I am thankful for the opportunity to continue serving in the city. Thank you again for the prayers over the past couple of weeks.

In Christ,
Olivia Krueger

CALL RECEIVED

Dear Members of St. Philip's Lutheran Church,

On Monday, January 27, I received a divine call to serve at Salem Lutheran School in Milwaukee as K4 teacher for the 2025-2026 school year. I am looking forward to considering how I can make the best use of the gifts God has given me to continue to serve his kingdom.

As I prayerfully come to a decision during these next few weeks, I welcome any thoughts or insights you may have for me. I ask that you pray for God's blessings on Salem and their ministry, along with your prayers for me and the ministry here at St. Philip's.

As Romans 8:28 reminds us, God is always working out his perfect plans for the good of his church. With that in mind, I trust that God will guide and bless my deliberation, just as he will continue to be with me and bless my work among you.

In Christ,

Grace Sauer

gsauer@stphilipsmilwaukee.com

(920) 245-1898



WLHS MUSICAL – Wisconsin Lutheran High School is excited to present the musical "Singin' in the Rain" with shows on Friday and Saturday, February 28 and March 1 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 2 at 1:00 p.m. Hilarious situations, snappy dialogue and a hit-parade score of Hollywood standards make this show the perfect entertainment for fans of the golden age of movie musicals. **Tickets go on sale to the general public on Monday, February 10, at 10:00 a.m.** Purchase tickets in advance online for a discounted rate at wlhs.org/musical.

WLHS Dinner Auction Save the Date—The Wisconsin Lutheran High School Dinner Auction will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2025. To participate in some pre-auction fun and receive updates, request to join the WLHS Auction Facebook group page. For information about sponsorships and donating items, visit wlhs.org/events.



The Black Excellence Awards is an inspiring event dedicated to celebrating the remarkable achievements and contributions of African Americans in various fields, including Education, Arts, Culture, Religion, and Business. This year, in a special tribute to Four Decades of Excellence, the awards will honor 40 phenomenal women who have made impactful strides and demonstrated outstanding dedication in their respective areas.

St. Philip's own, Ms. Willie Mae (Peaches) Reynolds will be receiving one of these Black Excellence awards on February 28, 2025. To God be the glory! Congratulations to Willie Mae!



St. Philip's Lutheran Church & School
Pastor Raymond Kimbrough
3012 N Holton Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Church: 414-263-1373

Cell Phone: 414-254-6093

TO FRIENDS AND VISITORS

*This is the house of God. In His Name we welcome each and every person.
May His Word bring you closer to your Savior, assuring you of the
forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus' death and resurrection.*

*If you are without a church home or have recently moved to the area, our
pastor will be happy to call on you or answer your questions about church
membership. If you are burdened with sorrow or trouble, we invite you to
call on the pastor at any time.*

School Office Phone: 414-263-7614
Church Office Phone: 414-263-1373

Church Service – 10:30AM
Bible Class – 9:30AM