



Worship Anew

Weekly Scripture Readings & Sermon Summaries

January 2026

Where's Jesus?

January 4, 2026 – Second Sunday after Christmas

Rev. Scott Zeckzer

The season of Christmas is coming to an end. The Christmas decorations are put away but don't put Jesus away. Jesus is still present, but where?

Sermon Text: Luke 2:46

Readings: Psalm 119:97-104; 1 Kings 3:14-15; Luke 2:40-52

Featured Choirs: St. Paul Lutheran High School Choir, Concordia, Mo.; St. Paul Lutheran School Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Lincoln Lutheran High School Choir, Lincoln, Neb.

Featured Art and Architecture: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, New Haven, Ind.

The Baptism of Jesus

January 11, 2026 – The Baptism of Our Lord

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

At the Baptism of Jesus there was clear, powerful evidence that He was not only a man but also God—the Son of God. Christ had to be human and divine in order to be the Savior of the world. As the Savior, Jesus closely identified with the human race, and that is why He submitted to being baptized with John. This is wonderful, good news for us today.

Sermon Text: Matthew 3:13-17

Readings: Psalm 29:1-4; Isaiah 42:1-4; Matthew 3:13-17

Featured Choir: St. Paul Lutheran School Choir, Munster, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Muncie, Ind.

Who Is “The Real Jesus”?

January 18, 2026 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

What are people's first and lasting impressions of Jesus? Who do you think that He is? Will the “real Jesus” please stand up?

Sermon Text: John 1:29

Readings: Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42a

Featured Choirs: Holy Cross Lutheran Men's Chorus, Fort Wayne, Ind.; St. Paul Lutheran School Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Emanuel Lutheran Church, Tipton, Ind.

Fishers of Men

January 25, 2026 – Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Rev. Shayne Jonker

Formerly, the disciples fished for fish. Now, they would fish for men, catching men for the kingdom, dropping the dragnet of Jesus' own sacrificial death and resurrection into the sea of this world and dragging whatever they caught onto the shore and into the church.

Sermon Text: Matthew 4:19

Readings: Psalm 27:1-9; Isaiah 9:1-4; Matthew 4:12-25

Featured Choirs: St. Peter's Lutheran School Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.; St. John Lutheran Church Choir, Indianapolis, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Faith Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Ind.