

Augustana Lutheran Church

102 Jonathan Blvd. N., Chaska, Minnesota 55318
Worship: 9:30 AM with Bible Class following the service

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 25, 2009

Volume 5, Number 9

The Order of Holy Communion: Page 15

Hymns:

375 *If Thy Beloved Son, O God*

126 *Arise and Shine in Splendor*

521 *What God Ordains Is Always Good*

46 *On What has Now been Sown*

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament

2 Kings 5:1-19

Naaman the Leper

Epistle

Romans 12:16-21

Evil Overcome with Good

Gospel

Matthew 8:1-13

Jesus Praises the Centurion's Faith

Sermon

Matthew 8:1-13

The Way of Jesus in Our Time of Grace

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS in the name of Jesus Christ! Augustana Lutheran Church confesses and practices the full truth of God's Word, a heritage passed down to us by Luther, and confirmed in the public confessions of our church. We believe that the Bible in all its parts is inspired by the Holy Spirit, error-free, and the only source of divine revelation and absolute truth. If you have any questions about such Bible doctrine, or about our congregation, please direct them to Pastor Diers.

General Prayer

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who among all nations and peoples seekest them that would worship thee in spirit and in truth, we implore thee to fill us with thy Word and truth that thou wouldst find acceptable our imperfect sacrifices of thanksgiving, praise, and prayer.

We thank thee, Father, for sending thy Son Jesus, and for making known in him the mystery of thy gracious will, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have everlasting life. We praise thee that thou hast given us thy saving Word, through which thy Holy Spirit has enkindled our faith and sanctified our wills. We pray, O God, that thy Word may have free course in all the earth, that thy house may be filled with believers from every people and tribe, and that heaven and earth may ring with songs of praise for this great salvation.

Bestow upon us a sure faith thy good and gracious will and power, that we might apply our hearts unto wisdom, and manifest thy grace, goodness, and glory in this life. Graciously defend us so that we be not overcome by evil; inspire us that we overcome all evil with good. Preserve us from all perils and temptations, so that we may live to serve thee in all godliness and humility.

Watch over thy church throughout the whole world, and grant unto it faithful pastors who are true shepherds and watchmen for thy people.

For all who have the cares of State in their hands, guide them in wisdom and understanding, that they may uphold thy will, and so govern that all men may eat their bread in quietness and peace.

Graciously help us to redeem the time by constant meditation on Thy Gospel, that our faith may be increased,

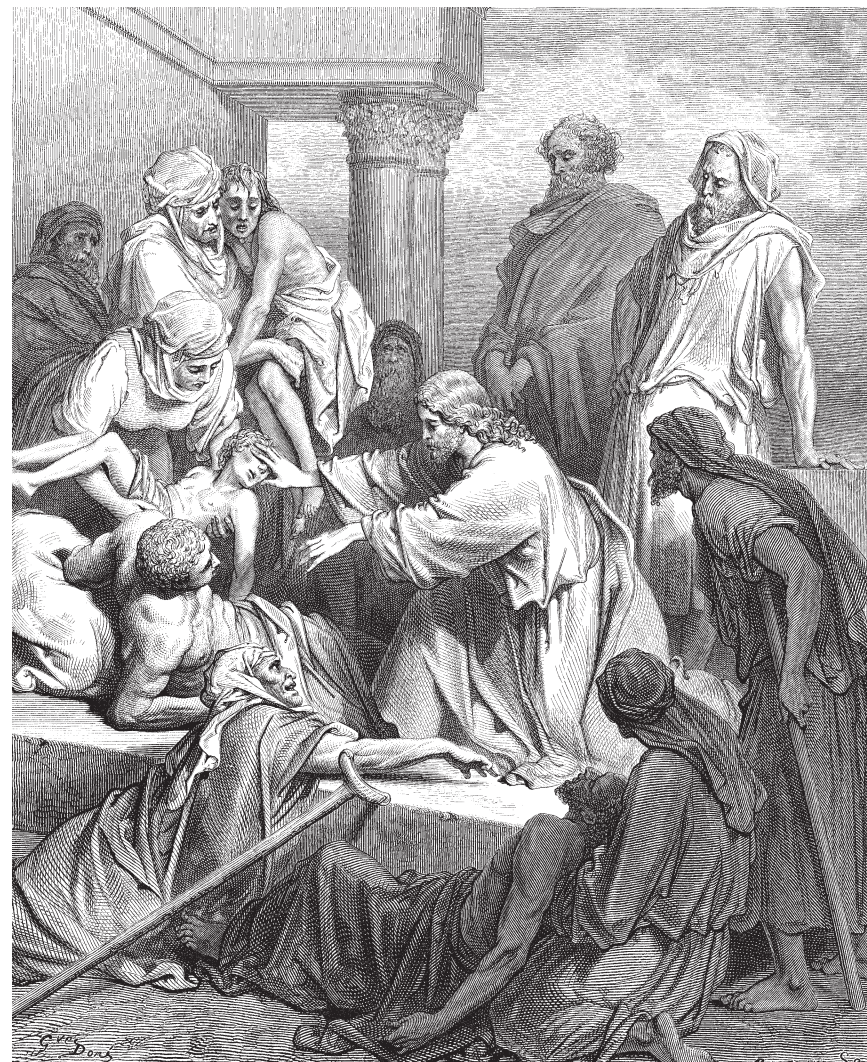
and we might encourage one another in all good works. Renew our minds with the wisdom which comes down from above; cleanse us from all sin; heal our diseases; comfort the afflicted; guard our loved ones wherever they may be; shield us from the powers of wickedness; give us each day our daily bread; and make us content in our earthly lot. As we have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so let us walk in him, rooted and built up in faith, and abounding in all good works. All these things we pray in the Name of him who loved the church and gave himself for it, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Augustana Lutheran Church

Pastor Martin Diers

*Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets
Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone*

The Third Sunday After Epiphany
January 25, 2009



Jesus Heals the Sick

Augustana Lutheran Church

<http://augustana.us>

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OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 2 Kings 5:1-19

Now Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great and honorable man in the eyes of his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was also a mighty man of valor, but a leper. And the Syrians had gone out on raids, and had brought back captive a young girl from the land of Israel. She waited on Naaman's wife. Then she said to her mistress, "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy." And Naaman went in and told his master, saying, "Thus and thus said the girl who is from the land of Israel." Then the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he departed and took with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. Then he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which said, Now be advised, when this letter comes to you, that I have sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may heal him of his leprosy. And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy? Therefore please consider, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me." So it was, when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Please let him come to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel." Then Naaman went with his horses and chariot, and he stood at the door of Elisha's house. And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and you shall be clean." But Naaman became furious, and went away and said, "Indeed, I said to myself, 'He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand

over the place, and heal the leprosy.' "Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. And his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. And he returned to the man of God, he and all his aides, and came and stood before him; and he said, "Indeed, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel; now therefore, please take a gift from your servant." But he said, "As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive nothing." And he urged him to take it, but he refused. So Naaman said, "Then, if not, please let your servant be given two mule-loads of earth; for your servant will no longer offer either burnt offering or sacrifice to other gods, but to the LORD. "Yet in this thing may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the temple of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my hand, and I bow down in the temple of Rimmon—when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD please pardon your servant in this thing." Then he said to him, "Go in peace." So he departed from him a short distance. (NKJV)

EPISTLE LESSON Romans 12:16-21

Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather

give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (NKJV)

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 8:1-13

When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. And Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" "And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. "But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour. (NKJV)