

Briefings

Pilot Knob Lutheran Church

January 2023

Volume 153

NEW

Alfred Tennyson wrote: “Ring out the old, ring in the new, ring, happy bells, across the snow: the year is going, let him go; ring out the false, ring in the true.”

It is a new year and the old is behind us. Twelve months ago the old year was the new year. How long will the new year be new? What makes the new year old? Is it time, events, or attitude? When we buy or make something new how long does it remain new and what makes it old? If it breaks, becomes marred, or simply does not work or is replaced with a newer model it becomes old.

I think ‘new’ is relative to the person who receives something as new. To purchase an antique would be to have something old that is new – to you. Old is not necessarily useless or to be forgotten. The ‘old’ is something we can learn from, cherish, and/or pass on to someone else.

There is only one thing I can think of that is new and remains new: ‘new life.’ God gives life at birth and he gives new life through the water and the word. The Holy Spirit continues that new life as we consume spiritual food. God never becomes old, will never be replaced with a newer god; for he is eternal. He lives within his children giving us eternal life, living hope, forgiveness and compassion that is new every morning. God’s word is not old or stale, it is loving and eternal.

Someday soon there will be a new heaven and new earth that will never become old due to sin and corruption. At the same time, we will receive new bodies that will not experience sin or death, but remain in paradise forever. In heaven we will never ring out the old and ring in the new, for life will remain new forever.

New life does not begin in heaven. It must begin here on earth through faith in Jesus Christ who creates the new birth and continues it upon death. 1 Peter 1:3-4 “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.”

With this new birth comes something else that is new, and that is joy that God provides: not the world. A joy that remains through hard times, and even persecution. How can that be? We have an excellent future grounded in the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, not the wishful thinking of the world which cannot provide anything lasting, nor with any certainty.

Learn from the old, ring in the new life by trusting in Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

May you have a blessed 2023, for God is already there to guide you.



January Sermons & Scriptures

★ January 1, 2023

New Years Day

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: A Fresh Start

OT Lesson: Isaiah 30:15-17

Epistle Lesson: Romans 8:31b-39

Gospel Lesson: Luke 12:35-40

★ January 8, 2023

First Sunday in Epiphany

Morning Worship Service & Holy Communion

Sermon: God Baptized?

OT Lesson: Isaiah 42:1-9

Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:1-11

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 3:13-17

★ January 15, 2023

Second Sunday in Epiphany

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: Behold the Lamb

OT Lesson: Isaiah 49:1-7

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Gospel Lesson: John 1:29-42a

★ January 22, 2023

Third Sunday in Epiphany

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: Wisdom & Power

OT Lesson: Isaiah 9:1-4

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 4:12-25

★ January 29, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Epiphany

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: Foolish Shame the Wise

OT Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

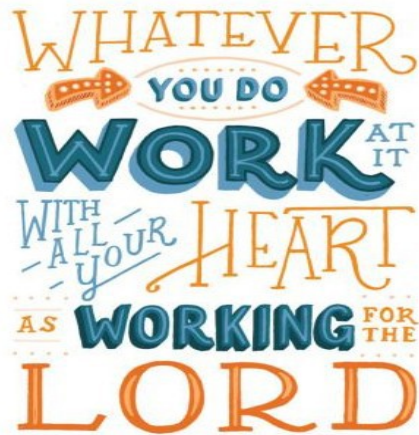
Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12



January Serving Schedule

	1 st	8 th	15 th	22 nd	29 th
Custodians	Greg/Sherry				
Communion	Nick				
Ushers	Tony/Don				
Greeters	Joe/Cathy	Don/Bobbi	Randy/Deb	Greg/Sherry	Steve/Jan
Readers	Matt	Don	Shelly	Angie	Nick
Sound	Greg	Derek	Steve	Devon	Don
Computer	Donna	Dave	Bobby	Rachel	Donna



"Volunteers are not paid -- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 New Year's Day</p> <p>Greeters: Joe/Cathy Reader: Matt</p>	2	3	4	<p>5</p> <p>Quilting- 10am</p> <p>Bdays: Don Reese Randy Stensrud</p>	6	7
<p>8 Communion Sunday</p> <p>Greeters: Don/Bobbi Reader: Don</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>Deacons- 5:45pm Council-6:30pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Confirmation- 4:30pm</p> <p>Bday: Amanda Cink</p>	12	13	14
<p>15</p> <p>Greeters: Randy/Deb Reader: Shelly</p> <p>GriefShare-2pm</p>	16	<p>17</p> <p>Womens Bible Study- 2pm</p> <p>Bday: Don Elbert</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Confirmation- 4:30pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Quilting- 10am</p>	20	21
<p>22</p> <p>Greeters: Greg/Sherry Reader: Angie</p>	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>Confirmation- 4:30pm</p>	26	27	28
<p>29</p> <p>Greeters: Steve/Jan Reader: Nick</p> <p>GriefShare-2pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Bday: Donna Edelen</p>	31	<p>Feb 12- Annual meeting 10:25 AM</p>			