

# St. John's Lutheran Church & School



Fourth Sunday after The Epiphany

28 January 2024

## As We Gather

In a world where there is nothing new under the sun, we still run to anything that appears to be new. When Jesus taught in the synagogue, the hearers heard a man speak with the authority of the author of the Scriptures. They were surprised and even more surprised when His Word was not simply theoretical but silenced an unclean spirit and relieved the man of this demon. In their amazement, they could not help but tell the story to any who would listen. Yet even as Jesus' fame spread, so did opposition to His teaching and preaching.

## Stewardship Verse

Matthew 25:37-40

Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

## Bell

### Prelude

*"Vater Unser Im Himmelreich"*

A. Oscar Haugland

## 698 May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

1 May we Thy pre - cepts, Lord, ful - fill And do on  
2 So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace a -  
3 Spir - it of life, of love and peace, U - nite our

earth our Fa - ther's will As an - gels do a - bove;  
dore, Thy pow'r con - fess, From sin and strife to flee.  
hearts, our joy in - crease, Thy gra-cious help sup - ply.

Still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, With all Thy  
One is our call - ing, one our name, The end of  
To each of us the bless - ing give In Chris - tian

chil-dren and o - bey The law of Chris - tian love.  
all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.  
fel - low - ship to live, In joy - ful hope to die.

Text: Edward Osler, 1798-1863, alt.

Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Text and tune: Public domain

## Opening Versicles

### Common

LSB 260

- L This is the day which the Lord has made;  
C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
- L Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;  
C **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- L Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.  
C **Teach me Your paths.**
- L Sanctify us in Your truth.  
C **Your Word is truth.**
- L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
- C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Kneel/Sit*

### Confession and Absolution

- P Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.  
C **Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**
- P I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"  
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection.*

**P** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **O most merciful God who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**


**P** Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen.**

### Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261

*Refrain*



☐ The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
With joy will you draw wa - ter from the

wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that

day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,

make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -

claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done

glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the

earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -

hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the



Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son



and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will



be for - ev - er. A - men.



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

## Reading

*Deuteronomy 18:15–20*

L A reading from Deuteronomy, the eighteenth chapter.

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. <sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Psalms, hymns, or choral music may be sung between the readings.*



## Psalms 111

*Chanted at 8:00, Spoken at 10:45*



- A <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!  
I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,\*  
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.
- C <sup>2</sup>Great are the works | of the LORD,\*  
studied by all who de- | light in them.
- A <sup>3</sup>Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,\*  
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.
- C <sup>4</sup>He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;\*  
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.
- A <sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who | fear him;\*  
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.
- C <sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power | of his works,\*  
in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.
- A <sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;\*  
all his precepts are | trustworthy;
- C <sup>8</sup>they are established forever and | ever,\*  
to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.
- A <sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.\*  
Holy and awesome | is his name!
- C <sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.\*  
His praise endures for- | ever!



## Reading

*1 Corinthians 8*

A The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 8.

<sup>1</sup>Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

<sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

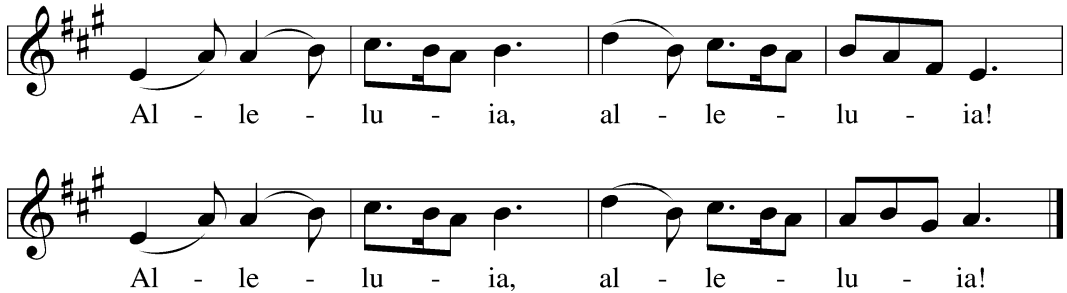
<sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

## 952 Alleluia — II



Text: Traditional

Tune: Fintan O'Carroll, d. 1977

Text: Public domain

Tune: © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708390

## Reading

*Mark 1:21–28*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Responsory

LSB 263

- L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.  
C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**  
L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**  
L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

## Apostles' Creed

- C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

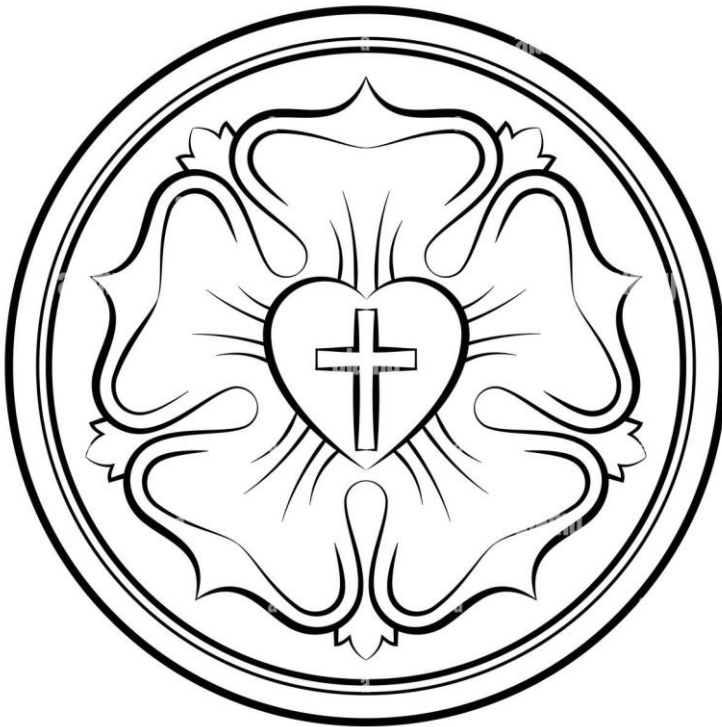
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life T everlasting. Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

C 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.

*Sit*

## Children's Sermon



# 549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

sts. 1-5



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;  
 2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;  
 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,  
 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da-vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,  
 5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get The worm-wood and the gall,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.  
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726-92, alt.  
 Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765-1844  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

***"Jesus, a Man of Authority"***

*Pastor Stapleton*

**Exchange of Peace**

*All may share a sign of God's peace.*

**Offering**

***"Praise, O Zion, Thy Salvation"***

*W.A. Mozart*

*Stand*

## 805 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

△ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all  
creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly  
host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, with a triangle symbol (△) at the beginning of the first line. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

*Kneel/Sit*

## Prayer

- L In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Stand*

### **Collect of the Day**

- L Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

### **Collect for the Word**

- L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

**C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

## New Testament Canticle

LSB 266

*Refrain*

**C** Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Dy-ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv-ing, He  
lives to God. Count your-selves as dead to  
sin and a-live to God in Christ Je-sus, our Lord.  
*Refrain*  
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al-le-  
lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## Benedicamus

LSB 267

- L Let us bless the Lord.  
C Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 267

- L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.  
C Amen.

## Announcements

## Postlude

*"Rondeau"*

H. Purcell

## Serving in Worship

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist  
Rev. Ronald Weidler, Liturgist  
Mr. Gregory Ceurvorst, Director of Music

## Acknowledgments

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## Mission Notes

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**TRUTH TRAVELERS (JR HIGH)**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

**BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP**

**BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP**

**WOMENS' SMALL GROUP**

**GRIEFSHARE**

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**CHOIR PRACTICE**

**CONFIRMATION CLASS**

**PICKLEBALL**

**BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP**

**TRIP ORDER**

**Sundays, 9:25, Music Rm (Second Floor)**

**Sundays, 9:25AM, Youth Rm (Basement)**

**Sundays, 9:25AM, Heritage Rm**

**Sundays, 6PM, Offsite**

**Mondays, 7PM, Zoom**

**Tuesdays, 8:45AM, Heritage Rm**

**Tuesdays beginning September 26, 1:00 – 2:30PM, Heritage Rm**

**Wednesdays, 9AM, Heritage Rm**

**Wednesdays, 7PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Music/Choir Rm**

**Wednesdays, 6:00PM, Heritage Rm**

**Thursdays, 6:30PM, Gym**

**Thursday, 7PM, Offsite**

**Feb 12 & 26**





Equipping ♦ Engaging ♦ Encouraging

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

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