



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 31, 2021 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of her partners in Music Ministry by Heather Kleckley.

SERVING TODAY

Preaching and Presiding

Susan J. Crowell

Pianist and Presiding at Communion

Jim Parham

Cantors

Bob Schirmer
Sheryl Schirmer

Lectors

Melissa Kolb
David Crigler

Video Direction and Production

Henry Wilcox

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways.

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.

**We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues,
you know them; receive them in your divine mercy.**

Amen.

How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of ✝ Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven.

In the wake of Christ's forgiveness,
we are called to be God's beloved community
living out Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

Amen.

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**

**My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.**

**The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.**

**He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.**

**Look unto him, your Savior own, O Fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!**

**To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*The refrain is introduced by the cantor
Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.*

Psalm Refrain



The fear of the LORD is the be - gin - ning of wis - dom.

Psalm Tone



- ¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with | my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.
- ²**Great are your | works, O LORD,
pondered by all who de- | light in them.**
- ³Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- | dures forever.
- ⁴**You cause your wonders to | be remembered;
you are gracious and full | of compassion. R**
- ⁵You give food to | those who fear you,
remembering forev- | er your covenant.
- ⁶**You have shown your people the power | of your works
in giving them the lands | of the nations.**
- ⁷The works of your hands are faithful- | ness and justice;
all of your pre- | cepts are sure.
- ⁸**They stand fast forev- | er and ever,
because they are done in | truth and equity. R**
- ⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant forever;
holy and awesome | is your name.
- ¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- | dures forever. R**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

A reading from first Corinthians.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by God.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, Abba God, 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.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS’ SERMON

Giving Thanks to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Jesus and the disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. ²²The people were astounded by the teaching, for Jesus taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a person with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and the person cried out, “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.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked the spirit, saying, “Be silent, and come out of that person!” ²⁶At that the unclean spirit convulsed the possessed one violently, and with a loud shriek it came out. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! Jesus commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Jesus.” ²⁸Immediately news of Jesus spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus Lord, to thee we raise;
manifested by the star to the sages from afar,
branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream prophet, priest, and king supreme;
and at Cana wedding guest in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in pow'r divine, changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.**

**Manifest in making whole weakened body, fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word;
grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany,
and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered in our homes, let us offer to God both our praises and our petitions for all in need.

Faithful God, we praise you for sustaining the church during this difficult time. We pray that you give to all preachers and teachers the power of your prophetic Spirit, that their words will proclaim the comfort and challenge of Christ. Lead to yourself all those who have become captive to false prophets and empty promises; free them and embrace them in your mercy. O faithful God, we pray:

Hear us and help us.

Bountiful God, we praise you for continuously creating the earth and nourishing its creatures. We pray that you restore lands and waters that have been harmed by human misuse. Raise up advocates for an ecological way of life, and guide us toward an appropriate use of government in preserving the earth's natural resources.

O bountiful God, we pray:

Hear us and help us.

Ruling God, we praise you for an inauguration and the days following that were free from violence and marked by hope. We pray that you give wisdom to our elected and appointed officials, to political parties, and to grassroots organizers, that in all things they endeavor to serve the common good. Guide our nation out of the ways of prejudice and into equality and justice for all. O ruling God, we pray:

Hear us and help us.

Compassionate God, we praise you for each day of health and well-being, and we pray for all who are sick or suffering. Comfort those with mental illness or emotional distress, those institutionalized, or living on the streets, or residing in our homes. We praise you for the development of COVID-19 vaccines, and we pray for their fair and prompt distribution. Increase in our land a commitment to limit contagion to others. Strengthen medical workers and home health aides. Receive our prayers for those we name before you: . . . Visit all who have contracted the coronavirus and all who are experiencing the long-term effects of COVID-19. O compassionate God, we pray:

Hear us and help us.

Reconciling God, we praise you for your Spirit of wisdom and concord. We pray for all who make ethical decisions, whether in homes, in churches, or in societies. Keep families from quarreling over which foods to eat. Instruct us when to preserve the past and when to institute change, when to maintain our own preferences and when to yield to others.

O reconciling God, we pray:

Hear us and help us.

Gracious God, we give you praise for your continuous untold blessings, and we offer you now the petitions of our own hearts. O gracious God, we pray:

Hear us and help us.

Eternal God, we praise you for your servants of time past whose words and actions have inspired our lives. We mourn those who have died of Covid-19. Unite us with all our beloved dead now through our memories and at the end of time in your presence.

O eternal God, we pray:

Hear us and help us.

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your loving care, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you.

 **Peace be with you.**

Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

*Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.*

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

Les Petites Soeurs de Jesus and L'Arche Community, tr. Stephen Summerville (ELW 808).

OFFERTORY HYMN

Rise, Shine, You People!

#665

(verses 1 and 3)

**Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us,
by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.**

**Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling;
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the
world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

*Worshippers who gather with family at home are invited to share the bread and wine with each other using these words spoken directly to each person, "The body of Christ given for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you."
Worshippers who are gathering with the community from their individual homes are invited to receive the bread and wine while saying these words, "The body of Christ given for me," and "The blood of Christ shed for me."*

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come

#610

**O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored when reached by love that never ends?**

**From ev'ry ailment flesh endures our bodies clamor to be freed;
yet in our hearts we would confess that wholeness is our deepest need.**

**In conflicts that destroy our health we recognize the world's disease;
our common life declares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ for these?**

**Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your community may find
the wholeness that, enriching us, shall reach the whole of humankind.**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Christ Jesus,
at this table we have feasted on your very life
and are strengthened for our journey.
Send us forth from this banquet
nourished in body and in spirit
to proclaim your good news
and serve others in your name.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✝ keep you in peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!
(verses 1 and 2)

#308

**O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
God's own truth and light, aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's line, King David's son, our Lord and Savior,
you have won our hearts to serve you only! Lowly,
holy! Great and glorious, all victorious, rich
in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!**

**Come, precious diamond, light divine, and deep within
our hearts now shine; there light a flame undying!
In your one body let us be as living branches
of a tree, your life our lives supplying. Now, though
daily earth's deep sadness may perplex us and
distress us, yet with heav'nly joy you bless us.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

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