

Worship for the Fourth Sunday After Epiphany – January 30, 2022

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION OF THE SERVICE

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We begin the service by acknowledging that we are sinners and that God forgives us—we are practicing how to love one another—saying ouch and sorry and I forgive you.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Dear Lord, you know us better than we know ourselves. Reveal to us your mercy, bless us with right relationship with you and with our neighbors, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Amen.

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

Merciful Savior,

Like Peter we could fall down before you and say, "get away from me, Lord, for I am a sinner." For we are both captured by and contribute to the hollow brokenness of the world.

Please call us by name, claim us, forgive us, make us people who heal and help and follow after you, in Jesus name. Amen.

God's love overflows and God's mercy is relentless. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of your Sin, in the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN – LBW#397

“O Zion Haste”

Verses 1 & 4



1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
 2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
 3 Give of your own to bear the mes - sage glo - rious,
 4 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,



to tell to all the world that God is light;
 that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
 give of your wealth to speed them on their way,
 make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;



that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
 pour out your soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious,
 let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,



one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
 and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
 and haste the com - ing of the glo - rious day.
 through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain



Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,



tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp-tion, and re - lease.

GREETING

We gather together in worship, because we don't do this alone, but as a community formed around Jesus Christ. Where two or three are gathered in his name, Jesus is there.

Jesus who was revealed in a manger, at a river, and during a wedding feast. We gather expecting Jesus to keep showing up, in food, water, and community.

May it be so.

KYRIE

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

We weekly hear the story of God in scriptures, sermons, and creeds because there are so many stories told in this world and there is a real danger that we will forget our own.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

God's Word, revealed to us.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 71

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

**In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;
incline your ear to me and save me.**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;
you are my crag and my stronghold.

**Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.**

For you are my hope, O Lord God,
my confidence since I was young.

**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb
you have been my strength;
my praise shall be always of you.**

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 4th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so

that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY LBW#231 "O Word of God Incarnate"

Verses 1 & 3



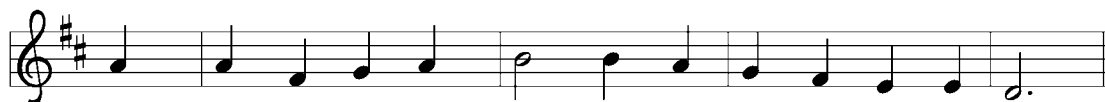
1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
oh, teach your wand - ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Guide your church in the ways of faith, hope, and love. Cultivate ministries and communities of compassion that bear witness to your enduring presence among us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Teach us to live in humility on the earth. Curb arrogance that leads to destruction of natural resources and disregard for future generations. Inspire the work of scientists who urge us to live in harmony with your creation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You are the refuge of all who seek hope and freedom. Accompany immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who cross borders to find safety and opportunity. Embolden leaders to draft compassionate policies on behalf of migrants and those who assist them. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things. Comfort with your love all who are lonely, fearful, or brokenhearted. Sustain the hope of all those who suffer in body or spirit (especially). God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your grace falls upon young and old alike. Bless the gifts of children in this congregation and in this community. Give us humble hearts to follow their leadership. Inspire us with their laughter, their insight, and their curiosity. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We praise you for those who have gone before us and now see you face to face (especially). Abide with us in this mortal life until we rest in the arms of your neverending love. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

OFFERING

We give thanks, because it helps us recognize that all good things come from God. We practice being thankful.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“All Your Heart”

-Larson/Williams

☩ Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
 cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
 seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
 Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
 prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Let us pray,
 Merciful God,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

When we receive Holy Communion, we consume what we are, the Body of Christ.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

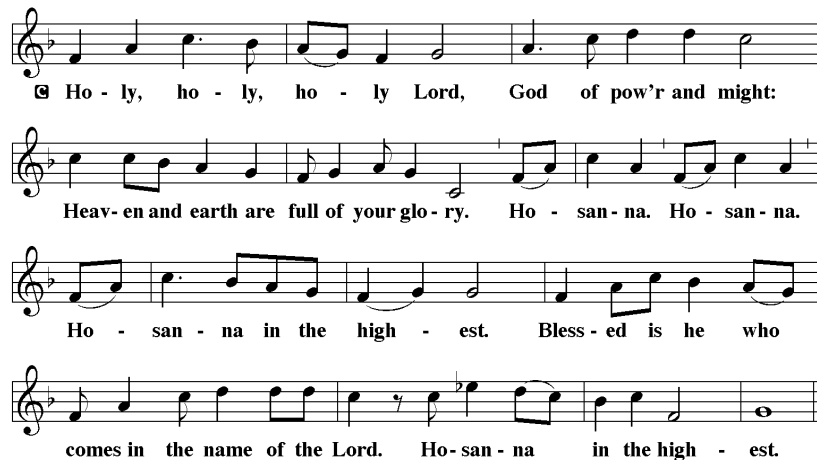
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Yes! We praise you for the love, fidelity, and mercy that you continually show to us.

Your presence could shake the heavens and the earth, but instead we experience you as a resting place and refuge. Thank you.

You were faithful to Moses in his wanderings and Miriam through her song. You showed your mercy to the widow of Zarephath through your prophet Elijah. Thank you.

Your mercy shined on the Magi and reflected out into all the world. Your son Jesus brought joy to the feast and blessings to the least, last and lost. The grave could not hold him and his Spirit pushes us to live out his good news. Thank you. We thank you and join the song of your Church in every age, and the heavenly angels as well:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

On the night in which he was handed over,
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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in the remembrance of me.

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

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.

Let us lift up these common elements of bread and wine, as we ask your Holy Spirit's blessing that they might be for us the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Body of Christ, given for you.
The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

May Christ's body and blood strengthen and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

BENEDICTUS



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Praise and thanks to you almighty God, for you have revealed yourself to us in bread and cup. Be generous to us, please, that we might be faithful to you and loving to our neighbor, for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

SENDING

We are sent out to be salt and light, revealing God's love to a world that needs it.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN WOV#721 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

Verses 1 & 4



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."
Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world.

Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.