

4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
DIVINE SERVICE, IV
JANUARY 28, 2024

PRELUDE

PRAYER ON ENTERING CHURCH:

- P** “LORD, I Love the Habitation of Your House and the Place where Your Glory Dwells. In the multitude of Your Tender Mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your House to worship and confess Your Holy Name; through Jesus Christ, my God and LORD.” (145)

BEFORE WORSHIP:

- C** “O LORD, our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as we come together to worship You in Spirit and in Truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in Grace and Holiness. Hear us for His sake, Amen.” (146)

✠ SERVICE OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION ✠

INTROIT: *Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10* [LSB: 204]

- P** Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*
but Steadfast Love surrounds the One Who Trusts | in the LORD.
- C** Blessed is the One Whose transgression is For- | given,*
Whose sin is | covered.
- P** Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.
- C** I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and You Forgave the iniquity | of my sin.
- P** Therefore let everyone who is Godly offer prayer to You at a time when You | may be found;*
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.
- C** You are a Hiding Place for me; You Preserve me from | trouble;*
You Surround me with shouts of De- | liverance.
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be Forever. | Amen.
- P** Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*
but Steadfast Love surrounds the One Who Trusts | in the LORD.

INVOCATION [LSB: pg. 203]

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b [18-20]*
- C** Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION [LSB: pg. 203]

- P** Our help is in the Name of the LORD,
C Who Made Heaven and earth. *Psalm 124:8*
- P** If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O LORD, who could stand?
C But with You there is Forgiveness; therefore You are feared. *Psalm 130:3-4*
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this Altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and Confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His People let us take Refuge in the Infinite Mercy of God, our Heavenly Father, seeking His Grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be Merciful to me, a sinner. *[Luke 18:13]*
- C** Almighty God, have Mercy upon us, Forgive us our sins, and lead us to Everlasting Life. Amen. *Psalm 130:3-4*
- P** Almighty God in His Mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His Sake Forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His Authority, I therefore Forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*
- C** Amen.

OPENING HYMN: "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" [LSB: 349]

1.
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 man made Manifest.

2.
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 man made Manifest.

3.
Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and 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 man made Manifest.

4.
Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the Heav'ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning Shine,
All will see His Glorious Sign;
All will then the Trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge Appear;
Thou by all wilt be Confessed,
God in man made Manifest.

5.
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 man made Manifest.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

KYRIE ~ LORD, Have Mercy ~ [Mark 10:47] [LSB: pg. 204]

C LORD, have Mercy; Christ, have Mercy; LORD, have Mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest [LSB: 204]
Luke 2:14; John 1:29

1.
To God on High be Glory And Peace to
all the earth; Goodwill from God in
Heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' Birth! We
praise and bless You, Father; Your
Holy Name, we sing— Our thanks for
Your Great Glory, LORD God, our
Heav'nly King.

2.
To You, O Sole-Begotten, The Father's
Son, we pray; O Lamb of God, our
Savior, You take our sins away. Have
Mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our
heartfelt cry, Where You in Pow'r are
seated At God's right hand on High.

3.
For You Alone are Holy; You Only are the LORD. Forever and Forever, Be
worshiped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit Alone are LORD Most High,
In God the Father's Glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY [LSB: 205]

P The LORD be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray ... 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Deuteronomy 18:15–20 [LSB: 205]

"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—¹⁶ 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.' ¹⁷ And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to My Words that He shall speak in My Name, I Myself will require it of him. ²⁰ 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.'"

A This is the Word of the LORD.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL OF THE DAY: *Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8* [LSB: 205]

R Praise the LORD, all | nations!*
Extol Him, all | peoples!
For Great is His Steadfast | Love toward us,*
and the Faithfulness of the LORD Endures For- | ever.
Ascribe to the LORD the Glory | due His Name,*
bring an offering, and come in- | to His Courts!

EPISTLE READING: *1 Corinthians 8:1–13* [LSB: 205]

“Concerning food offered to idols: we know that ‘all of us possess knowledge.’ This ‘knowledge’ puffs up, but love builds up. ² If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³ But if anyone loves God, he is Known by God. ⁴ 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.’ ⁵ For although there may be so - called gods in heaven or on earth — as indeed there are many ‘gods’ and many ‘lords’ — ⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ 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? ¹¹ And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the Brother for Whom Christ Died. ¹² Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³ 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.

ALLELUIA VERSE: *John 20:31 (Please Stand)* [LSB: 205]

C Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. These things are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: *Mark 1:21–28* [LSB: 206]

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.
C Glory to You, O LORD.

“They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was Teaching. ²² And they were astonished at His Teaching, for He Taught them as One Who had Suthority, and not as the scribes. ²³ And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴ ‘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.’ ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, ‘Be silent, and come

out of him!’ ²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷ 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.’ ²⁸ 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.

NICENE CREED [LSB: 206]

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one LORD Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of One substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our Salvation came down from Heaven and was Incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and Ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with Glory to Judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is Worshiped and Glorified, Who spoke by the

prophets. And I believe in One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Christian: the ancient text reads “*catholic*,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine
Us men means all people

HYMN OF THE DAY: “*Son of God, Eternal Savior*” [LSB: 842]

1.
Son of God, Eternal Savior,
Source of Life and Truth and Grace,
Word made flesh, Whose Birth among
us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, Who, Throned in Glory,
For Your Own Will ever plead:
Fill us with Your Love and Pity,
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

3.
Come, O Christ, and Reign among us,
King of Love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion,
Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your Patient years of Toiling,
By Your silent hours of Pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
Stem our selfish greed of gain.

2.
As You, LORD, have Lived for others,
So may we for others live.
Freely have Your Gifts been Granted;
Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the Gold and Yours the Silver,
Yours the Wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your Bounty
Held in solemn trust will be.

4.
Son of God, Eternal Savior,
Source of Life and Truth and Grace,
Word made flesh, Whose Birth among
us Hallows all our human race:
By Your Praying, by Your Willing
That Your People should be One,
Grant, O Grant our Hope's fruition:
Here on earth Your Will be Done.

SERMON

OFFERING & MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Please Stand*)

☐ Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs,...

END OF VIDEO FEED

LORD'S PRAYER [LSB: 209]

☐ LORD, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray.
☐ **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.**

☐ Heavenly Father, God of all Grace, Govern our hearts that we may never forget Your Blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all the Saints, we praise You Eternally in Your Heavenly Kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our LORD,
☐ **Amen.**

BENEDICTION [LSB: 228]

☐ The Grace of our LORD, ☩ Jesus Christ, and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
☐ **Amen.**