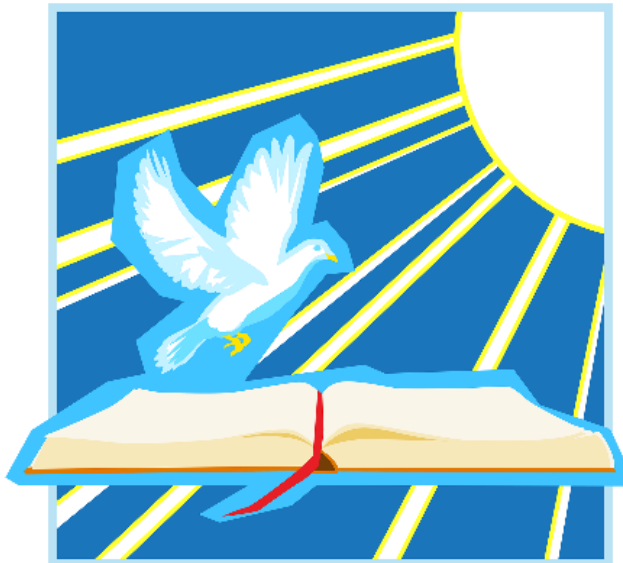


Second Sunday after Epiphany
Saturday, January 13, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 14, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

Entrance Hymn: When Morning Gilds the Skies

LSB 807

- 1 When morning gilds the skies,
 My heart, awaking, cries,
 “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
 When evening shadows fall,
 This rings my curfew call:
 “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

- 2 When mirth for music longs,
 This is my song of songs:
 “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
 God’s holy house of prayer
 Hath none that can compare
 With “Jesus Christ be praised!”

- 3 No lovelier antiphon
 In all high heav’n is known
 Than “Jesus Christ be praised!”
 There to the_ eternal Word
 The_ eternal psalm is heard:
 “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

- 4 Ye nations of mankind,
 In this your concord find:
 “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
 Let all the earth around
 Ring joyous with the sound:
 “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

- 5 Sing, suns and stars of space,
 Sing, ye that see His face,
 Sing, “Jesus Christ be praised!”
 God’s whole creation o’er,
 Both now and evermore
 Shall Jesus Christ be praised!

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: We are in a Christ-centered universe.

C: **Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.**

P: For by him all things were created.

C: **Christ is before all things, and in him all things hold together.**

P: And he is the head of the body, the church;

C: **Christ is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead,**

P: So that he might have first place in everything.

C: **For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,**

P: And through him to reconcile to himself all things,

C: **By making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.**

P: Let us pray. O God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, so that in this worship service we may grow in the knowledge of Christ our Savior and thereby be strengthened so that in everything he might have first place.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

LSB 589

1. Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens,
 Let Your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me,
 Let each promise still my fear.
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife,
Wars against Your Word of life;
 Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor
 That I cling to You forever!

2. Oh, what blessing to be near You
And to listen to Your voice;
Let me ever love and hear You,
Let Your Word be now my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord,
Flee in terror at Your Word;
But to all who feel sin's burden
You give words of peace and pardon.
3. Lord, Your words are waters living
When my thirsting spirit pleads.
Lord, Your words are bread life-giving;
On Your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, Your words will be my light
Through death's cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing
And my cup of joy unfailing!
4. As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
Let Your words in me take root.
May Your Spirit e'er be near me
That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing Your praise,
From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given
In the endless joy of heaven.

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10

The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

²One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, “Here I am.”⁵ And he ran to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.” But Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.” So he went and lay down.

⁶ Again the LORD called, “Samuel!” And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.” “My son,” Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.”

⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ A third time the LORD called, “Samuel!” And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.” Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ So Eli told Samuel, “Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” Then Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:15-23

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 1:43-51

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

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

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴ Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

⁴⁶ “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked.

“Come and see,” said Philip.

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.” ⁴⁸ “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.”

⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

⁵⁰ Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” ⁵¹ He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles Creed

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 everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

Praise be To Christ

LSB 538

1. Praise be to Christ in whom we see
The image of the Father shown,
The first-born Son revealed and known,
The truth and grace of deity;
Through whom creation came to birth,
Whose fingers set the stars in place,
The unseen pow'rs, and this small earth,
The furthest bounds of time and space.
2. Praise be to Him whose sov'reign sway
And will upholds creation's plan;
Who is, before all worlds began
And when our world has passed away:
Lord of the church, its life and head,
Redemption's price and source and theme,
Alive, the first-born from the dead,
To reign as all-in-all supreme.
3. Praise be to Him who, Lord Most High,
The fullness of the Godhead shares;
And yet our human nature bears,
Who came as man to bleed and die.
And from His cross there flows our peace
Who chose for us the path He trod,
That so might sins and sorrows cease
And all be reconciled to God.

Sermon **We Have A Christ Centered Universe Colossians 1:15-23**

Offering

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,

People: but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son.

Pastor: As God has spoken to us in His Word through His Son, let us speak to Him in prayer. We pray for the Church of God and all people according to their needs. We praise You, heavenly Father, for calling us to faith through Your Spirit.

As Your Body of believers, called to follow You, enable us to proclaim Your Word of salvation in all truth and purity. Soften the hearts and open the minds of all people, that they may know You have called them as Your own in grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: As Samuel heard Your call to faithful service, let us also heed Your call to serve You and serve others in joy. For those whom You have called to serve as church workers, bless their ministry, protect their health and well-being both mentally and physically, and grant Your continued presence and blessings upon their work.

For those You have called in other vocations with various jobs and employments, let all work be done as work done for You and the benefit of others. For the unemployed and underemployed, continue to give patience and an awareness of the gifts and abilities that come from Your hand, all the while serving You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: As Paul calls believers to flee from immorality, give to Your people steadfast faith and the ability to resist temptation. As You in Your Law have given a clear standard for the right use of our bodies, which were bought at a price through the blood of our Savior, cause us to glorify You in our bodies and in our very selves. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: As Jesus called His disciples to follow Him, so also help us heed His call and follow in faith. Even amid troubles and trials faced in body and soul, keep faith steadfast and firm with trust in Your presence, Your promises, and Your peace. Be especially with those who have requested our prayers, [*including . . .*]. As they call out to You, speak to them Your comfort, compassion, and care. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: Sovereign God, merciful Father,

C: We confess that, although we willingly say that “Jesus is King,” we often fail to bow our knees before him. Instead, we give priorities to the relationships and material goods of this world. In your mercy, hear our prayer of confession. Grant us humility to truly bow before Christ Jesus, the center of the universe, so that in everything he might have first place.

P: Through Christ, our crucified King, you have pardon and peace from our Father in heaven. “For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Christ, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.” (*Colossians 1:19–20*).

C: Let us then worship our King, proclaiming Jesus Lord of all!

- P: Upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the precious and powerful Gospel to you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins; in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: The Father has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. Amen!**

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

The Invitation

P: This **evening/ morning** we have another opportunity to encounter God's real, tangible grace for us in this meal; that in, with, and under these simple elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus Christ given to us for the forgiveness of sins.

And so, we become what we eat. We are the body of Christ to be sent out into the world. So it's necessary and good that we partake of this meal; that we experience God's love for us in this way, that we share this family meal together. So if this is your confession I would invite you to join me as we confess together our faith.

C: I understand and admit that I have sinned against God, that I recognize my sin and humbly ask God to forgive me. I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and that He is my only hope against sin, death, and the devil.

I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine I receive this true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life to the Lord and His Church by faithfully worshipping Him, cheerfully giving my time and resources, and joyfully sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

The Words of Our Lord

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

pg 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

pg 180

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn

Brightest and best of the Stars

LSB 400

- 1 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
 Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
 Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
 Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

- 2 Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
 Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;
 Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
 Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

- 3 Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion,
Fragrance of Edom and off'rings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?
- 4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
- 5 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Post-Communion Collect

- P:** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, gracious Father, for what You have revealed to us through Your Son. As Your Spirit continues to call us through Your Word, grant us ears to hear, wills to obey, hands to serve, and hearts filled with the grace that You have bestowed in this Holy Supper. Strengthen and preserve us all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C:** **Amen.**

Benediction: (From Colossians 3:16–17)

- Pastor:** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.
- People:** **And whatever we do, whether in word or deed, we will do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**

- 1 Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,
 Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;
 Godhead, humanity, union supernal,
 O great Redeemer, You come as our friend!
 Heaven and earth, now proclaim this great wonder:
 Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!

- 2 Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!
 Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.
 See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!
 He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
 Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.
 Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!

- 3 Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.
 See now the threatening strong one disarmed!
 Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's fortress,
 Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant, unharmed.
 Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!
 Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!

- 4 Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
 Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow'r,
 Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;
 Welcome Him now in this fast-fleeting hour!
 Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for you!
 Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!