

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 20 & 21, 2024

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY

“JUST AS... I AM”



Peace
Lutheran Church
NEENAH, WISCONSIN—LCMS

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January 20 & 21, 2024

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY

“JUST AS... I AM”

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

GREETING

P: Peace be with you,

C: And also with you.

ENTRANCE HYMN: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LSB 790



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall
dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -
prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.
peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneueren Gesang-Buchs, 1665, Stralsund Text and tune: Public domain

stand

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Our help is in the name of the Lord

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P Almighty God, Maker and Father,

C You despise nothing You have made, and You desire not the death of sinners. We confess that we have abused Your blessings, neglected our neighbors, and served only ourselves. Our sin, within and without, known and unknown, has made us and our world unrighteous altogether. Mercifully turn us from temptation and transgression to lament our frailties, repent our failures, and amend our behavior. Graciously take away our guilt and punishment for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Substitute and Advocate. Grant that His atonement for iniquity and dominion over death reconcile us in holy faithfulness to You and humble fellowship with one another. Amen.

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 forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

INTROIT: Psalm 8:1-9

P O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

C You have set your glory above the heavens.

P Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes,

C to still the enemy and the avenger.

P When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

C the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

P what is man that you are mindful of him,

C and the son of man that you care for him?

P Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
C **and crowned him with glory and honor.**

P You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
C **you have put all things under his feet,**

P all sheep and oxen,
C **and also the beasts of the field,**

P the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
C **whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

P O Lord, our Lord,
C **how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

All 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.

COLLECT

P O Lord, You have wondrously created us and all else for Yourself and for life everlasting. In the coming of Your Son, You have redeemed our race and united humankind to Your own immortality. As Your Holy Spirit continues to call and lay claim to body and soul, grant us every one to be made now and ever more like the image of Him who made Himself like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

sit

CHOIR (Sunday) "Order My Steps"

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 9:1-15

And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. And you, be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it." Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him,

“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.”

E/P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON:

Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

E/P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

stand

GOSPEL LESSON

John 14:12-20

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. If you love

me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES CREED

All: 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.

sit

SERMON HYMN Just As I Am

LSB 570



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON “Just As... I Am”

Ephesians 2:1-10

GATHERING OF THE OFFERING

stand

PRAYERS

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Our Father, who art in heaven, honor and glory, thanks and praise belong to You, for You have made human life in Your image. You adopt and adore us each just as we are for the sake of Your beloved Son Jesus Christ. Grant us this grace also to receive every neighbor as a gift and privilege notwithstanding appearance or ability. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hallowed be Thy name. Gladden and embolden us to proclaim Your goodness and put it into practice, speaking truth that advocates against violence and death and showing love that assists survival and welfare as agents of Your promised joy and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Thy kingdom come. Graciously restrain the deception and selfishness that pressure many into viewing death as a solution to suffering. Bring an end to abortion, assisted suicide, embryocide, and all discrimination against the worth of any person. And enlighten our citizens and inspire our officials to enact policies and practices that protect and defend the vulnerable. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Bless the medical arts and their practitioners as ambassadors of Your healing always to care and never to kill. Keep their minds and hands free from every unholy cultural pressure. As it pleases You, move everyone involved in intentionally

ending human life to abandon and oppose these evils. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give us this day our daily bread. Surround each human being with a healthy home and settle them in happy families according to Your good and gracious will. Accept our gratitude for the birthdays and anniversaries we celebrate. Direct all hearts to wait upon Your abundance, assured that You will meet every bodily need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Warm and soften the spirits of those who slander, persecute, and oppress, that they may experience Your loving-kindness alongside us. Absolve and relieve anyone broken by the abortion of his or her own child. By Your mercy for our mistakes, bid us behold the sanctity of our own lives until we love one another as You have loved us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lead us not into temptation. Bring forth in us the life and Spirit of our Shepherd and Savior Jesus to put away the desires and priorities of the flesh. Intervene and undertake on behalf of those beset by the afflictions of our fallen race and the burdens of this broken world. And drive the devil far from everyone considering abortion or contemplating physician-assisted suicide. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

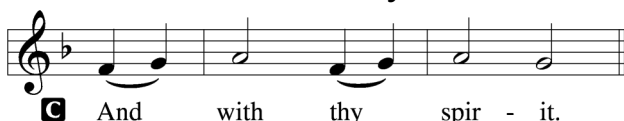
P Deliver us from evil. Give answer to the ones who cry out awaiting adoption, facing surprise pregnancy, experiencing infertility, or enduring terminal diagnosis. Form in us a patient faith that leans upon Your presence and power at the hour of our dying. With Your Son, the angels, and all the saints, welcome us into the everlasting communion of Your heavenly kingdom, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

C Amen.

PREFACE

LSB p. 194

P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB p. 195



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB p. 196

P 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.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB p. 197

P 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

LSB p. 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

LSB p. 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



sit

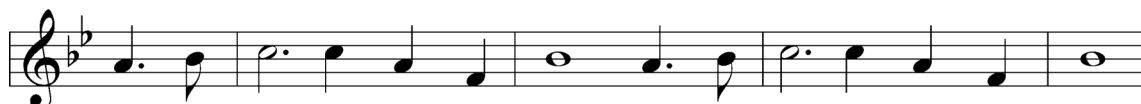
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Rock of Ages

LSB 761



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
 When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg-ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
 All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
 Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–78 Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

Children of the Heavenly Father

LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose

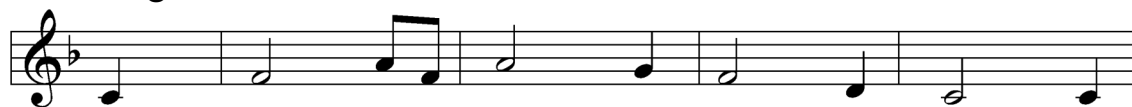


heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

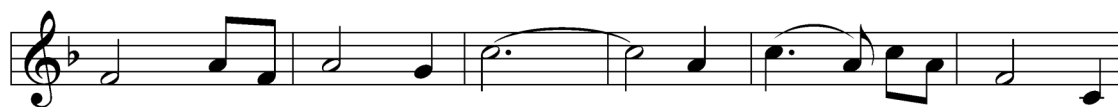
Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958 Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden Text: Public domain
 Tune: Public domain

Amazing Grace

LSB 744



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
 mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
 then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati Text and tune: Public domain

stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB p. 199

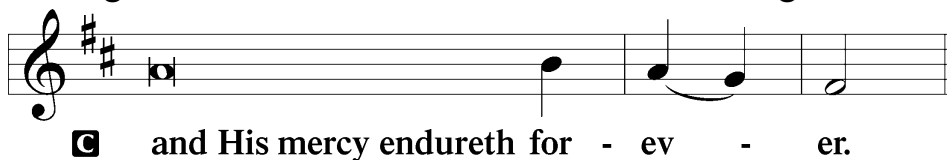


Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A-men.

THANKSGIVING

LSB p. 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

LSB p. 201

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECESSIONAL HYMN: I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

LSB 740



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
 By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
 to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, 1784, Leipzig Text and tune: Public domain

THE SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Welcome to Peace in the name of the Risen Savior!

We request that visitors register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. We ask that you share your name and address so that we can recognize your visit with us. All members are requested to register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. Members, please indicate all family members present and those who took communion, so that the Pastor and Elders can be spiritually accountable for you and your family.

Are your cell phones turned off? Cell phones are indeed a great convenience in life these days. However, please, out of courtesy, silence cell phones during the worship service. Thank you!

Hearing assist devices and large print bulletins are available for those who may need them. Please see an Usher or the Elder who will be happy to assist you.

A Mother's Room is available for parents of young children if the need arises. The Mother's Room in the west hallway. The worship service is able to be heard in the Mother's Room.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion. Scripture teaches that Holy Communion is a sacred act, established by Christ Himself and is given to His Church. As members of **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**, we hold the doctrine of the Real Presence, in with and under; meaning that Jesus gives His Body and Blood with the bread and wine, as He Himself says, *"This is my body... This is my blood... for the forgiveness of sins."* (Matthew 26:26ff)

The Holy Scriptures also teach us to receive this meal in a way that is responsible and healthy. As overseer, St. Paul wrote- *"let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself"* (1 Cor. 11:28-29). Out of genuine care for God's people we ask that those (1) who have not been baptized and instructed in the faith or (2) who come from another church body, not in altar or pulpit fellowship with us, refrain from receiving Holy Communion.

For those preparing to receive Holy Communion, Luther encourages us to ask ourselves these questions:

Do **I repent** of my sins, desiring to turn away from them, back to the Lord?

Do **I believe** Jesus died and rose for me and gives me His Body and Blood this day "for the forgiveness of sins"?

Do **I intend** to use this means of grace to change my life, following His will and way?

We ask that all who receive the Lord's Supper fill out a "Care Card" and place it in the offering plate. Please note that reduced-alcoholic white wine is available in the center cups of the communion tray.

**Peace Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**

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Ricky P. Schroeder, Pastor
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Josiah Fitch, Associate Pastor
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WORSHIP SERVICES:

Holy Communion Celebrated at all Services
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00a.m.
Sunday Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School (Sept. –May) 10:30 a.m.

Website: www.peaceneenah.com

YouTube: Peace Neenah

