

Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany
January 28, 2024



https://img.freepik.com/premium-photo/stressed-frustrated-man-plugging-his-ears-with-fingers-keeping-eyes-closed_262288-10423.jpg

PRESERVICE MUSIC

A Reminder: Please be respectful to our brothers and sisters who use the time prior to worship for quiet meditation on God's Word. - Thank you

394 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

sts. 1, 3, 5

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.

Text: Public domain

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

"O my God, in You I trust" *Psalms 25:2*

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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 therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10

Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. 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. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

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.

Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

HYMN OF THE MONTH - 594 GOD'S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT

This hymn text by Erdmann Neumeister comforts those who are troubled, especially those facing the dark consequences of sin, their own graves, with the promise of paradise's eternal light. As baptized Christians we depend fully upon the work of God through Christ for our salvation. We boldly sing, "I am baptized into Christ!"

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free Lasting to eternity!
- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation, I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled, All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957

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SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

¹⁵“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— ¹⁶just 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.’ ¹⁷And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸I 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. ¹⁹And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. ²⁰But 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.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 8:1–13

¹Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ²If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. ⁴Therefore, 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.” ⁵For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— ⁶yet 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. ⁷However, 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. ⁸Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For 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? ¹¹And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹²Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²²And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³And 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.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷And 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.” ²⁸And 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

533 JESUS HAS COME AND BRINGS PLEASURE

- 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!

Text: Johann Ludwig Conrad Allendorf, 1693–1773; tr. Oliver C. Rupprecht, 1903–2000, alt.

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SERMON “Don't Want to Die!” Deuteronomy 18:15-20

CREED Early Service – Apostles' Creed Late Service – Nicene Creed
(Creed can be found in the back of the hymnal and on the screens)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Let us pray to the Lord

C **Lord have mercy.**

At the end of the prayer:

C Amen.

Early service please continue with the Lord's Prayer & Benediction

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, 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 161

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

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

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

- 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.

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

For guests and visitors, we invite you to please read our statement regarding the Lord's Supper on the inside cover of your bulletin.

620 JESUS COMES TODAY WITH HEALING

sts. 1–3, 6

- 1 Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing,
Offering pardon, grace, and peace. He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation: "Come and taste the blessed feast."
- 2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding, Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament, Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.
- 3 Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me, Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given, Hung upon the cursèd tree.
- 6 Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808–58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960

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849 PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
 Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
 Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;
 From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
 Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
 Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
 Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

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761 ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

- 1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in Thee;
 Let the water and the blood,
 From Thy riven side which flowed,
 Be of sin the double cure:
 Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
- 2 Not the labors of my hands
 Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
 Could my zeal no respite know,
 Could my tears forever flow,
 All for sin could not atone;
 Thou must save, and Thou alone.
- 3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
 Simply to Thy cross I cling.
 Naked, come to Thee for dress;
 Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
 Foul, I to the fountain fly;
 Wash me, Savior, or I die.
- 4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
 When mine eyelids close in death,
 When I soar to worlds unknown,
 See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–78 Text: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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.

G Amen.

BENEDICTION

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

G Amen.

810 O GOD OF GOD, O LIGHT OF LIGHT

- 1 O God of God, O Light of Light,
O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To you in heaven's glory bright
The song of praise forever rings.
To Him who sits upon the throne,
The Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory He has won,
All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.
- 2 For deep in prophets' sacred page,
And grand in poets' wingèd word,
Slowly in type, from age to age
The nations saw their coming Lord;
Till through the deep Judean night
Rang out the song, "Goodwill to men!"
Sung once by firstborn sons of light,
It echoes now, "Goodwill!" Amen.
- 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love,
That death so steeped in hate and scorn—
These all are past, and now above
He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates!
So sang that host beyond our ken.
Lift up your heads, your King awaits.
We lift them up. Amen, amen.
- 4 Then raise to Christ a mighty song,
And shout His name, His mercies tell!
Sing, heav'nly host, your praise prolong,
And all on earth, your anthem swell!
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain!
Forever let the song ascend!
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign,
All glory, pow'r! Amen, amen.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, alt.

Text: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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