

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany ☩ January 31, 2021 ☩ 11:00 A.M.
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation *ELW* = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (hymnal, if you have one at home)

PRELUDES

Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion, so please prepare ahead of time wine/grape juice and bread appropriate to the number in your family. Our liturgy declares we celebrate with "the church on earth and the hosts of heaven." So in these days of required distancing, longing to share the Lord's Supper again soon physically together at one table of the Lord, we acknowledge communion always connects us "remotely" and powerfully with the Church through time and space. This will be another form of that connection. We understand no precedents are being set in these unique times.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fritz

GATHERING HYMN: *God, Whose Almighty Word*

ELW Hymn 673

- 1 God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.**
- 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind, sight where illusions blind; oh, now to humankind let there be light.**
- 3 Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove, speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place let there be light.**
- 4 Holy and blessed three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might:
boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.**

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt. Public Domain

GREETING

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
☑ **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
☑ **Amen.**

READING: Psalm 65:1-3, 7-8, 13

- ☒ Today's Lesson comes from Psalm 65.

O God, it is right for us to praise you in Zion and keep our promises to you, ²because you answer prayers. People everywhere will come to you ³on account of their sins. Our faults defeat us, but you forgive them.

⁷You calm the roar of the seas and the noise of the waves; you calm the uproar of the peoples.

⁸The whole world stands in awe of the great things that you have done.

Your deeds bring shouts of joy from one end of the earth to the other.

¹³Everything shouts and sings for joy.

—Good News Translation

- ☒ Word of God, word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

**1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded; offer now your praises grand:
“Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!”**

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-1885, alt. Public Domain.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and his disciples came to the town of Capernaum, and on the next Sabbath Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. ²²The people who heard him were amazed at the way he taught, for he wasn't like the teachers of the Law; instead, he taught with authority.

²³Just then a man with an evil spirit came into the synagogue and screamed, ²⁴“What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Are you here to destroy us? I know who you are—you are God's holy messenger!”

²⁵Jesus ordered the spirit, “Be quiet, and come out of the man!”

²⁶The evil spirit shook the man hard, gave a loud scream, and came out of him. ²⁷The people were all so amazed that they started saying to one another, “What is this? Is it some kind of new teaching? This man has authority to give orders to the evil spirits, and they obey him!”

²⁸And so the news about Jesus spread quickly everywhere in the province of Galilee.

—*Good News Translation*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

ELW Hymn 886

**1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**

**3 The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.**

**4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.**

**6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Public Domain

OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us confess our baptismal faith together.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "Lord, in your mercy" please respond, "Hear our prayer."

The prayers are ended with these words, "Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior." Please respond, "Amen."

INVITATION TO OFFERING: *Link to give:* <https://coslutheran.org/give/>

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord 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 for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

SHARING COMMUNION WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD

*As the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church remotely by communing each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise:
"The body of Christ for you" and "The blood of Christ for you."*



HYMN DURING COMMUNION: *Healer of Our Every Ill**ELW Hymn 612*

*Refrain: Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.*

1 You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain*

4 You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain*

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PASTORAL BLESSING**BENEDICTION**

P God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *Lift Every Voice and Sing**ELW Hymn 841*

1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938 Public Domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Carol and Paul Talbott

Tech crew: Carol Jensen-Linton, Bill Porter, Lindsay Eggen, Will Friedrichs

Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God by Nancy and Ernie Broadwell,

in memory of Alma Belben and Rose Dunham.