

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 30, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

OPENING HYMN: “Jesus Has Come”

**Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,
Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;
God-head, 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!**

**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 from the place of his honor,
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!**

**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!**

**Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
Heaven and earth, oh, 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!**

(“Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure Eternal”, text and setting copyright 1982 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

L: As Moses speaks to the people through God, we confess those times we do not listen to Your words and close our hearts to You.

C: Forgive us, Lord.

L: As Paul warns, we confess those times when our freedom in Christ causes one who is weak in faith to stumble.

C: Forgive us, Lord.

L: As Jesus, the long-awaited Prophet and Savior, taught with and showed His authority and power, we confess those times when we allow the forces of evil to make us forget the deliverance and love of God we have in Christ.

C: Forgive us, Lord.

L: I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;

C: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

L: 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 deliverance.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

SONG OF PRAISE: "I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me"

I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me.

I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me, Singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

Satan had me bound....

When I was in trouble...

I'm so glad...

("I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me", arrangement copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress, used with permission)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

C: Open our hearts and spirits this day, Lord, to hear the great good news of your power and presence with all your people. Fill our hearts with rejoicing as the words are proclaimed in song and story. Enliven us and remind us that you are with us, through the pillar of fire, through the magnificent words of the prophets, through the ministry and love of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

GREETING TIME

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die." The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE LESSON: I Corinthians 8:1-13

Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that "We all possess knowledge." But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God. So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that "An idol is nothing at all in the world" and that "There is no God but one." For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter one.

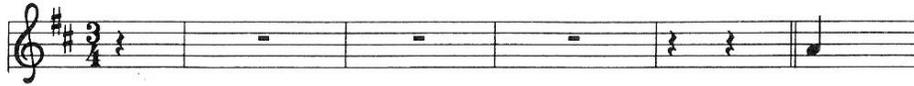
C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

SONG OF THE DAY: "Beloved, God's Chosen"



1 Be -
2 With -
3 Be -



lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment com -
in, call forth Wis - dom, to dwell in you rich - ly; let
lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment com -



pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart. A -
peace rule your hearts and that peace be of Christ. And
pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart. A -



bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment that
from the heart's cham - ber, be - lov - ed and ho - ly, let
bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment that



binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.
sing - ing thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er rise.
binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.

*("Beloved, God's Chosen", text by Susan Cherwien, music by Robert Hobby,
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MESSAGE: "Rights vs. Responsibilities & Principles vs. People"
Pastor Bill Hugo

CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

**All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown him Lord of all.**

**Crown him, you martyrs of our God, Who from his altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown him Lord of all...**

**O seed of Israel’s chosen race, Now ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace And crown him Lord of all...**

**Hail him, you heirs of David’s line, Whom David Lord did call,
The God Incarnate, man divine, And crown him Lord of all...**

**Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at his feet And crown him Lord of all...**

**Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe On this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe And crown him Lord of all...**

**Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at his feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song And crown him Lord of all...**

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Lay Minister: Jim Geslin