

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church
Pastor Lee Welker
January 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**

**Gathered
Fed
Sent**

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church
Neighborhood Connection**

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Welcome to worship today. Our prayer is that we may meet our holy God in song, word, activity and prayer.

Introduction

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

*[Congregation's responses are printed in **BOLD** type.]*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERED

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

Amen.

People



- 1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo - ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.
- 2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;



O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.
they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.

Refrain



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: 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.

WORD

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” Then the Lord replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM READING Psalm 111

(read responsively)

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet 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.

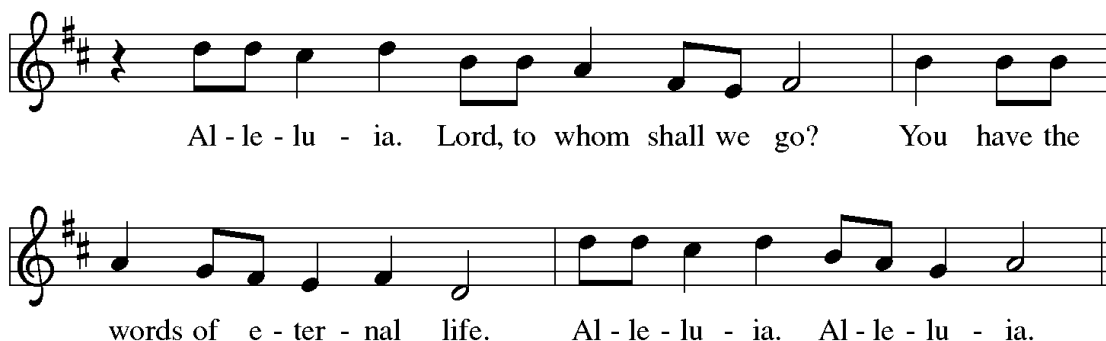
It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand, as you are able



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL Mark 1:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "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." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The gospel our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

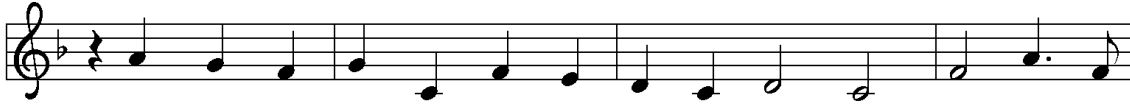
HYMN

665

Rise, Shine, You People!



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

APOSTLES' CREED

Together let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**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 INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends, *God of grace,*
Our response, **receive our prayer.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

You may share the peace of Christ with one another

OFFERING

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, Holy One,
**for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven
to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow
your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

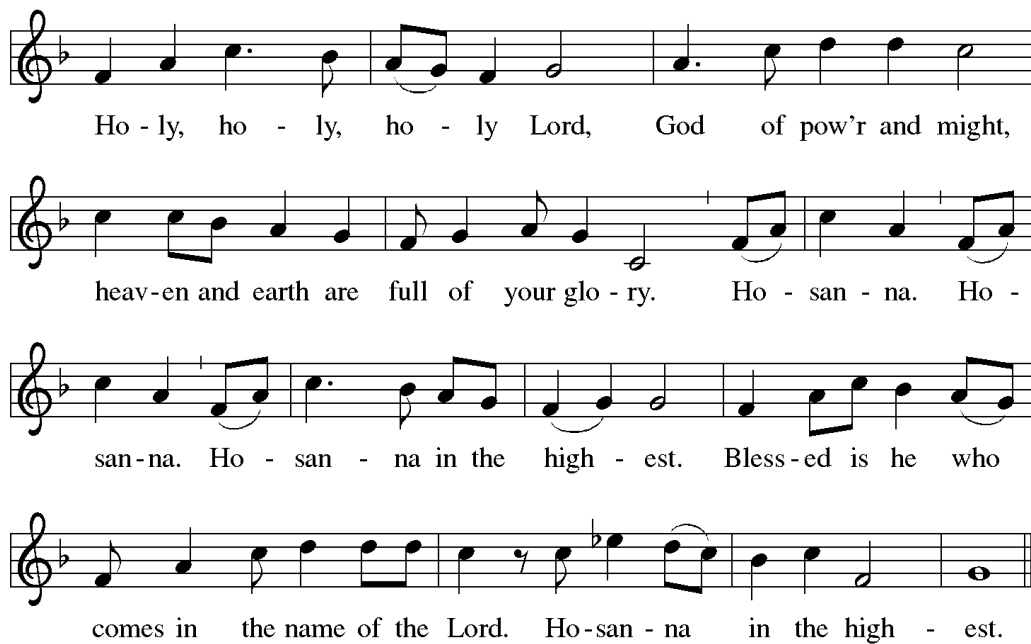
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,.....
.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:.....

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

.....Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

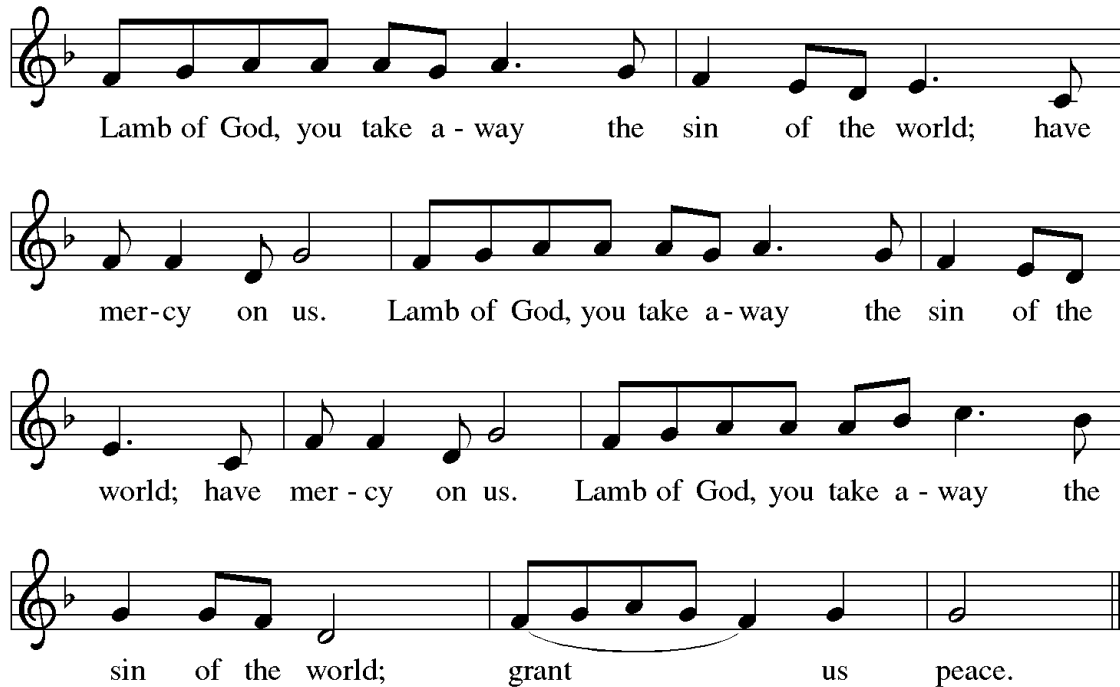
now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Assisting Minister will be communed first so that those on Zoom can partake in the communion before the congregation:

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus the Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

SENT

BENEDICTION

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ☩ bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph-ets burn - ing with the word,
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,

Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Music portions of the Liturgy, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting 3,
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Texts for February 4: Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians
9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

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The attendance at last weeks' service was about 27 and 1 on Zoom and
YouTube.

The ICAN Food Pantry is at Downey Avenue Christian Church, 111 S.
Downey Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219. They appreciate all of the food and
toiletry donations that are provided to them through Gethsemane Lutheran
Church. Their website is www.icanfoodpantry.com. They have an Amazon
wish list on their webpage where you can select items on their list, order and
pay for them, and they will be mailed directly to Downey Avenue Christian
Church. They also are asking for these new or gently used items: Pots,
pan, two-slice toasters, and can openers. Thank you for any and all
donations.

ICAN - Irvington Community Advocacy Network – Office located at
Irvington United Methodist Church, 30 N. Audubon, Indianapolis, IN 46219

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Phone: 317-322-9645

Email: ICANCenterIrvington@gmail.com

Program Director: Brianna Owens

Potential Assistance and Referral Services for: *Food Pantries, *Clothing
Closet, *Employment and Resumes, *Applications for Assistance,
*Continuing Education, *Transportation Assistance

If the office is closed and you are in need of immediate assistance, please
call 211 or go to findhelp.org.