



*Loved by God,
Sent to Serve.*

**4th Sunday after Epiphany
January 28, 2024**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
HS 1991 Now the Feast and Celebration

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude: *Ceaseless Praise*

Anthony Giamanco

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

HS p. 2

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

Have mercy on us. We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives us all our sin and grants us newness of life in Jesus Christ.
Thanks be to God!

Greeting

HS p. 2

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.

Kyrie

HS p. 3

Refrain

Assistant:

Congregation:

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant:

Congregation:

Help, save and de - fend us, O
God. A - men.

Now the Feast

ELW 167

Refrain

Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!

- 1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. **Refrain**
- 2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. **Refrain**
- 3 For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. **Refrain**

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

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This 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."
¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I 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.
¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But 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."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 111 (*spoken responsively*)

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²**Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.**

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴**You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

⁸They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, 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.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact 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.

⁷It 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. ⁸“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. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For 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? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Verse

HS p. 8

Congregation:

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

Gospel: Mark 1: 21-28

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and 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.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They 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.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day: *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

ELW 614

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e - ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e - ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,

2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,

3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.

you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."

and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text and music: African American Spiritual Public Domain

Apostles' Creed

HS p. 11

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

...God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

...in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

HS p. 12

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering: *As the Grains of Wheat*

ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. **Refrain**

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. **Refrain**

Offering Prayer in Unison

HS p. 13

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

HS p. 14

The musical notation is a four-part setting of the Great Thanksgiving. It consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff is for the Presider and the second for the Congregation. The third staff is for the Presider and the fourth for the Congregation. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Presider: Congregation:
The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: Congregation:
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

Preface **HS p. 14**

Holy **HS p. 15**

Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer **HS p. 18**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God **HS p. 18**

Communion Music: *Gentle Prelude* **Bob Burroughs**

Post-Communion Blessing **HS p. 19**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle: *Thanks Be To You* **HS p. 20**

Post-Communion Prayer **HS p. 21**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Blessing

HS p. 21

May God bless and keep us.

May God's face shine on us and be gracious.

May God look on us with favor and ☩ give us peace.

Amen.

Sending Song: *Jesus Shall Reign* vs. 1,3,4

ELW 434



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Swatts, 1674-1748, alt. Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793 Public Domain

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Postlude on "Salvatori"*

Geoffrey Andrews

Announcements

Annual Meeting Today

The annual meeting to adopt budget, vote on constitution/bylaw changes, elect council members is today at 9:15. Please stay for this important meeting.

ELCA World Hunger Month

January marks the 1st quarter collections for World Hunger. If you wish to support this cause, it can be added to your regular envelope and marked 'Hunger'. Thank you!

“Souper” Bowl

We're down to the final four. Please vote for your favorites with a can or two of soup and we'll see who wins on February 11! ALL of the soup will be used to support our Little Food Pantry. Thank you for supporting this great cause.

This Week at Lord of Life

Sunday, January 28	8:00 AM	Worship in-person
	9:15 AM	Annual meeting
	10:30 AM	Worship in-person or online
Thursday, February 1	1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer List

David King	Pete & Stephanie Klein and family
Joe & Jill Klinebriel & family	Gloria Klinefelter
The Klinefelter children and their families: Becky, Christina, Eric, Travis and Josh	
Roger & Kathleen Klosterman	Harold & Pat Knutsen

This Week's Worship Servants

Readers:	8:00 Sandy Heer	10:30 Tara Grace
Ushers:	8:00 Steve & Sandy Heer	10:30 Jerry Merrick
Tech/PPT:		10:30 /Brynn Steffen

Acknowledgments

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