

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany - January 31, 2021



The Old Testament historian proclaimed that there would be another prophet raised up from among Moses' brothers. This one would speak the words of God with truth and authenticity. As Jesus taught in the synagogue, the people were amazed at his ability to instruct them in the Word and also at his ability to cast out evil from a man who was held captive by a demonic spirit.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

PASTOR DAVE HANSEN (912) 826-2711

- ◆ You are here by God's calling and we extend Christ's hospitality to you this day.
- ◆ In worship, we hear God's Word, partake in the Lord's Supper, and return our thanks in prayer and praise.
- ◆ If you receive the Lord's Supper in your home congregation, you are welcome to receive it here.
- ◆ Restrooms and a nursery are located in the backside hallway. Look for the horseshoe cross.
- ◆ Please fill out a visitor card so we can keep in touch. The Lord give you strength for daily living.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MUSICAL PRELUDE, LIGHTING OF CANDLES - MUSICIAN: KIMBERLY BAZEMORE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(Stand, Spoken)*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

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

P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the (+)Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

APOSTOLIC GREETING *(Spoken)*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE *(Spoken)*

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord. **C: Amen**

HYMN "WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES" LBW #546: 1, 3, 5 *(Sung)*

When morning gilds the skies, My heart awaking cries: May Jesus Christ be praised!

When evening shadows fall, This rings my curfew call: May Jesus Christ be praised!

To him, my highest and best, I sing, when love possessed: May Jesus Christ be praised!

Whate'er my hands begin, this blessing shall break in: May Jesus Christ be praised!

**Let all of humankind In this their concord find: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let all the earth around Ring joyous with the sound: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Spoken)*

P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you.**

Let us pray. O God, you know that we cannot withstand the dangers which surround us nor fight the spiritual powers of wickedness without your help. **Support us with your Word of truth, that we may overcome our mortal weakness and stand firm in faith against every temptation and assault of the evil one; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen** *(Sit)*

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

SECOND READING – 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

¹Now concerning 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL VERSE *(Stand, Sung)*

C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING & RESPONSES – MARK 1:21-28 *(Spoken)*

P: The Holy Gospel from St. Mark chapter 1. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he 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: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE *(Sit)*

HYMN: "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS" (*Stand, Sung*)

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be. Refrain**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow blessings all mine, and ten thousand beside! Refrain**

**Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

APOSTLES' CREED (*Spoken*)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 (*Spoken*)

OFFERING HYMN (*Sung*)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER (*Spoken*)

P: O Lord our God, maker of all things, through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.

C: With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Spoken*)

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 indeed right and for our good benefit that we should, at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who came among us to overcome our darkness by sharing the brilliant light of your glory and love. So, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (*Sung*)

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Spoken*)

AGNUS DEI (*Sung*)

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 OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT (*Sit*)

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (*Stand, Sung*)

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Spoken*)

P: O God, here at the table of our Lord you have graciously called us into a holy communion with you.

C: Continue to pour into our hearts by your Spirit that divine love which helps us love all others. 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. **C: Amen**

HYMN: "OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING" - LBW #559 (*Sung*)

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

**My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad The honors of your name.**

**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.**

**He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin; He sets the pris'ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood avails for me.**

**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.**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!