

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 30, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

At the beginning of the Church Year, many sang the hymn “Love Came Down at Christmas.” Indeed, the Bible says, “God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son” (John 3:16). It is only on Good Friday, however, that we discover the depth and power of God’s love in the cross of the Lord’s death. And so it was that ever since the beginning of His earthly ministry, after His Baptism, we are given clear hints about the true nature of God’s love. Initially people marveled at Jesus’ preaching and miraculous healings. Yet not only did the crowds quickly reject our Lord, but Satan also was actively opposing Him from the beginning. The love of God is the power of God to defeat Satan and free the world from the grip of sin and death. The standard of love is the cross of Christ. In today’s Epistle, Paul describes love in and through Christ. Substitute “Christ” for “love” and you get, “Christ is patient and kind; Christ does not envy or boast; . . . Christ rejoices with the truth.” This love of Christ is given to us and through us. “Faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these” is the cross of Christ!

PRELUDE “The Spirit of the Lord” -Talbot

HYMN “Love in Christ Is Strong and Living” *LSB* 706

1 Love in Christ is strong and living,
Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving.
May His will in us be done.

2 Love is patient and forbearing,
Clothed in Christ’s humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring,
Reaching out in charity.

3 Love in Christ abides forever,
Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven,
Shall endure until life’s end.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *John 1:10–12*

Pastor: Jesus Christ was in the world, and the world was made through Him,

People: yet the world did not know Him.

Pastor: He came to His own,

People: and His own people did not receive Him.

Pastor: But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name,

People: He gave the right to become children of God.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *John 1:14*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on 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.

Pastor: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

INTROIT *Psalms 10:16–18; antiphon: v. 12*

Arise, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand; forget not the afflicted. The Lord is king forever and ever; the nations perish from his land. O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more. **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.** Arise, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand; forget not the afflicted.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Jesus Shall Reign” *LSB 832*

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

4 Blessings abound where'er He reigns:
The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.
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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 1:4–10* (The call of Jeremiah)

Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.” Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 71:1–6*

In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame! In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me, and save me! Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth. Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother’s womb. My praise is continually of you.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:13* (The more excellent way of love) I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 4:31–44* (Jesus heals many.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, “Ha! 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 when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!" And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region. And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them. Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. And demons also came out of many, crying, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ. And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY "Son of God, Eternal Savior" *LSB* 842

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior,
 Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
 Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory,
 For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity,
 Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
- 2 As You, Lord, have lived for others,
 So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted;
 Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,
 Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty
 Held in solemn trust will be.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
 King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion,
 Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling,
 By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
 Stem our selfish greed of gain.
- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior,
 Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
 Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing
 That Your people should be one,

Grant, O grant our hope's fruition:
Here on earth Your will be done.
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SERMON "Putting the Pieces Together" Luke 4:31-44

I. Puzzles: How Do You Assemble Them?

II. Section 1: Authority

- What does the word authority mean?

III. Section 2: Jesus heals a man with a demon (4:31-37)

- How is Jesus' authority different from others?
- What happens when Jesus rebukes the demon?

IV. Section 3: Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law (4:38-39)

- How many healing miracles are in Luke?
- What happens when Jesus rebukes the fever?

V. Section 4: Jesus heals others (4:40-41)

- What is the significance, here?

VI. Section 5: Jesus' Authority over...

- What other things does Jesus have authority over?
- What does it mean that Jesus has authority?

When you have done a puzzle, or when you have put one together, what do you do first? Do you go for the edge pieces, and then build outward to inward? Do you look for the pictures that you can assemble, and build sections, and then go from there? Or, do you do the random approach, and just start putting pieces together and see what fits? In Luke 4, we see a pile of puzzle pieces that will create a few different scenes. These pieces will all fit together to create a message that tells us something about Jesus' authority. And so, this morning, we will put the puzzle pieces together, and see what these three scenes have to say about Jesus' authority, and what the New Testament does as well. The approach we will take to this puzzle is putting each picture together, and then, connect them all.

Let's start with the easy section to put together, the word *authority*. If we are going to talk about *authority*, we should explain what it means. What does the word *authority* mean? It means "legitimate power from a competent source." "Legitimate power from a competent source." For one can have authority, but then might have no power to carry things forth. One can show authority, but that doesn't equate with having authority. Authority is "legitimate power from a competent source." Let's see how this piece connects to the others in our text.

Luke pushes the first pile of pieces towards us with our opening verses. Fresh off His rejection at His hometown of Nazareth, Jesus goes to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. Like before, He is teaching on the Sabbath day, and people are astonished at His teaching. What creates the amazement? His word *possessed authority*. In that time, rabbis, and other teachers, would often quote others for authority. They would say things like, "There is a saying that...", "It is written...", or "Rabbi Gamaliel said this..." The ancient rabbis and teachers would appeal to authority.

The Old Testament prophets would do something similar. They would lean on the authority that God had give them, and said things like, "Thus says the Lord," or, when they finished preaching, would say, "...declares the LORD." This was a delegated authority.

But, Jesus? How does He teach? Jesus says, "*I say to you....*" Why? His Word is *authoritative in itself*. He has an authority incarnate. He doesn't need a rabbi to support His point. He doesn't have a delegated authority, He has it! His Word can do and effect what it says, and we are immediately given an instance to see it as we continue putting the pieces together.

In the synagogue, a man with a demon cries 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.**" And Jesus rebukes it, saying, "**Be silent and come out of him!**" What will the demon do? Will it listen to the authority of Jesus? Does Jesus' Word have the authority it claims?

Luke tells us that the demon throws the man down and comes out of him, but does him no harm. He tries to hurt the man on his way out, but cannot. Like with Jesus' preaching, the people are amazed, and say, **"What is this word? For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!"** They are amazed at the power and authority of His Word, and His fame continues to spread throughout the land. With that, this section of the puzzle is put together: Jesus shows His authority over a demon.

Let's do the next section. As a doctor, Luke must have found what happened next fascinating. He tells us the first of 21 healings in his gospel. After Jesus casts the demon out, He goes to Simon Peter's house. As they are there, the people appeal to Jesus to heal Simon Peter's mother-in-law because she has a high fever. I remember back in November that my fever hit 104 degrees when I had COVID-19. I felt woozy and dizzy. I could hardly stand or walk, and my sleep was incredibly poor. Once my fever broke with medicine, I still wasn't in shape to do anything, let alone do any type of manual labor.

As Jesus stands over Peter's mother-in-law, He rebukes the fever, and she is healed. Can you imagine that? Seeing Jesus standing over her and *yelling* at a fever, and it leaves? Can you imagine if we could heal others simply *by yelling at the illness*? Jesus' Word is so authoritative and powerful that illness obeys and leaves when He utters His Word. And what is even more amazing is that she begins to serve *after* having that high fever! That shows how instantaneous her recovery is! As we complete this section of the puzzle, we see Jesus showing His authority over sickness.

Luke gives us one more section to assemble in chapter four. It is similar to the others, but just as significant. Once the sun sets, and the Sabbath ends, *anyone* sick with various diseases are brought to Jesus, and He heals *every one of them*. Those with demons are brought to Him, and they cry out His identity as the Son of God. Like earlier, He rebukes them, and they remain silent, being hampered by His authoritative Word. His healings here show that the prior instances weren't one-off events, or that Jesus is a one-hit wonder, unable to do those things a second time. His prior healings show He can tackle any demon, and any kind of sickness. As we push the final piece of this section down, we see that Jesus truly has, and shows, authority over *any demon and sickness*.

Let's put the pieces of Luke 4 together. What do we see? Jesus truly has, and shows, authority. But, you know what? There are more pieces to add: what else does Jesus have authority over? The picture isn't yet complete.

In Luke 5:24, Jesus says, **"But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"**. In 9:1, Jesus gives authority, and He gives the apostles authority over demons and diseases. In John's Gospel, we hear Jesus say in 10:18, **"No one takes it [my life] from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it [my life] down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."** In the high priestly prayer, Jesus says referring to Himself, **"you have given Him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given Him."** At the end of Matthew, Jesus says, **"All authority in Heaven and earth has been given to me."** In Ephesians, Paul says that Jesus has been placed over all things for the benefit of the Church. This is all good and grand, but how do we know He has authority and doesn't just show it? What confirms it?

Let's add the final piece and section: it is the empty tomb. His authority is fully demonstrated and confirmed through His resurrection as Jesus rises again after dying for our sins. The resurrection is the authoritative Word that sin, death, and Satan have been overcome. And what does that mean for you? Why is this important? It means that when Jesus says you are forgiven, you are forgiven. He has and gives the authority to forgive sins. His authority gives us certainty that we are! There is no guesswork or doubt. When Jesus says death has no hold over you, the One Who defeated it and gives eternal life means it. He has authority over it! As we take our dying breath, or hold the hand of a person taking their last breath, this is no fool's hope or a nice thought to lessen the edge of the situation. It is the reality that Jesus has something prepared for us beyond this life. We have confidence and security.

When we are overwhelmed with burdens too big to carry. When we are kept up at night wondering how we will make that end meet, if that wayward child will be okay, or wonder if we will ever get better, we can bring our problems and petitions in prayer to the One Who has authority over all things. We go to the One Who can do something, and Who will. You have a Lord Who doesn't just show authority, but Who also has authority, and that is a good thing.

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING "The Gift of Love" -Paul and Betsy

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

For meditation, from Luther's Small Catechism, The Lord's Prayer:

"Our Father who art in heaven." What does this mean? God would by these words tenderly invite us to believe that He is our true Father, and that we are His true children, so that we may with all boldness and confidence ask Him as dear children ask their dear father. Why does Jesus in this prayer teach us to call God "Father"? He would by this winning name encourage us to pray without fear or doubt. (1 John 3:1, Rom. 8:15) Why do we say "our Father"? We say "our Father" because the believers in Christ throughout the world are the children of one Father and therefore pray for and with one another. (Eph. 4:6, Gal 3:26) Why do we say "who art in heaven"? These words are to remind us that our Father is Lord over all and is therefore able to do far more than we can ask or think. (Eph. 3:20)

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy holy holy Lord

God of power and might

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes

In the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God you take away
All the sin of the world
Oh Lamb of God have mercy on us
And grant to us your peace

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “At the Name of Jesus” *LSB 512*

1 At the name of Jesus
 Ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess Him
 King of glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure
 We should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning
 Was the mighty Word.

2 At His voice creation
 Sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces,
 All the hosts of light,
Thrones and bright dominions,
 Stars upon their way,
All the heav'nly orders
 In their great array.

3 Humbled for a season,
 To receive a name
From the lips of sinners
 Unto whom He came,
Faithfully He bore it
 Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious
 When from death He passed;

4 Bore it up triumphant
 With its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures
 To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead,
 To the Father's breast,
Filled it with the glory
 Of that perfect rest.

5 In your hearts enthrone Him;
 There let Him subdue
All that is not holy,
 All that is not true:
Crown Him as your captain
 In temptation's hour;
Let His will enfold you
 In its light and pow'r.

6 Christians, this Lord Jesus
 Shall return again
In His Father's glory,
 With His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire
 Meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him
 King of glory now.

△ 7 Glory then to Jesus,
 Who, the Prince of light,
To a world in darkness
 Brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God the Father;
 In the Spirit's love

Praise we all together
Him who reigns above.
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“Take My Life and Let It Be” *LSB* 783

1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.
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BLESSING

Pastor: May our Lord’s body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” *LSB 922*

1 Go, My children, with My blessing,

 Never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you;

 You are My own.

 In My love’s baptismal river

 I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing—

 You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven,

 At peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,

 What I can cure.

 Here you heard My dear Son’s story;

 Here you touched Him, saw His glory.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,

 At peace and pure.

3 Go, My children, fed and nourished,

 Closer to Me;

Grow in love and love by serving,

 Joyful and free.

 Here My Spirit’s power filled you;

 Here His tender comfort stilled you.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,

 Joyful and free.

4 I the Lord will bless and keep you

 And give you peace;

I the Lord will smile upon you

 And give you peace:

 I the Lord will be your Father,

 Savior, Comforter, and Brother.

Go, My children; I will keep you

 And give you peace.

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POSTLUDE “Arise Your Light Has Come” -Paul and Betsy

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Luke 4:34 – “Ha! 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.”* The demon that Jesus drives out knows who He is. But knowing that Jesus is the Holy One of God will not save the demon from hell. Knowledge is not faith. To know something is not the same thing as trusting someone. Faith is trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Mere knowledge of the facts does not give life. Trusting in the living God is how we receive life. Knowledge doesn't necessarily lead anywhere, but a living faith in the Lord Jesus leads to a life built on Him and walking in His footsteps.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Please join us after worship today, January 30, for our Congregational Meeting. We will be voting on the 2022 budget.

CONVENTION DELEGATES: Plans are underway for the 2022 District Convention to be held on June 9-11, 2022 at Concordia University, St. Paul. Emmaus must submit delegate nominations by February 4. We are accepting nominations. If anyone would like more information, please talk to Pam U. or Pastor Kooi.

SUPER BOWL TRAIL MIX: Are you ready for the big game? Are you ready for the better than normal commercials? Are you ready to have a good time on February 13th? The answer is...NO. You are missing something! What is it, you may ask? Emmaus Youth Trail Mix! To help enhance your Super Bowl experience (along with raise money for upcoming conferences), the Youth will be making a variety of trail mixes. They are...

- Chocolate Cherry (NUT FREE)
- Chex Mix with or without nuts
- Fruit and Nut with or without M&M's
- Puppy Chow

Trail mix comes in a quart-sized bag and is a free will donation. Let Pastor Nick or Dawn know how much and what you would like by January 28th. Orders will be available February 13th for pickup before and after church. You can also pickup or have it dropped off during the week of 2/7.

2021 GIVING STATEMENTS: You will receive your contribution statement in the mail if your total contribution amount for 2021 is \$250 or more. Statements will be mailed no later than January 31. If your contribution to Emmaus was less than \$250, you did not receive the statement by early February, or you need a replacement copy of your statement please either leave a message on the Emmaus church phone or call Nancy W. and I will get one sent to you as soon as possible.

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: “How Christians Can Admire the Jewish Sabbath” Dr. Michael Zeigler says the Jewish practice of observing the Sabbath is sort of like being in a long-distance relationship. (Luke 6:1-11)

B3: BEACON BASKETBALL BLAST FOR 6TH-8TH GRADERS: Students in Grades 6-8 are invited to Concordia Academy on Friday, February 4, at 5:00 PM for home boys and girls basketball games vs. St. Agnes, pizza, popcorn, photo booth pics, halftime games, and awesome prizes. It's all free for 6th-8th graders! (Parents also get free admission to the basketball games.) Get more details and RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/b3.

CONCORDIA ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE: Concordia Academy's open house on February 10, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, gives prospective students and families a great chance to see how CA honors God through excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and more! Meet teachers and students, take a tour, learn about programs, and see if CA is the right fit. Please RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/openhouse.