

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

In a world where there is nothing new under the sun, we still run to anything that appears to be new. When Jesus taught in the synagogue, the hearers heard a man speak with the authority of the author of the Scriptures. They were surprised and even more surprised when His Word was not simply theoretical but silenced an unclean spirit and relieved the man of this demon. In their amazement, they could not help but tell the story to any who would listen. Yet even as Jesus' fame spread, so did opposition to His teaching and preaching.

HYMN "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" *LSB* 849

1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness

With a liberating light;

Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,

Turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the Gospel,

Healing ev'ry dread disease,

Calming storms, and feeding thousands

With the very Bread of peace.

2 Praise the One who blessed the children

With a strong, yet gentle, word;

Praise the One who drove out demons

With the piercing, two-edged sword.

Praise the One who brings cool water

To the desert's burning sand;

From this Well comes living water,

Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,

Christ, who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose victorious

That we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness,

Seeing what our God has done;

Let us praise the true Redeemer,

Praise the One who makes us one.

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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalms 32:1-2*

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

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

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful

and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: O most merciful God who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

INTROIT *Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10*

(The Psalm verses in our Introit for today is reflected in, and inspired the song “You Are My Hiding Place.” The Introit will be read, and then the song will be sung. As we sing it, you are encouraged to see how the Psalm verses are captured in the piece.)

Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord. Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. 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. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

SONG “You Are My Hiding Place” -Michael Ledner
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You are my hiding place
You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance
Whenever I am afraid I will trust in You.

I will trust in You
Let the weak say, “I am strong in the strength of the Lord!”

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Faith and Life and Truth Bestowing” *LSB* 584

1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.

2 May the Spirit’s pow’r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.

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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 *Deuteronomy 18:15–20* (God will raise up a prophet.) “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— just 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.’ And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. 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. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. 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.’”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 111; antiphon: v. 3*

Pastor: Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

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

Pastor: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

People: Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

Pastor: He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful.

People: He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

Pastor: He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

People: 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.

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

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

All: 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.

Pastor: Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 8:1–13* (Knowledge puffs up but love builds up.) Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. Therefore, 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.” For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed 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. However, 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. Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For 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? And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:21–28* (The people are astonished at the authority of Jesus’ teaching and His power over unclean spirits.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately 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 out with a loud voice, came out of him. And 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.” And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “In Christ Alone” –Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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1. In Christ alone, my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
then, bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

SERMON

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

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 enter the sanctuary, or as the offering plates are passed at this time.

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 *LSB p. 208*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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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.

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 \times 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 \times blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *LSB* p. 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Divine Service, Setting Four from *Lutheran Service Book* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission.

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.

Communion is offered in two ways: the individual cup and the common cup. If you would like the individual cup, please partake as the assistant minister passes by after Pastor gives the bread. If you would like the common cup, let the assistant minister pass by, open your hands palm up, and Pastor will return to give you the common cup.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“At the Cross” –Randy and Terry Butler

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I know a place, a wonderful place
Where accused and condemned find mercy and grace
Where the wrongs we have done and the wrongs done to us
Were nailed there with Him, there on the cross.

At the cross (echo)
He died for our sins
At the cross (echo)
He gave us life again

(Repeat)

“You Are My All in All” -Words and music by Dennis Jernigan
©1990 Shepherd’s Heart Music. Used by permission. CCLI

1. You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my All in All.
Seeking you as a precious jewel,
Lord to give up I’d be a fool,
You are my All in All.

Chorus:

Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.

2. Taking my sin my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name,
You are my All in All.
When I fall down, You pick me up;
When I am dry, You fill my cup.
You are my All in All.

Chorus

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 THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Rejoicing in Your mercy, we pray You to guard and guide us by Your Spirit, that we who have known with joy the blessings of Your mercy in Christ may be kept from all evil and preserved in the righteousness that is ours by faith, until that Day when we no longer must wrestle against principalities and powers. Grant us to live holy, upright, and godly lives in response to all that Your love has accomplished in us and for us; 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.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise” *LSB 917*

1 Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

2 Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

4 Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace. Text: Public domain

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:30 a.m.

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Mark 1:22 – “And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes.”* Authority is a word we are sometimes afraid of and don't like to hear. But that's just our sinful flesh talking. Jesus' authority is something we need. We need Him to show us what to believe and how to live, for Jesus' authority is always connected to his love.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The next Emmaus congregational meeting will be held today, January 28 following the service. We will be voting on the 2024 budget. Join us after the meeting for our chili potluck!

THANK YOU! The Hat and Mitten collection was a big success! We collected 60 pairs of gloves and mittens, 30 hats, and 6 scarves. This project was supported by a Thrivent Action Grant. Everything will be sent to Hats & Mittens for distribution to Minnesota children that need them.

2023 GIVING STATEMENTS: You should have received your contribution statement in the mail if your total contribution amount for 2023 is \$250 or more. Statements were mailed January 18. If your contribution to Emmaus was more than \$250 and you did not receive the statement, or you need a replacement copy of your statement, please either leave a message on the Emmaus church phone or call Nancy Wallner at 651-260-0068 and one will be sent out as soon as possible.

CHEX MIX: Is your team still in the playoffs? Who will you be rooting for this year to win the Super Bowl? Make sure you have your trail mix with you for the game! The youth will be making and selling their famous trail mixes again this year. As always, this is a free will donation fundraiser. The youth use a Thrivent Action Grant to purchase 75% of the materials used for this fundraiser. That means that the majority of your donation goes straight to the youth. This year we will have the original Chex mix with and without nuts, a fruit and nut mix with and without M&M's, and puppy chow. These trail mixes sell out fast! Make sure you preorder to ensure that you have your mix for the game! Please send an email to Dawn Kooi (dawnkooi13@gmail.com) to preorder. The mixes will be available Sunday, February 4th and 11th.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: 2024 is here and so are new offering envelopes. If you use envelopes, please pick yours up in the narthex today. If you have switched to online giving and no longer wish to receive envelopes, please let Maria know. Thank you!

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “Nature Abhors a Vacuum” Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. What fills the heart that has no room to forgive? (Ephesians 4:32)

CONCORDIA ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE: Concordia Academy’s open house on February 8, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, gives prospective students and families a great chance to see how CA prepares high school students for life through Christ-centered academics, formative character development, and robust extracurriculars. 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.

B3 FREE BASKETBALL NIGHT AT CA FOR 6TH-8TH GRADERS: Students in Grades 6-8 are invited to Concordia Academy on Friday, February 2, at 5:00 PM for home boys and girls basketball games vs. Trinity River Ridge, pizza, popcorn, photo booth pics, halftime games, and awesome prizes. It's all free for 6th-8th graders! (Parents and families also get free admission to the basketball games.) Get more details and RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/b3.

SUMMER CAMPS AT CONCORDIA ACADEMY: This summer, Concordia Academy offers dozens of camps, including old favorites like Boys and Girls Basketball, CSI, G3 (Genuinely Great Girls), Dance, Playmakers (with two full-day theater camps options), and Youth Worship Team. But there are also exciting new camps, including Adventures in Prose (a creative writing camp), Beacon Archery, and Young Scientists (for Grades 2-4). Get details and register at www.concordiaacademy.com/camps.

February 6th Emmaus Generations

Regardless of your age or circumstances, it is important to outline your values and preferences by drawing up an Advance Directive (a written tool used to guide health care decisions when an individual is unable to do so because of a medical condition).

During the February Generations, Kjersti Duncan, MSW, will provide information regarding Minnesota Health Care Directives. Pastor Kooi will also provide materials from the church, to assist members in outlining their preferences for funeral services (i.e. preferred hymns, scripture, etc.).

As a service project, participants will put together Baskets of Care for individuals and families served by the ministry of Our Lady of Peace Hospice in Saint Paul. Please join us on Tuesday, February 6th at 11:30 a.m.



You're Invited!
King of Kings Royals Night 2024:
Back to the 60s!
Saturday, March 2nd
Midland Hills Country Club

Tickets are on sale at <https://givebutter.com/KOK60>. Purchase yours today!

New this year: Purchase a table for \$1000 and receive reserved seating for 8, two raffle tickets/person AND dessert at the table.

Donations & Sponsorship We are now accepting donations for our live and silent auctions. Suggestions include gift cards, themed baskets, services, etc. (We cannot accept homemade items.) Own a business? Sponsorships are a great way to support Royals Night and take advantage of recognition in marketing materials related to the event. Forms are available by using this QR code:

Volunteers We need your help to make Royals Night a success. We are looking for volunteers for a variety of tasks, many of which can be done on your own time. Please contact Autumn Fast or Laura Boche @ boosterclub@kingofkingsroseville.org if you are interested.

