



ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

ELW HOLY COMMUNION SETTING ONE

Sunday, January 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Below are the hymn numbers for today's service:

#519

#886

#301

#612

#547

PRELUDE

*(*Please stand as you are able)*

***ORDER FOR 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. You are invited to kneel, stand, or sit.

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.**

***GATHERING HYMN *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People* (ELW 519)**

***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.**

* KYRIE (ELW p.98-99)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p.101)

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:




Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: 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.**

Children are invited to go to Children's Church

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."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 111

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps. 111:10)

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.

⁶**You 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.

⁸**They 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.

¹⁰**The 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p.102)



Repeat alleluia



***GOSPEL Mark 1:21-28**

The holy gospel according to St. 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.

SERMON

REV. LESLEY M. RADIUS

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (ELW 886)*

***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.

***THE PRAYERS**

A: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

*For each petition: God of grace, **teach us your ways.***

P. Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS-CHOIR ANTHEM *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me* by David Cherwien

***PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS** *Bright and Glorious is the Sky (ELW 301) v.4*

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A. 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**

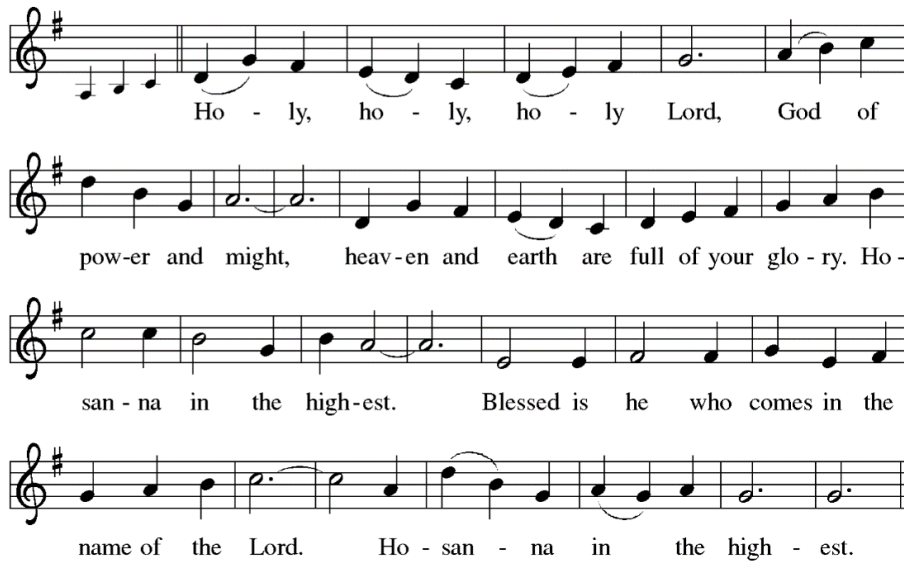
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We light them to the Lord.**

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p.112)**

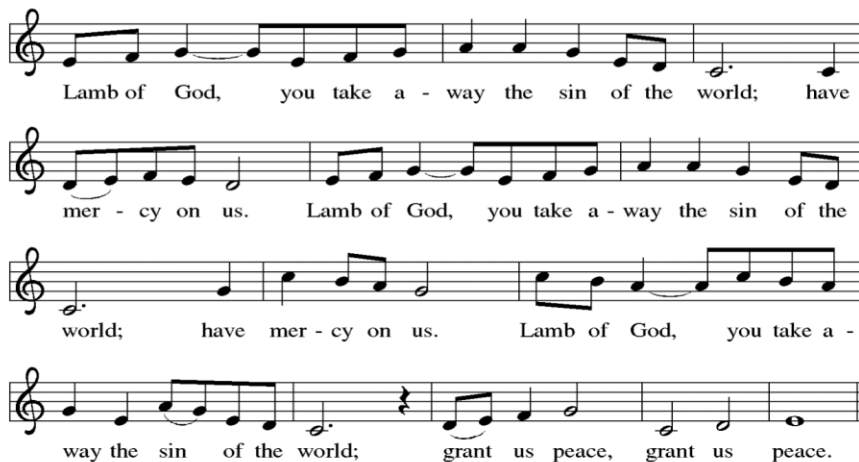


***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

LAMB OF GOD (ELW p.113)

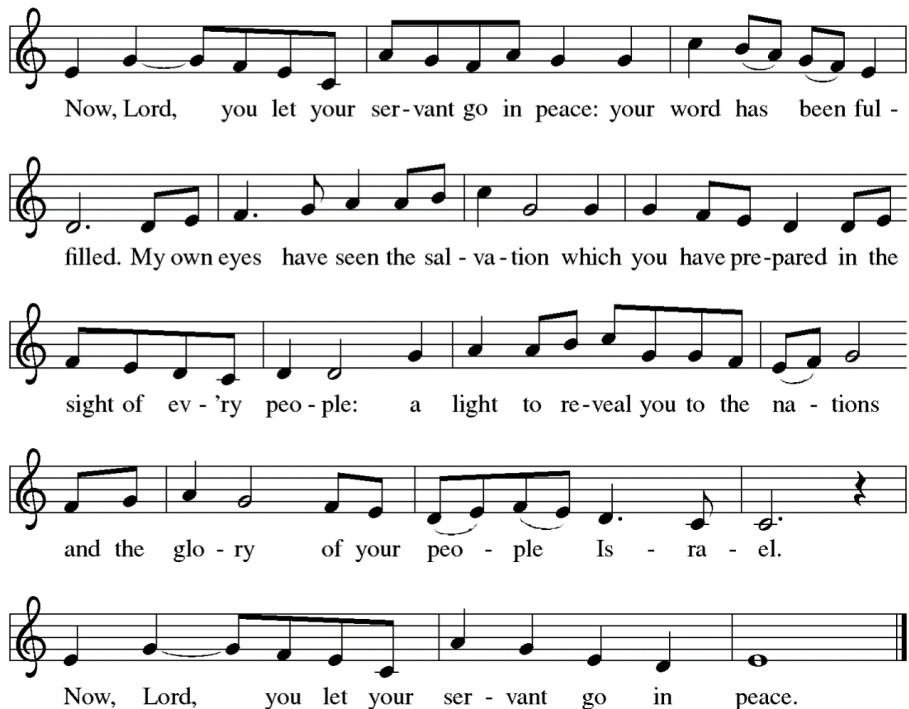


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN *Healer of Our Every Ill* (ELW 612)

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (ELW p.113)



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: 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.**

* PRAYER FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

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Serving in Worship

Today, January 28th

Presiding Minister: Rev. Lesley M. Radius
Assisting Minister: Charlie Schmidt
Music Director: Adam Frame
Organist/Pianist: John Wolf
Lector: Steve Weis
Chancel Care: Sarah Hadfield
Ushers: Chris Dunker & Stella Hlad
Videographer: Jacob Martella
Counters: Adrienne Frame & Marcia Boggs

Next Sunday, February 4th

Rev. Wayne Menking
Mark Vinciguerra
Adam Frame
John Wolf
Stella Hlad
TBD
K.C. Iversen & Bruce Anderson
Jacob Martella
K.C. Iversen & Bruce Anderson

We welcome all today and are thankful you have chosen to participate in this service as you are able. We pray you are blessed by what you experience. If you have any spiritual needs or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Lesley at pastor@stmatthews-elca.org or call 817-292-1338. This service includes communion; if you are worshipping online, please have bread or crackers and wine or juice available to participate in the Eucharist.

THIS WEEK WITH ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday, January 28th

8:15 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher

9:15 am St. Matthew's Adult Sunday School

9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher

11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's – Congregational Meeting following

Tuesday, January 30th

7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 31st

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 1st

6:30 pm Mutual Ministry Team Meeting

Sunday, February 4th

8:15 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's

9:15 am St. Matthew's Adult Sunday School

9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher

11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's

Congregational Meeting Today Our congregational meeting will immediately follow today's 11:00 am service. We will be discussing commission and committee reports and more. There will be a potluck lunch – if you didn't bring anything please still join us, there is plenty for all.

PRE-LENTEN RETREAT - FEBRUARY 9-10

Behold I Make All Things New: Living into the Gospel's Transformative Power in a Perilous Age.

Calvary will host a Pre-Lenten Retreat Friday, February 9 (6:30-9:00 pm) -Saturday, February 10 (9:00 am - 3:00 pm). The presenter will be Wayne Menking a retired ELCA Pastor and Clinical Pastoral Educator Emeritus. Participants will look through the lens of Luther's Catechism for teaching and advice for how to live out our faith in our perilous times. Cost of the retreat is \$20 per person. Calvary is located at 7620 Baker Blvd., Richland Hills, TX. You can register online by going to [2024 Lenten Retreat \(wufoo.com\)](http://2024LentenRetreat.wufoo.com) or calling Calvary at 817-284-8724

Ash Wednesday February 14th Ash Wednesday marks the start of the season of Lent. We will have two joint worship services with St. Christopher: A 12:00 noon Service of the Word and Imposition of Ashes led by St. Matthew's and a 7:00 pm Eucharistic Worship with Imposition of Ashes led by St. Christopher.

Lent Mid-Week Service and Bible Study Starting on February 21st, we will have a joint mid-week

service, soup supper, and Bible study with St. Christopher on Wednesday evenings. Each Wednesday will begin at 5:30 pm with a simple Eucharistic worship service followed by a soup and salad supper at 6:15 pm. The evening will then conclude with a Bible study at 7:00 pm led by Rev. Paula that will journey alongside the story of Mary Magdalene. Join for all or some of this weekly time of prayer, fellowship, and reflection during Lent.

Nursery Care and Activity Bags At St. Matthew's, children of all ages are welcome in worship. If parents prefer, nursery care is provided for infants through age 4 during the 11:00 am service. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available in the narthex for children ages 5 and older to take into worship until they go to Children's Church. Please return the bags after worship

<p><u>We Pray For:</u></p> <p>Craig Bridges T. J. Bridges Annasophia Reese George & Roberta Dennis Kathy Challgren George Wiederaenders Jeanne Rose Patti Brunnert Jane Oklat Dean Iversen (Brother of KC Iversen)</p>	<p><u>We Pray For:</u></p> <p>Florence Eckert Aunt of Ruth Vinciguerra Thara Bonebreak Aunt of Anne Moroneso Mae Abbot Great granddaughter of Roberta Dennis Colton Grandson of Roberta Dennis Rick Wilson (Friend of Janice Kammer) Annie (Daughter-in-law of Pauline and Gary Christensen)</p>
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UPCOMING EVENTS

(More details to follow, but please reserve these dates in your calendars now!)

Every Tuesday 7 pm—Sounds of Exaltation Handbell Choir rehearsal.

Every Wednesday 7 pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal.

February 9th-10th Pre-Lenten Retreat at Calvary, Richland Hills. Rev. Menking, presenter

February 13th 6 pm—Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper

February 14th 12:00 noon – Ash Wednesday Service of the Word and Imposition of Ashes

February 14th 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Eucharistic Worship with Imposition of Ashes

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

ST. MATTHEW'S MISSION STATEMENT

Living in Christ through faith. Living for neighbor through love.

We are Reconciling in Christ, welcoming to all!

Rev. Lesley M. Radius | pastor@stmatthews-elca.org

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817-292-1338 | office@stmatthews-elca.org | www.stmatthews-elca.org