

Welcome to Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Pastor Don Short

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 2021

GATHERING AND WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,
Whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin trusting in the abundant grace of God.
(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

Holy God,

You search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of Jesus Christ, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

Amen



Gathering Hymn~~Arise, Your Light Has Come~~ELW #314

**A-rise, your light has come!
The Spir-it's call o-bey;
Show forth the glory of your God,
which shines on you today.**

**A-rise, your light has come!
Fling wide the pri-son door;
pro-claim the cap-tive's lib-er-ty,
good tid-ings to the poor.**

**A-rise, your light has come!
All you in sor-row born,
Bind up the bro-ken-heart-ed ones
and com-fort those who mourn.**

**A-rise, your light has come!
The moun-tains burst in song!
Rise up like ea-gles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE 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: "Open The Eyes of My Heart Lord"

Open the eyes of my heart Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see you.

I want to see you (repeat first four lines)

Chorus:

To see you high and lifted up.

Shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love

As we sing "Holy, holy, holy."

(Repeat verse)

Final Chorus

Holy, holy, holy,

Holy, holy, holy (we cry)

Holy, holy, holy, (you are)

I want to see you (Repeat this line)

Hymn of Praise—Shout to the Lord—ELW #821

My Je-sus, my Sav-ior,
Lord there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise
The won-ders of your might-y love.
My com-fort, my shel-ter,
tow-er of ref-uge and strength;
Let ev-'ry breath all that I am
Nev-er cease to wor-ship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the Earth; let us sing
pow-er and maj-es-ty, praise to the King.
Moun-tains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
For-ev-er I'll love you for-ev-er I'll stand.
Noth-ing com-pares to the prom-ise I have in
you.

Repeat a Second Time

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

**You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore
Sung by James Thornton and Pastor Don**

READINGS

A reading from Deuteronomy 18:15-20

15 The 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.

Let us read Psalm 111

¹ Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² **Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.**

³ Full of honour and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures for ever.

⁴ **He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶ **He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.

⁸ **They are established for ever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant for ever.
Holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practise it have a good understanding.
His praise endures for ever.**

A reading from 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

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

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

It 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. ‘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. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling-block to the weak. For 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? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, 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: Let My Heart Be Good Soil~~ELW 512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone away.

When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart be good soil.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28
Glory to you O Lord

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then 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, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They 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.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Hymn of the Day~~"Light Dawns on a Weary World"~~ELW #726

**Light dawns on a weary world, when eyes begin to see
all peoples dignity. Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.**

Refrain

**The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
The hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.**

Love grows in a weary world, when hungry hearts find bread, And children's dreams are fed. Love grows in a weary world: The promised feast of plenty comes.

Refrain

**Hope blooms in a weary world
When creatures, once forlorn,
Find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
The promised green of Eden comes.**

Refrain

APOSTLE'S 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hear us O God....

Your mercy is great

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERATORY HYMN~~We Are an Offering~~ELW #692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an offering. Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands. Lord use our lives, they are yours, we are an offering. All that we have, all that are, all that we hope to be we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an offering, we are an offering.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us; like a mother receives her child, with arms and open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING~~ELW pg 152

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

. . . We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING~~*Holy, Holy, Holy*~~ELW #413 v1 only

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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

Angus Dei—Lamb of God—ELW #336 v 1 only

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side,

To walk upon this guilty sod and to become the lamb of God.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.

O wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Christ Jesus,

At this table we have feasted on your very life

and are strengthened for our journey.

Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit
to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION HYMN~~"You Satisfy a Hungry Heart"~~ELW #484 v2 only

Refrain

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat.

Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude

That you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heav'nly food.

Refrain

BENEDICTION

May the Lord Bless you and keep you

May the Lord make his face to shine upon you

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN~~Shine, Jesus, Shine~~ELW #671

Shine, Je-sus shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's Glo-ry:

Blaze, Spir-it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, ri-ver, flow, flood the na-tions with grace and mercy;

Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, the light of your love is shin-ing,

In the midst of the dark-ness, shin-ing:

Je-sus, light of the world, shine up-on us,

Set us free by the truth you now bring us.

Shine on me, shine on me:

(Refrain)

Shine, Je-sus shine, fill this land with the Fa-thers Glo-ry:

Blaze, Spir-it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, ri-ver, flow, flood the na-tions with grace and mercy;

Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confirmation will meet February 3 at 4 pm.

Thank you everyone for following the governor's directive wearing masks, maintaining social distance, and refraining from singing. You are invited to hum along with the hymns. We appreciate your cooperation in curbing the spread of Covid-19.

Annual congregational meeting is January 31 after worship. We will live stream this. For comments or for voting, please text or call Marcia's cell phone or text Pastor Don during the meeting. If you need Marcia's phone number, please give the church a call and leave a message, and I will get back to you before the meeting. We will give more information as the time draws nearer.

We are supporting our local food bank by the Saints and Angels food challenge, to see who can raise the most food and/or money. Each dollar given is worth a pound of food. If you would like, please help your team by sending in some money or stop by and drop off cans of food. Those with the last name starting with: A, E, G, J, K, M, O, Q, S, T, V, X and Y are ANGELS. Those with the last name starting with: B, C, D, F, H, I, L, N, P, R, U, W, Z you are a SAINT.

Last day for the food drive is February 7!

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ!

Thanks be to God!