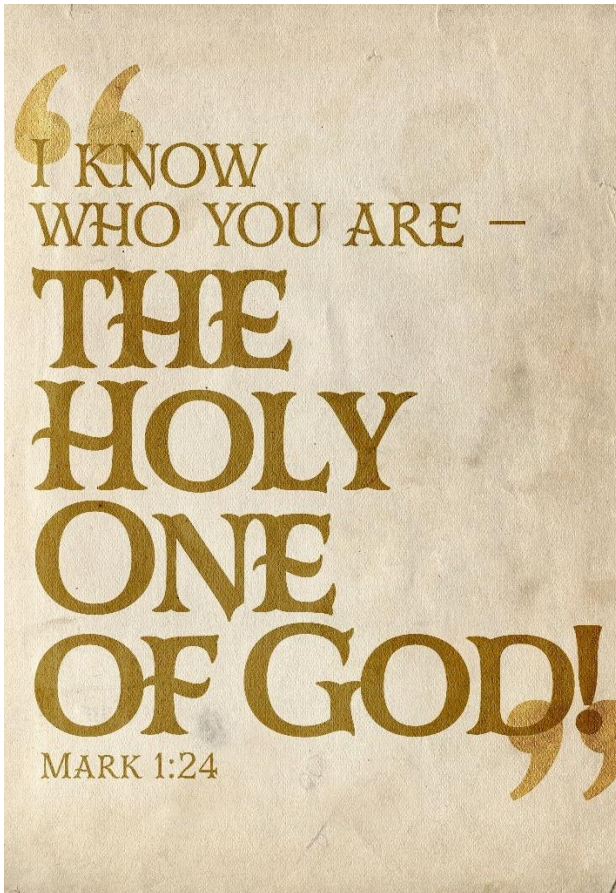


Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 28, 2024
10:30 a.m.



"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"
444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778
www.martinlutherchapel.org

In the scriptures the word is announced through prophets who speak for God, and later through Jesus who teaches with authority. The church continues to proclaim the gospel of God's great love for humankind. We gather around Christ, the Word made flesh, to hear that God is gracious and full of compassion. It is the authority of the gospel that enables us to announce a prophetic word of judgment and mercy to the world in which we live.

PRELUDE

Stand

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

P Most merciful God, **C** Have mercy on us.

C We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

P With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

C Thanks be to God!

Stand

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Introduce yourself to those around you, greeting them with the greeting of peace.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

"Son of God, Eternal Savior"

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and
 2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and

truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us
 oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;
 Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,
 truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us

Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in
 Free - ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the
 Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of
 Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your

glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your
 sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards
 toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered
 will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our

love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
 of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.
 thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855–1932, alt.
 Tune: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contradanseu*, Amsterdam, c. 1710;
 setting: Henry V. Gerike, b. 1948

IN BABILONE
 87 87 D

Text and tune: Public domain
 Setting: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House

1 Peter 1:20–23; Heb. 7:25; John 13:34–35; 17:20–21

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

P In peace, in peace, let us pray — to the

Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

For the reign of God, and for peace through-

Lord, have mer - cy.

out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray — to the

Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

For your peo - ple here, who have come to

Lord, have mer - cy.

give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray — to the

Lord.
C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy. Help, save, and de -
 fend us, O God.
 A
 (accompaniment/intro)
 men.

Continue the following without interruption. All sing the Refrain.

Refrain
 Now the feast and cel - e - bration, all of cre -
 a - tion sings for joy to the God of
 life and love and free - dom; praise and
 glo - ry for ev - er - more!

Verse 1:

Congregation or Congregation 1:
 1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
 slain, whose blood has freed and u -
 nit - ed us to be one great

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *To refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *To refrain*

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

☐ O God, you know that we cannot withstand the dangers that surround us. Strengthen us in body and spirit so that, with your help, we may be able to overcome the weakness that our sin has brought upon us; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. ☒ **Amen.**

Sit

Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.

FIRST LESSON Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Today's reading, part of a longer discussion of prophecy in Deuteronomy 18, stands within a still broader context: 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.

R The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This 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." Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I 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. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But 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."

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

God's people are set free by Jesus' death and resurrection. Customary restrictions no longer apply. Notice, though, that those for whom Christ died find this freedom has limits. The gospel compels us to care about each other.

R 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.

[R] This is the Word of the Lord. **[C]** **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA

[C]

| - - - - Introduction - - - - |

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

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-

ter - nal life. Al-le-lu - ia! (Repeat, starting after intro.)

GOSPEL

[P] The Holy Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 1, beginning at verse 21. **[C]**

Glory to You, O Lord.

The story has barely begun, and already the battle is joined. Jesus sides with humanity against every force that would bring death and disease. These forces recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. This battle, however, is only the first fight. The war will go on much longer.

[P] Jesus and his disciples 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, convulsing him 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.

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord. **[C]** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator 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 again to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

MESSAGE

Stand

HYMN "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;

praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.

Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.

calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company

NETTLETON

87 87 D

PRAYERS

P

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with “Lord, in your mercy,” to which the congregation responds, “**hear our prayer.**” The prayers conclude:

P

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF THE TABLE

OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.

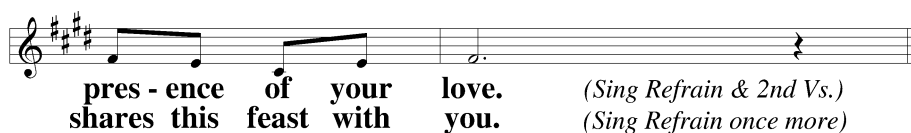


Give Now

Stand

OFFERTORY SONG

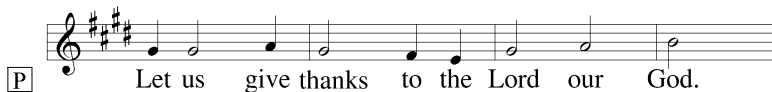
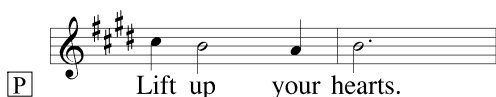
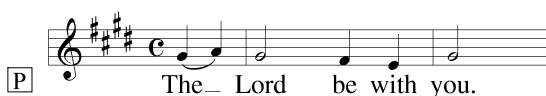
C introduction - - - - | *rit.* *Refrain*
As the grains of wheat once
scat-tered on the hill were gath-ered in - to one to be -
come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in
Verses
(1st & 2nd times: go to verses;
3rd time: end)
1. As this cup of bless-ing is
2. Let this be a fore-taste of
shared with - in our midst, may we share the
all that is to come when all cre - a - tion



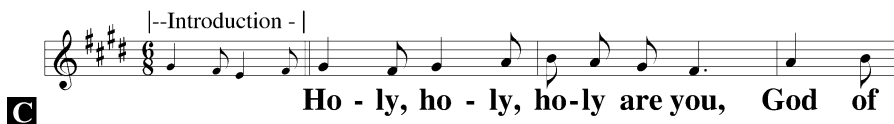
P Let us pray. Merciful God,

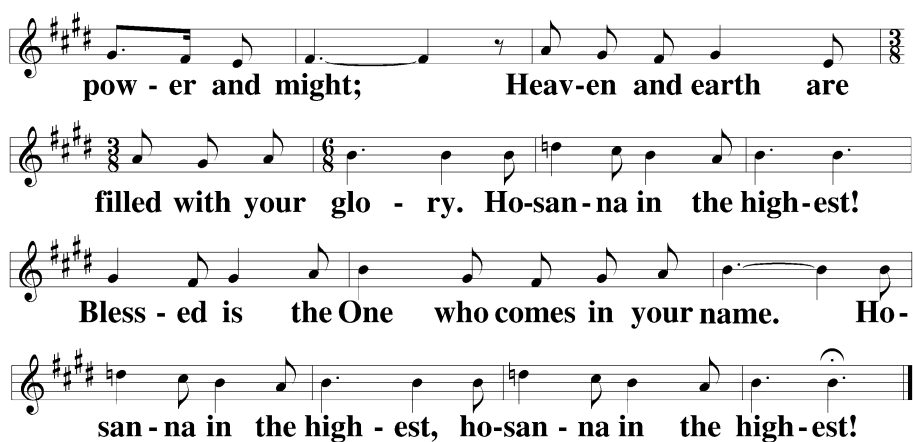
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P It is our duty and delight... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[P] In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

[P] Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

[C] 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

AGNUS DEI

----- Introduction -----

C 1) Lamb of God, you take a -
2) Lamb of God, you are the

way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, (hold)
way of mer-cy and love: have mer - cy on us,

(hold) mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us. (Sing vs. 2 above)
mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us. (Sing vs. 3-->) 3) Lamb of

God, you take a-way the sin of the world:

grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION You are invited to approach the altar to receive the elements from the common loaf and an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Pre-packaged gluten free options are also available.

HYMN “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His
3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let

God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and
we our faults con - fess, And let us love each
all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry

by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.
mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.
oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan
That names the Savior's name;
His family embraces all
Whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt.
Music: Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842

TWENTY-FOURTH
C M

Text: © 1960 World Library Publications
Music: Public domain

John 13:1-17; 1 John 4:7-21; Eph. 4:29-32

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in
his grace. **C** Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER



C 1) Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to
2) From of old you loved and sought us: Thanks be to
you for - ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and
you for - ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have
low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er! (*sing vs. 2*)
taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er! (*cont.-->*)
Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of life with us.
Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for -
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to
you for - ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

P Let us pray. We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith towards you and in fervent love towards one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN "Song of Thankfulness and Praise"



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint-ing soul;
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, Pres - ent in thy ho - ly Word;

Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
 And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In thy God - head man - i - fest;
 Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
 Grace to im - i - tate thee now And be pure, as pure art thou;

Branch of roy - al Da-vid's stem In thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 Man - i - fest in gra-cious will, Ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
 That we might be - come like thee At thy great e - pip - a - ny,

An-thems be to thee ad-dressed,
 An-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 An-thems be to thee ad-dressed,
 And may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885
 Tune: Christoph Anton, d. 1658

SALZBURG
 7777 D

POSTLUDE

----- *The liturgy is ended; let the service begin* -----

Our Confession about Communion

Our Confession

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession;

b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

Music by Marty Haugen from Hymnal Supplement 1991 © GIA Publications, Inc. The propers of the service from "Words for Worship", © 1998 by Augsburg Fortress. CCLI #1534397; One License A-703166.