

The Third Sunday After Epiphany

Sunday – January 26, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. Worship

(In-Person & Live -Streamed)



Friends In Christ Lutheran Church

1338 Clay Street – Morris, IL – 60450

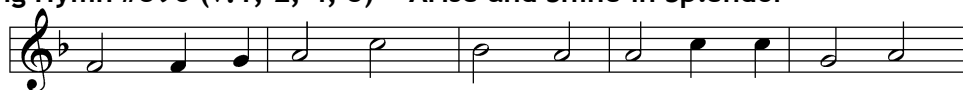
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† Call to Worship †

Greeting

Opening Hymn #396 (v. 1, 2, 4, 5) “Arise and Shine in Splendor”



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions
4 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er
5 Your heart will leap for glad - ness When from the realms of



ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove, the
dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night. To you the
yon - der From sin to be set free. The world has
sad - ness They come from near and far. Your eyes will



day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty
Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope— has
heard Your sto - ry; Her sons come to Your
wake from slum - ber As peo - ple with - out



gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.
giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.
glo - ry; Her daugh - ters haste Your light to see.
num - ber Re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

Text: Martin Opitz, 1597–1639; tr. Gerhard Gieschen, 1899–1987, alt. Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517
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Please stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Confession of Sins

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, [and] call upon Him in prayer and praise, ... in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

† Service of the Word †

Responsive Reading: Psalm 19:7-14

- P** ⁷The law of the LORD is perfect,
C **reviving the soul;**
P the testimony of the LORD is sure,
C **making wise the simple;**
P ⁸the precepts of the LORD are right,
C **rejoicing the heart;**
P the commandment of the LORD is pure,
C **enlightening the eyes;**
P ⁹the fear of the LORD is clean,
C **enduring forever;**
P the just decrees of the LORD are true,
C **and righteous altogether.**
P ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold,
C **even much fine gold;**
P sweeter also than honey
C **and drippings of the honeycomb.**
P ¹¹Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
C **in keeping them there is great reward.**
P ¹²Who can discern his errors?
C **Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**
P ¹³Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
C **let them not have dominion over me!**
P Then I shall be blameless,
C **and innocent of great transgression.**
P ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
C **be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**
- 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.**

Hymn of Praise #506 (v. 1) "Glory Be to God the Father"

1 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, Glo - ry be to
God the Son, Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it:
Great Je - ho - vah, Three in One! Glo - ry,
glo - ry While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89 Tune: Walter G. Whinfield, 1865-1919 Text and tune: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ²So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . .

⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . . .

⁸They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68 LSB 156

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:16-30

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal

yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.”²⁴ And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown.²⁵ But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land,²⁶ and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.²⁷ And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.”²⁸ When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath.²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff.³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon Hymn #737 (v.1-4) “Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing”

1 Re - joi - ce, my heart, be glad and sing, A
 2 He is your trea - sure, He your joy, Your
 3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In
 4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard

cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of
 life and light and Lord, Your coun - sel - or when
 rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor
 ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in

ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.
 doubts an - noy, Your shield and great re - ward.
 cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.
 threat - 'ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt. Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon "The Time for Hope is Now!!!!"

TEXT: Luke 4:18-21

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

C 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.**

Offerings are brought to the Lord's altar as we sing:

Offering Hymn #783 (v.4, 6) "Take My Life and Let It Be"



4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;
6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its trea - sure store;



Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
Take my-self, and I will be Ev - er, on - ly, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79 Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870 Text and tune: Public domain

Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

Responses:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**

Final Petition:

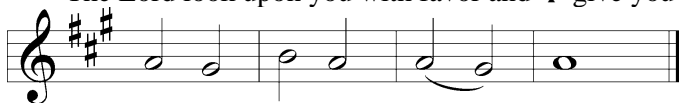
- P** Hear us Father for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever; Who has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

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 A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn #832 (v. 1, 3, 4) "Jesus Shall Reign"



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es
leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.
ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793 Text and tune: Public domain



Acknowledgments

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