



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 31, 2021

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

*We are Disciples of Jesus.
Growing in Faith, Serving our Community and Connecting Others to Christ.*

✝ This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. ✝

This Sunday

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.

We welcome Pastor Bruce Booher who will be preaching and presiding over Communion virtually. We are so thankful he has chosen to be with us for a number of upcoming Sundays, as we await the arrival of Pastor June Wilkins in February.

✝ GATHERING ✝

Gathering Song

Show Us Christ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNdOEy5SPJI>

Welcome + Announcements

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism

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 is kept for reflection.

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 ✝ Christ Jesus,
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.

Opening Song *Word of God Speak*
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqsngE3_dsg

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.

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.

✠ WORD ✠

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."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 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 de- | light in them.**

³Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- | dures 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 forev- | er 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 faithful- | ness and justice;
all of your pre- | cepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forev- | er and ever,
because they are done in | truth and equity.**

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant forever;
holy and awesome | is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- | dures
forever.**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

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

Hymn of The Day *Indescribable*
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zfHQdQTVo0

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: prophets, teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; for the church and its ministries, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all God's works in creation: plants and animals, water and soil, forests and farms; and for those tasked with protecting our natural resources and all that exists, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For our congregation here, as we prepare for our Pastoral transition. We lift up Pastor June in her preparations and travel, that you would bless her with health and peace as she looks towards her calling to Christ Lutheran Church, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Especially bless our daily guests at the Little Food Pantry and our weekly guests at the Thursday Lunch Break. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

O living Spring of light from light, renew the strength of all who suffer: the poor, the sick, and those who mourn, especially for Alex & the family of Barbara Kasten: for Kirk & Cherie Taylor and their family as they mourn to passing of Kirk's brother, Kent: for the family of Dick Marth: and for the family of Phyllis Novosad, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence especially those affected with COVID-19, all living with chronic illnesses, and all recovering from illness or injury, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Holy Lifegiver, we lift up all celebrating birthdays this week, especially **Maria**. May your Spirit continue to nurture all celebrating wedding anniversaries and sustain the faith of all celebrating baptismal anniversaries, especially **Gary**. May these milestones of our living fill us with gratitude for all good gifts, and remind us that you go with us every step of the way, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the covenant God made with us in the waters of baptism, in thanksgiving for the baptized who have died in the Lord, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

✝ MEAL ✝

OFFERING

While we are in these Zoom meetings, we will provide a time for worshipers to prepare an offering to be mailed in, to go to our website to make a contribution, or take time to pray and consider how God is calling each of us to share our resources with the church and the world.

Thank You! for all your offerings and gifts given to CLC and to the wider church this week. Your generosity is the fuel for our ministry in this place.

Visitors in our worship today are encouraged to go to our website <https://clchhi.org/> and send us an email letting us know you were worshipping with us today. If we can support you in any way, please share your need with us.

If you have not already done so, use this time to finish setting your home table for communion.

Offering Song *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise- ELW # 834*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=spE-BE23qxA>

Offering Prayer

O God,
receive these gifts as you receive us:
like a mother receives her child, with arms 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.

Dialog

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 our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day;
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.
Come and be fed.

✠ SENDING ✠

Prayer after Communion

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.

Blessing

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG

Your Grace Finds Me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmFJkGEv3Lw>



Presiding Minister – Pr. Bruce Booher

Assisting Minister – Silke Pyrlik & Tami Kuhlmann

Zoom Producer for January – David Kuhlmann

Curator of our Music Offerings – Tami Kuhlmann

Altar Guild – Joyce Prange

Baker of the Communion Bread – Doris Stickel

Upcoming Commemorations

Presentation of Our Lord

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Forty days after the birth of Jesus we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the temple in accordance with Jewish law. There they were greeted by Simeon, an aged priest who offered the song "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace," as well as by the prophet Anna, who spoke of the redemption of Israel.

Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, died 865

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

A monk who helped bring Christianity to Scandinavia, Ansgar returned to Germany where he was named bishop of Hamburg. He is remembered for his love for poor people.

The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597

Friday, February 5, 2021

Christianity was brought to Japan in the sixteenth century by Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. The religion was suppressed, however, and in 1597 twenty-six missionaries and converts were crucified. Nevertheless, Christianity survived and later prospered.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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