

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Reverend Ronald Bright	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Al Dick	Worship Assistant
Barbara Mitchell	Lector

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Video recordings of our weekly services can be viewed on our You Tube channel, *Christ Lutheran Forest Hills Pa*. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page.

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The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 24, 2021

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Prelude on "My Lord, What a Morning"

Matthew Pascazio

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

O Jesus, King of Glory

O Jesus, King of Glory, Both David's Lord and Son!
Thy realm endures forever, In heav'n is fixed Thy throne.

Help that in earth's dominions, Thro'out from pole to pole,
Thy reign may spread salvation To each benighted soul.

The Eastern sages, bringing Their tribute gifts to Thee,
Bear witness to Thy kingdom And humbly bow the knee.

To Thee the star is pointing, And the prophetic Word;
Hence joyously we hail Thee: Our Savior and our Lord!

Thou art a mighty Monarch, As by Thy Word is told,
Yet carest Thou but little For earthly goods or gold;
On no proud steed Thou ridest, Thou wear'st no jeweled crown
Nor dwell'st in lordly castle, But bearest scoff and frown.

Yet art Thou decked with beauty, With rays of glorious light;
Thy works proclaim Thy goodness, And all Thy ways are right,
Vouchsafe to shield Thy people With Thine almighty arm
That they may dwell in safety From those who mean them harm.

Ah, look on me with pity Though I am weak and poor;
Admit me to Thy kingdom To dwell there, blest and sure.
I pray Thee, guide and keep me Safe from my bitter foes,
From sin and death and Satan; Free me from all my woes.

And bid Thy Word within me Shine as the fairest star;
Keep sin and all false doctrine Forever from me far,
Help me confess Thee truly And with Thy Christendom
Here own Thee King and Savior And in he world to come.

Text and music Public Domain

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross (+) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION¹

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our

Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made Heaven and Earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(We take a moment of silence before the Lord as we call to mind how we have not properly loved Him, ourselves, or other people.)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

Hymnal p.186

P: Merciful God, we humbly implore You to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of Your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**A: (sung) Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P: Glory be to God on high,

C: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee,

we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,

we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world,

receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: (*sung*) And with thy spirit.

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: (*sung*) Amen.

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1–5, 10

L: The first reading for the third Sunday after the Epiphany is from chapter three of Jonah.

The Lord causes repentance of the Ninevites through Jonah's preaching.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 62

L: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence

C: for my hope is from Him.

L: He is only my rock and my salvation, my fortress;

C: I shall not be shaken.

L: On God rests my salvation and my glory;

C: my rock, my refuge is God.

L: Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him;

C: God is a refuge for us.

A: 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.

L: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence

C: for my hope is from Him.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 7:29–31

L: The second reading is from chapter seven of 1 Corinthians.

As time grows short, Paul encourages faithful use of time.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please rise)*

Hymnal p. 190

P: Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord.

I know them, and they follow me.

cf John 10.27

C: (sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. Mark, chapter one.

C: *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Jesus calls the first disciples to follow Him.

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED²

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Hymnal p. 839

**O Christ, our true and only Light,
Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice,
And in Your fold with us rejoice.
Fill with the radiance of Your grace
The souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds
Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.**

O gently call those gone astray
That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed
In You find peace and heav'nly rest.
Shine on the darkened and the cold;
Recall the wand'ers to Your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart;
Confirm the weak and doubting heart.
That they with us may evermore
Such grace with wondering thanks adore,
And endless praise to You be given
By all Your Church in earth and heaven.

Text and music: Public Domain

SERMON³

(Please rise)

VERSE

Hymnal p. 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the church, and the world.

Following each petition:

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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.

P: Almighty God, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will, strengthen us in all our temptations, afflictions and sorrows, defend us from all error, and lead us into all truth that we might continue steadfast in faith, may increase in all good works and in the end join You in Your everlasting kingdom of glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and (†) give you His peace.

C: *(sung)* **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

Hymnal p. 832

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;**

**His Name like sweet perfume shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His Name.**

**Blessings abound wherever He reigns;
The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.**

**Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!**

Text and music: Public Domain

POSTLUDE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Iouri Grichetchkine

¹*The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."* John 20:22-23. We take heart that the absolution proclaimed by the pastor is as from the Lord Himself.

²*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.* Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

³Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God's commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word." (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ONLINE VIEWERS

For those worshipping with us online and those sheltering in place, we encourage you to bring your tithes and offerings to the church office open M-F mornings from 9-12, or mail your check in to church, or for those who bank online, simply instruct your bank to send us a check

in the mail.

We all owe God our tithes and offerings and we encourage everyone to continue in the joy that is found in faithful financial stewardship.

Thank you.

Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.