



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221

412-271-7173      [www.christlutheranfhh.org](http://www.christlutheranfhh.org)

You Tube: Christ Lutheran Church Forest Hills PA

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The Reverend Ronald Bright	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Glenn Filler	Worship Assistant
Rick Kern	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 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 31, 2021

### ORDER OF SERVICE

#### PRELUDE

Pastorale

Craig A. Penfield

#### RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

#### OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

**Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**

Hymnal p. 849

**Praise the One Who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light;**

Praise the One Who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,  
Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands  
With the very Bread of Peace  
Praise the One who blessed the children  
With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons  
With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.  
Let us praise the Word Incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise to Him who makes us one.

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## CONFESSIO<sup>1</sup>

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.**

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

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 God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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

Deuteronomy 18:15–20

L: The first reading for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany is from chapter eighteen of Deuteronomy.

*God will send a new prophet like Moses.*

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALMODY

#### Psalm 111

L: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,

C: **in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

L: He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

**C: Holy and awesome is His name!**

L: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

**C: His praise endures forever!**

**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: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,

**C: in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

## SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 8:1–13

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

*In our freedom, we should not cause others to stumble in their faith.*

*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.

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

*cf John 14.6*

**C: *(sung)* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:21–28

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

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

*Jesus teaches with authority and shows His power over unclean spirits.*

*Following the reading...*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE NICENE CREED<sup>2</sup>

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Hymnal p. 842

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,  
You our Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
    You our Head, who, throned in glory,  
For Your own will ever plead: Fill us with Your love and pity,  
    Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.  
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.  
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;  
    We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

**Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.  
Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:  
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,  
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.**

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### **SERMON<sup>3</sup>**

*(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.**

## **THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) is being celebrated in today's service. In preparation for that, please be reminded that the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper are not merely representations or symbols of Jesus' body and blood but Jesus' body and blood sacrificed on the cross are present in, with, and under the bread and wine (The Real Presence). How is this possible? This is beyond human understanding, but we remember that with God all things are possible. This truth is a divine mystery instituted by Jesus, taught by his Apostles, fervently held by the Christian church, and one in which we participate through faith. To be properly prepared to receive this sacrament, you must

1) Recognize that you have indeed sinned against God and other people and are accountable to God for those sins;

- 2) Be sorry (repentant) for those sins;
- 3) Believe that in this sacrament Jesus bestows forgiveness, life, and salvation; and
- 4) Sincerely desire to live a godly life from this point forward.

If you are not a member of Christ Lutheran Church, please speak with the pastor before receiving communion here for the first time.

## **PREFACE**

Hymnal p. 194

**P:** The Lord be with you.

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

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** *(sung)* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C:** *(sung)* **It is meet and right so to do.**

## **PROPER PREFACE**

**P:** It is truly meet, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

## **SANCTUS**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;**

**Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He, blessed is He,**

**Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## **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.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

## **PAX DOMINI**

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you in all ways.

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

## **AGNUS DEI**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*Communion will be offered using the "continuous" method. Approach the front using the main isle. Take both your wafer and individual communion cup from the trays in the front. Place the individual cup and liner in the receptacle at the end of the front pew. Return to your pew using the side isle, if possible. Please observe the 6-foot spacing between communicants. You need not have your mask on when you come up for communion.*

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

**Jesus Comes Today with Healing**

Hymnal p. 620

**Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing,  
Off'ring pardon grace, and peace. He Himself makes preparation,  
And I hear His invitation: "Come and taste the blessed feast."**

**Christ Himself, the priest presiding Yet in bread and wine abiding  
In this holy sacrament, Gives the bread of life, once broken,  
And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.**

**Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy, Blood and  
body, giv'n for me, Very Lamb of God from heaven, Who to bitter death  
was given, Hung upon the cursed tree.**

**God descends with heav'nly power, Gives Himself to me this hour  
In this ordinary sign. On my tongue His pledge receiving,**

**I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine.**

**Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor,  
Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me,  
With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.**

**Now have I found consolation Comfort in my tribulation,  
Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror,  
Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.**

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## **VOLUNTARY**

**Entrust Your Days and Burdens**

**Stephen R. Johnson**

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace  
according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast prepared  
before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles  
and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING**

**P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,**

**C: (*sung*)and His mercy endureth forever.**

## **COLLECT**

**P: Let us pray.**

**We give thanks to You, almighty God, that you have refreshed us  
through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You  
would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in  
fervent love toward one another; 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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

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

**P:** Bless we 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 unto you The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

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

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure**

Hymnal p. 533

**Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,  
Alpham Omega, Beginning and End;  
Godhead, humanity, union supernal,  
O great Redeemer, You come as our friend!  
Heaven and earth, now proclaim this great wonder:  
Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!  
Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!  
Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.  
See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!  
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,  
Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.  
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!  
Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.  
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!  
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's fortress,  
Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant, unharmed.**

**Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!  
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!  
Jesus has come as the King of all glory!  
Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow'r,  
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;  
Welcome Him now in this fastfleeting hour!  
Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for you!  
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!**

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## **POSTLUDE**

Morning Light ("Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus")

Robert F. Swift

<sup>1</sup>*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.

<sup>2</sup>*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.

<sup>3</sup>Martin 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.

**HOME COMMUNION:** Christ Lutheran is providing Home Communion Packages with individually wrapped wafers and wine cups. These packages are to be distributed to those who are institutionalized or remain at home on Sundays. Your help getting these packages out is needed. Talk to Pastor if you'd like to help.

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