Fourth Sunday after EPIPHANY



Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to: Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all



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.



WELCOME Pastor Dave Thomas

PRELUDE Dean Robinson, organ

Kyrie – Anonymous

LITANY FOR EIPHANY

from "Godspace" an online resource created by Christine Sine

God who revealed yourself to wise men following a star, Guide all who search and journey towards your light today.

God who unveiled yourself in the gift of a Son, Show yourself to all who seek after justice and righteousness today.

God who was baptized with those who declared their repentance in the Jordan river, Manifest yourself to all who come with repentant hearts today.

God who fed the five thousand with a handful of fish and loaves, Satisfy our hunger with your word of truth and love.

God who changed water into wine at a wedding, Fill all who thirst with the free gift of the water of life.

God whose light shines like a bright guiding star, open our eyes in this season of revelation, That we may see anew both your gentleness and your glory. Amen.

Dr. Christine Sine, M.D., is the co-founder of Mustard Seed Associates, a Christian non-profit that promote spirituality, creativity, and service. Prior to that, she studies medicine in Australia, practiced in New Zealand, then helped develop and direct healthcare ministries for Mercy Ships. In addition to her online writing, Dr. Sine is the author of several books, including her latest, "The Gift of Wonder."

OPENING HYMN ELW #520



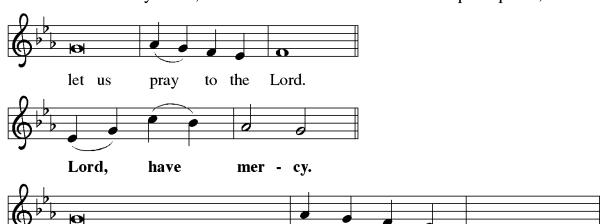
Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt. Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

KYRIE





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



This Is the Feast



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: 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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (NRSV)

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[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."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 (NRSV)

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

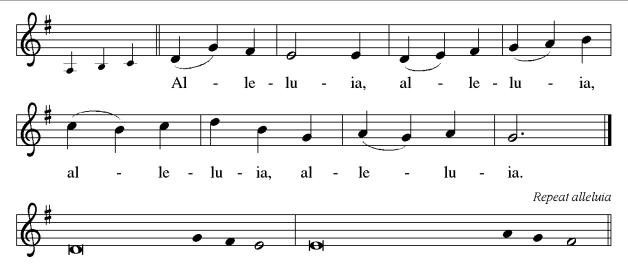
⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

7It 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. 8"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. 9But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. 10For 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? 11So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. 12But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. 13Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Holy Communion: Setting One



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28 (NRSV)

The gospel as recorded in the first chapter of Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

MESSAGE Pastor Dave Thomas

Authoritative Teaching

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #312

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938 Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord of Light be with you this day and always. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends, "Hear us, O Lord."
To which the congregation responds, "Your mercy is great."

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.

OFFERING

Dean Robinson, organ

Agnus Dei – Anonymous

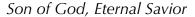
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

May the power of God the Father strengthen you; May the love of God the Son be your shining star; And may the wisdom of God the Spirit guide your thoughts, words, and deeds; Now and forevermore. Amen.



CLOSING HYMN ELW #655





Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

SENT TO SERVE

Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you."
By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
Worship God,
Grow in Faith,
Share the Gospel,
Serve Others,
Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!



Portions of the liturgy reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #12568-S • Readings reprinted from *Words for Worship* and *Sundays and Seasons*, copyright © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress • Graphics reprinted from Graphics for Worship 2.0 copyright © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress