

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2024 • 9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” . . Carla Barrows, Organ
by Charles Callahan

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WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

PROCESSIONAL “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” . . LSB 528, vs. 1-3, 6-7

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life and health and peace.

See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made
For ev'ry soul of man.

To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.

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OPENING VERSICLES.....LSB 260

P This is the day which the Lord has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell
in the tents of the wicked.

P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

C Teach me Your paths.

P Sanctify us in Your truth.

C Your Word is truth.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE LSB 261

People: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Cantor: *With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.*

And you will say in that day:

*“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,
make known His deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that His name is exalted.”*

People: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Cantor: *Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.*

*Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your
midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

People: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Cantor: *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.*

People: **The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has
become my salvation.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING. Deuteronomy 18:15–20

R The Old Testament Reading is from the 18th Chapter of Deuteronomy.

R ¹⁵“The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to Him you shall listen— ¹⁶just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ ¹⁷And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. ¹⁹And whoever will not listen to My words that He shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him. ²⁰But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’” (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 8:1–13

R The Epistle Reading is from the 8th Chapter of 1st Corinthians.

R ¹Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ²If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

⁴Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed 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.

⁷However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹²Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

P ²¹They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²²And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes.

²³And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴“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 out with a loud voice, came out of him.

²⁷And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him.” ²⁸And at once His fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.
(ESV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

RESPONSORY LSB 263

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

CONFESSIOIN OF FAITH 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Lonnie Gonzales, Associate Pastor

Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens,
Let Your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me,
Let each promise still my fear.
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife,
Wars against Your Word of life;
Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor
That I cling to You forever!

Oh, what blessing to be near You
And to listen to Your voice;
Let me ever love and hear You,
Let Your Word be now my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord,
Flee in terror at Your Word;
But to all who feel sin's burden
You give words of peace and pardon.

Lord, Your words are waters living
When my thirsting spirit pleads.
Lord, Your words are bread life-giving;
On Your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, Your words will be my light
Through death's cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing
And my cup of joy unfailing!

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
Let Your words in me take root.
May Your Spirit e'er be near me
That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing Your praise,
From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given
In the endless joy of heaven.

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MESSAGE. Pastor Michael P. Dorn

RESPONSE. "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness". LSB 849

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 the One who makes us one.

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OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING . . . “Jubilation” by Fred Gramann Trinity Bells

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PRAYERS LSB 265

[P] In peace let us pray to the Lord:

[C] Lord, have mercy.

[P] For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

[C] Lord, have mercy.

[P] For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

[C] Lord, have mercy.

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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.

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE LSB 266

Cantor: *Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.*

All: **Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Cantor: *Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.*

Raised from the dead, He will never die again.

Death has no more dominion over Him.

All: **Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Cantor: *Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.*

Living, He lives to God.

Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ

Jesus, our Lord.

All: **Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BLESSING LSB 267

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

RECESSIONAL. . “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” LSB 924

Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.

O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav’ling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel’s joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.

Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.

Savior, when Your love shall call us
From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us,
Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with You in endless day.

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POSTLUDE “Toccata for a Celebration”. . Carla Barrows, Organ
by Gene Clarke

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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