

# **Faith Lutheran Church**

**Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ**

**Sunday, January 28, 2018**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

**9:30 am**



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son, and of  
the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(A brief silence.)* Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **OPENING HYMN**

***“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”***

**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 your name.**

**The name of Jesus charms our fears  
and bids our sorrows cease,  
sings music in the sinner's ears,  
brings life and health and peace.**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion of  
the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## **Introduction to the Day**

**P:** 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  
trumps any lesser spirit that would claim  
power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

**C:** **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.**



CHILDREN'S  
CHURCH

## **FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

A reading from Deuteronomy, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Moses said: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This 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.”

Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. I 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. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

But 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.”

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **A Responsive Reading From Psalm 111**

**P:** Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**C:** **Great are your works, O LORD,  
pondered by all who delight in them.**

P: Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness endures forever.

**C: You cause your wonders to be  
remembered; you are gracious and  
full of compassion.**

P: You give food to those who fear you,  
remembering forever your covenant.

**C: You have shown your people the power  
of your works in giving them the lands  
of the nations.**

P: The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

**C: They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

**P:** You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

**C:** **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

A reading from 1st Corinthians, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

Hence, 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.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth - as in fact there are many gods and many lords - yet 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.

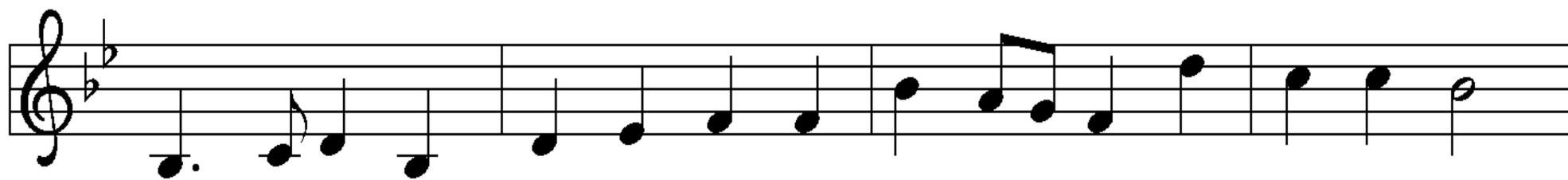
It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For 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? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.

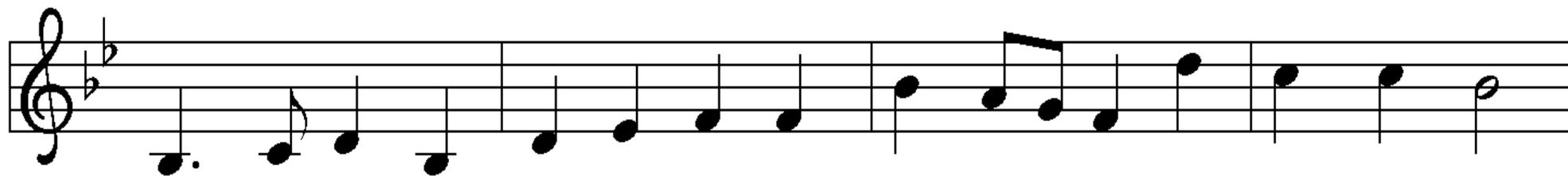
But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

R: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## **GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28**

**P:** The holy gospel according to Mark,  
the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**C: *Glory to you, O Lord.***

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and 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.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

They 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.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

# **SERMON**

**“WHO DO YOU TRUST?”**

**HYMN OF THE DAY *“Thy Holy Wings”***

**Thy holy wings, O Savior,  
spread gently over me,  
and let me rest securely  
through good and ill in thee.  
Oh, be my strength and portion,  
my rock and hiding place,  
and let my ev'ry moment  
be lived within thy grace.**

**Oh, let me nestle near thee,  
within thy downy breast  
where I will find sweet comfort  
and peace within thy nest.  
Oh, close thy wings around me  
and keep me safely there,  
for I am but a newborn  
and need thy tender care.**

**Oh, wash me in the waters  
of Noah's cleansing flood.  
Give me a willing spirit,  
a heart both clean and good.  
Oh, take into thy keeping  
thy children great and small,  
and while we sweetly slumber,  
enfold us one and all.**

## **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**

**P:** Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need. For those who speak your word throughout the church in the world, O God, and for educational institutions that prepare leaders, that you will lift up prophets in our congregations, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

**P:** For the works of God revealed in and through creation, for an end to pollution and unjust use of natural resources, and for good weather this season, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

**P:** For peace and justice throughout the world (*especially*), for political leaders at all levels, and for those who provide public services, that you will grant them wisdom as they carry out their tasks, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

**P:** For the homeless, the unemployed, the underemployed, and their advocates; for the sick, the suffering, and their caregivers; and for the weak in body, mind, and spirit (*especially for those whom we name now out loud*), that your compassion be felt by all in need, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

**P:** For those in our congregation celebrating special events, for those missing from our worship today, and for friends and family both near and far, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

**P:** In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who witnessed your love in their lives and in this world, that through them our own faith will grow stronger, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

**P:** Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

# PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**~ VIDEO DURING THE OFFERING ~**

***“Walking on Water”***  
**by NEEDTOBREATHE**

## **OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

*We give thee but thine own,  
whatever the gift may be,  
All that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, oh Lord, from thee.*

*May we thy bounties thus,  
as stewards true receive,  
And gladly as though blessed us,  
to thee our first fruits give.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray. Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God,

**C: we give you thanks and praise.**

## **DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the  
Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

***~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~***

## ***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.***

~ ***COMMUNION*** ~

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now - today, tomorrow, every day - that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**P:** Almighty God, Father, † Son,  
and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN “*CHORAL BENEDICTION*”**

**May the light of God shine on us today.**

**May the light of God shine on us today.**

**May it show us where to travel,  
lead us back if we should stray.**

**May the light of God shine on us today.**

**May the love of God live in us today.  
May the love of God live in us today.  
May the warmth we feel within us,  
show in all we do and say.  
May the love of God live in us today.**

**May the peace of God be with us today.  
May the peace of God be with us today.  
May it guide us and protect us,  
as we go our separate ways.  
May the peace of God be with us today.**

## **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

















