

# January 31, 2021

*The Fourth Sunday  
after the Epiphany*



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**Messiah Lutheran Church**

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758  
(256)721-0041 / [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org)

## SERVICE of WORSHIP

### *Hymn Setting*

THE PRELUDE: *Song without Words Op. 67* by Mendelssohn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(silence for reflection and self examination)*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage 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**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

**Amen**

## God, Whose Almighty Word

400

1 God, whose al - mighty - y word Cha - os and  
 2 Lord, who once came to bring, On your re -  
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, Life - giv - ing,  
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, Glo - ri - ous

dark - ness heard And took their flight;  
 deem - ing wing, Heal - ing and sight,  
 ho - ly dove, Speed forth your flight;  
 Trin - i - ty, Wis - dom, love, might!

Hear us, we hum - bly pray, And where the Gos - pel day  
 Health to the sick in mind, Sight to the in - ly blind:  
 Move on the wa - ter's face Bear - ing the lamp of grace,  
 Bound-less as o - cean's tide, Roll - ing in full - est pride,

Sheds not its glo - rious ray,  
 Oh, now to hu - man-kind Let there be light!  
 And in earth's dark - est place  
 Through the earth, far and wide,

THE GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

THE KYRIE

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying 775

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note chord (F2, B-flat1, E-flat2, A1) followed by a series of eighth notes: F2, G2, A2, B-flat2, C3, D3, E-flat3, F3. This is followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, and a quarter rest. The bass staff begins with a whole note chord (F2, B-flat1, E-flat2, A1) followed by a series of eighth notes: F2, G2, A2, B-flat2, C3, D3, E-flat3, F3. This is followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, and a quarter rest.

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The second system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note chord (F2, B-flat1, E-flat2, A1) followed by a series of eighth notes: F2, G2, A2, B-flat2, C3, D3, E-flat3, F3. This is followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, and a quarter rest. The bass staff begins with a whole note chord (F2, B-flat1, E-flat2, A1) followed by a series of eighth notes: F2, G2, A2, B-flat2, C3, D3, E-flat3, F3. This is followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, and a quarter rest.

## Holy, Holy, Holy

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1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 Though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 On - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 Per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## THE SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

O God, you know that we cannot withstand the dangers which surround us. Strengthen us in body and spirit so that, with your help, we may be able to overcome the weakness that our sin has brought upon us; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

**Amen**

VIOLIN SOLO: *Amazing Grace*

Gretchen Perry

## THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup> The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup> 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." <sup>17</sup> Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup> 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."

## THE PSALM

*Psalm 111*

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD  
with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright,  
in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup> **Great are the deeds of the LORD!  
They are studied by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup> His work is full of majesty and splendor,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> **He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup> He gives food to those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**<sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power of his works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all his commandments are sure.

**<sup>8</sup>They stand fast forever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.**

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people;  
he commanded his covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is his name.

**<sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

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

<sup>4</sup> 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.” <sup>5</sup> Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> “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. <sup>9</sup> But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup> 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? <sup>11</sup> So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup> But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> 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.

# Listen, God Is Calling

*Refrain*  
Leader

All

Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing through the Word in - vit - ing,

of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort and joy. joy.

Leader

All

1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader

All

*Refrain*

that he came to save us and set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.  
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

## THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28

<sup>21</sup> They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup> They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup> Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup> 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.” <sup>25</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup> And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup> 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.” <sup>28</sup> At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with  
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth

speaking it was done. For cre - at - ed  
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
 thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -

light we thank thee, While thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 thy sal - va - tion, Breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath.  
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 ev - er beam - eth All thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
 and born of the virgin Mary,  
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried.  
 He descended into hell.  
 On the third day he rose again.  
 He ascended into heaven,  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 He will come again 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**

THE OFFERTORY: "Praise and Thanksgiving" vs 1,3

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Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things  
 2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve you, That with our  
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for your chil - dren, By your wise  
 4 Then will your bless - ing Reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, Free - ly con -

liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the  
 neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work  
 guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -  
 fess - ing Your gra - cious hand. Where all o - bey you, No one will

or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.  
 with you, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.  
 joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know your care.  
 hun - ger; In your love's sway you Nour - ish the land.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## 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 BENEDICTION

HYMN: "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" vs 1,2,3,4,5

### Rise Up, O Saints of God!

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1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;  
3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;  
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts With no - bler zeal might burn.  
As heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, His word of hope pro - claim.  
Re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; Give jus - tice larg - er place.  
Stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, With love the weak sus - tain.

- 5 Commit your hearts to seek  
The paths which Christ has trod  
And quickened by the Spirit's power,  
Rise up, O saints of God!

## THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: *Great God, We Sing Thy Mighty Hand*