

# LARGE PRINT EDITION



## HOLY COMMUNION

### 4 Epiphany

January 28, 2024 + 9:30 am

*Healing of one with an unclean spirit*

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Learn Live and Share God's Word

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### *Jesus is the silence who helps us hear God's voice*

*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.*

Epiphany	Dec 31 (Jan 6)	Christ revealed to the nations
Baptism	Jan 7	Christ revealed as God's beloved servant
2 Epiphany	Jan 14	Christ revealed as a charismatic leader
3 Epiphany	Jan 21	Christ revealed as a master fisher of people
<b>4 Epiphany</b>	<b>Jan 28</b>	<b>Christ revealed as God's holy one with power</b>
5 Epiphany	Feb 4	Christ revealed as a great teacher and healer
Transfig	Feb 11	Christ revealed as God's beloved Son

## GATHERING

*The disciples urged Jesus strongly, saying,  
"Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over."  
So he went in to stay with them.*

## PRELUDE

*arr. A. Smith/P. Knapp*

“The Son of God Our Christ/Blessed Assurance”

*At the sound of the bell please stand and face the worship leaders.*

## ENTRANCE HYMN

*(hymn) ELW 519*

“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”

*1<sup>st</sup>: time Hebrew refrain;*

*2<sup>nd</sup> time in English*

- 1 Open your ears, O faithful people,  
open your ears and hear God's word.  
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,  
God has come to you.**

### *Hebrew Refrain*

**Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!**

**Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!**

**Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!**

**Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!**

- 2 They who have ears to hear the message,  
they who have ears, now let them hear;  
they who would learn the way of wisdom,  
let them hear God's word. *Refrain***

### *English Refrain*

**God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!**

**God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!**

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version  
Text © 1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.  
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## DIALOG & GREETING

**P** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**C** Blessed be God forever.

A The light shines in the darkness,

**C And the darkness has not overcome it.**

P The Word became flesh and lived among us,

**C And we have beheld Christ's glory**

A A voice from heaven said,

“This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

**C In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

P Grace to you, and peace, from God who shines among us.

**C And also with you.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

*(hymn)* ELW 525

“You Are Holy”

*twice, in canon*

**You are holy, you are whole.**

**You are always ever more than we ever understand.**

**You are always at hand.**

**Blessed are you coming near. Blessed are you coming here  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from  
dead.**

**You are holy, you are wholeness,**

**you are present. Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!**

**Sing hosanna in the highest! Sing hosanna!**

**Sing hosanna to our God!**

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945; © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB,  
admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America, South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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.

**C Amen.**

*The presider continues with words of welcome.*

## WORD

*Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.*

### CHILDREN'S WORD

*Children are invited forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.*

### FIRST READING

*The prophet speaks with God's authority*      Deuteronomy 18:15-20

*Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.*

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.”

... Praise to Christ the Word.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

Psalm 111 (ICEL)

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (111:10)*

A With my whole heart I praise the Lord among the just.

**C Great are God’s works, a delight to explore.**

A In splendor, in majesty, God’s justice will stand.

Who can forget God’s wonders!

**C A God, merciful and kind, who nourished the faithful,  
upheld the covenant, and revealed mighty deeds,  
giving them the land.**

A Faithful, just, and true are all God’s decrees:  
each law in its place, valid for ever.

The Lord redeems the faithful, decrees a lasting covenant.

**C Holy and awesome is God’s name!  
Fear of the Lord is wisdom’s crown,  
wise are those who live by it.**

A Praise the Lord for ever!

**C Give praise to the Father Almighty;  
to the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord;  
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts;  
both now and forever. Amen.**

## SECOND READING

*Limits to liberty*

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*Paul is concerned about how some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in*

*Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable, believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause a sister or brother to sin.*

*Paul writes to the church at Corinth:*

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.

... Praise to Christ the Word.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(hymn) ELW 535

*The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:*

stanza 1

“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”

### **Refrain**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness. Repeat**

### **1 Christ the Lord to us said:**

**I am wine, I am bread,**

**I am wine, I am bread,**

**give to all who thirst and hunger. Refrain**

Text: South African, tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
English text © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

## GOSPEL

*The healing of one with an unclean spirit*

Mark 1:21-28

*The story has barely begun, and already the battle is joined. Jesus sides with humanity against every force that would bring death and disease. These forces recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. This, however, is only the first fight. The war will go on much longer.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

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

[Jesus and his disciples] 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.

**C Praise to you, O Christ!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*(hymn)* ELW 535

*This hymn bookends the proclamation of the gospel.:*

*stanza 2*

“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”

### ***Refrain***

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness. *Repeat***

**2 Now he sends us all out,  
strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt.  
Tell to all the joyful gospel. *Refrain***

Text: South African, tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
English text © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*(hymn)* ELW 614

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

### ***Refrain***

**There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin-sick soul.**



- 1 Sometimes I feel discouraged  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. *Refrain***
- 2 If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus  
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain***
- 3 Don't ever be discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend;  
and if you lack for knowledge  
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain***

Text: African American spiritual

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**A** We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** 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**

*Prayers are offered for the Church, the earth, the nations, and those in any need.  
Each petition concludes:*

*... in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

## **MEAL**

*When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread,  
blessed and broke it and gave it to them.*

*Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.*

## **PEACE**

**P** The light and peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.*

## **OFFERING**

*When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is  
gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*Please leave your offerings in the baskets in the aisles or give online. During  
this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the  
chancel. Thank you for your generosity.*

**"Thy Holy Wings"**

*Wm. Miller*

## **Offertory Prayer**

**A** Let us pray together.

**C God of time and eternity,  
you have given your only Son,  
born of Mary, to save and redeem us.  
Bless us with all good things, that the works of our hands  
through all the years of our lives may proclaim  
the news of your redeeming love in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**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 to the Lord our God.**

**C it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P ... and join their unending hymn:** *(setting 3, p. 144)*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna .  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:*

**Lord's Prayer (1789)**

**C Our Father who art 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.

## Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

### Communion

“Lamb of God”

*setting 3; page 146*

**C** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of  
the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away  
the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*silence for reflection concludes the communion*

### Prayer after Communion

**A** Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the presence of  
Christ. Use us as beacons of light and bearers of Christ’s love  
for the sake of the whole world. In Jesus’ name we pray.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING

*That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem.*

*They told what had happened on the road and  
how he had been made to known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

### BENEDICTION

**P** May the love of Jesus Christ, the light of the world,  
fill your hearts and illumine your path.

Almighty God, Father, + Son,  
and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*(hymn)* ELW 310

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

*stanza 1, 3, 4*

- 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar,  
branch of royal David's stem  
in thy birth at Bethlehem:  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.**
  
- 3 Manifest in making whole  
weakened body, fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill:  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.**
  
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
present in thy holy word;  
grace to imitate thee now  
and be pure, as pure art thou;  
that we might become like thee  
at thy great epiphany,  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in flesh made manifest.**

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885, alt.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is your light.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

*Wordsworth/Hintz*

*You are welcomed to be seated and enjoy the postlude if you wish.*

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## SERVING TODAY

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Dave Olson, *assisting minister*

Diane Langer, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Chancel Choir

Julie Larson, Erik Ruser, *technology*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Steve Ristuben, Wayne Halverson, *ushers*

Doug Jacobson, *bus ministry*

Myrna Flatland, *coffee hosts*

**Chancel flowers** this weekend are given by Kevin Ziegler  
in memory of Zigmund, Bonnie & Nellie Ziegler.

*If you wish to donate flowers sign up in the narthex or call the church office.*

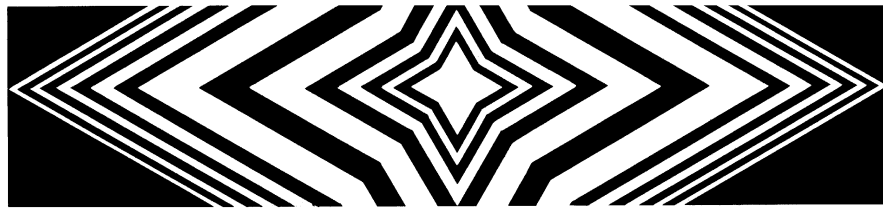
*Please join us for coffee fellowship in the lower level following worship.*

**Contribute to the Global Barnyard project** through February 11: Bring your coins and place them in the green bucket. Paper money and checks also will be accepted for this meaningful mission work.

**The annual meeting of the congregation** will be held today immediately following worship and coffee.

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**WELCOME**



**Everyone is welcome.** We are a faith community participating in the life of God, a life that is a gift to us and in which we are actively engaged. That gift compels us to be actively engaged in the neighborhoods of Northeast Minneapolis as well. We are a multigenerational community that proudly celebrates our history while joining together with younger generations to follow where God is leading. We build our community through faith practices like prayer, dwelling in the Word and hospitality.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. If you would like more information about Mt. Carmel, please contact us at 612-781-2796, or email [pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org)

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available outside the sanctuary.

**Welcome to the Lord's Table.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to you where you are seated if you require accessibility accommodation. Please inform the ushers. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. White grape juice is available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

**Welcome to the Holy Baptism.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. Our pastor will contact you.

**Friends of Mt. Carmel...Stay connected**

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join a new network of Friends of Mt. Carmel. Email [pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org) for more information or to join.



**Digital giving** is available at Mt. Carmel. You can easily donate online through our website at [mountcarmelmpls.org](http://mountcarmelmpls.org) and click on **Give**. Mt. Carmel Lutheran is supported by generous people like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-781-2796.



## WORSHIP LIFE

### *Presentation of Our Lord – February 2*

Forty days after the birth of Christ we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the temple in accordance with Jewish law. There a prophetess named Anna began to speak of the redemption of Israel when she saw the young child. Simeon also greeted Mary and Joseph. He responded to the presence of the consolation of Israel in this child with the words of the *Nunc dimittis*. His song describes Jesus as a “light for the nations.”

Because of the link between Jesus as the light for the nations, and because an old reading for this festival contains a line from the prophet Zephaniah, “I will search Jerusalem with candles,” the day is also known as Candlemas, a day when candles are blessed for the coming year. It can also be the day to unplug the outdoor Christmas (& Epiphany) lights.

Luke’s 2:22-40 narrative of Jesus presentation in the temple is a down-payment on the death of Christ. Animals are slaughtered, the infant son is temporarily saved from sacrifice, and two old people are themselves ready to die. Yet this word of death is the very light of the world, who in time will be the lamb that is slain. In Luke’s story, Simeon knows that the infant will bring about the world’s salvation and that the future will cause Mary grief; and Anna tells others about the redemption, not of only the infant boy, but of all the people.

When Simeon holds the child in his arms, he is ready to face death, and he sings praise to the light of God. Since at least 1531, Lutherans have sung Simeon’s song after receiving communion (ELW, p. 113). As we hold out our hands, we receive in them the body of Christ, our salvation and the light of the world. We hold out our hands as if our palm is like a cradle for the infant, like a throne for the king. In Night Prayer (ELW, p. 324) we continue the monastic medieval practice of singing this canticle at bedtime, since sleep can be likened to death.

*Adapted from material by Gail Ramshaw, Sundays & Seasons.com*



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