

January 15, 2023

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Darrin Ream

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

MOVING ON TO A PLACE PREPARED



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PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

“As with gladness men of old, did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious God, may we Evermore be led to Thee!”

We welcome you all, Friends and Visitors, in the Name of Jesus, the Christ!

We are living in the age of information and computer technology. We are able to gather, store, and process information faster and more efficiently than any people in history. Many computer operators are being carried away, driven to become informed about everything as possible via the internet. It is thought by many that the success of president-elect Obama was largely due to the information gathered and sent via the internet. Being “in-the-know” is the way to ultimate happiness and success for many.

This too is deceit, ala the promise of Satan when Eve was made to feel ignorant because she did not know evil. Those who know all about the “information highway,” but care nothing about knowing this world’s only Savior, remain as wicked, weak and under the wrath of God as they ever were. For in spite of all the information they may gather about every subject in the universe, their nature remains unchanged, and they will continue to hide from God in “adamic” ignorance.

This is where God alone comes to our aid. For His Holy Word, the Bible, was not given merely to inform, but to transform, through the renewing of hearts by the working of faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and Savior of sinners. The Good News concerning Jesus is “the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes” (Rom. 1:16) May this divine power work in us as we receive God’s Word this hour.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

INTROIT

P All the earth shall worship You:

C and shall sing unto You, O God.

P Pastor

P They shall sing to Your Name:

C Congregation

C O You who are Most High.

P Make a joyful noise unto God, all you lands:

C Sing forth the honor of His Name, make His praise glorious!

HYMN: TLH #1

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Dearly Beloved, the Word of our Lord declares that “God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” (Jn 3:17) Therefore, let us come to the throne of grace, seeking forgiveness for all our sins in the Name of Jesus, the Christ, Who became Man in order to suffer and die for us, and so present Himself to His Father as perfect payment for the sins of all.

C **O most merciful God, You have given Your Only-begotten Son to die for us. Have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us the forgiveness of all our sins. By Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, so that by Your grace through faith in Jesus Christ we may come to everlasting life; all this we ask in His saving Name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and for the sake of the sufferings, death and resurrection of His dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, forgives us all our sins. On the basis of your sincere confession, and by the command of Christ, I declare unto you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. For if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed! . . . O Lord, grant this unto us all.

C **Amen!**

THE SALUTATION:

P May our Lord be with you...

C **and also with you.**

THE COLLECT:

P Almighty and eternal God, You govern all things in heaven and on earth, so that at the Last, all things might be summed up in Jesus Christ Your Son. In Your mercy preserve our humble trust in Your saving gospel of forgiveness; hear our prayers and grant us Your peace all the days of our life. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God for ever and ever.

C **Amen.**

EPISTLE READING – Romans 8:1-11 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the

flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

GOSPEL READING – Mark 1:14-22 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God [b]is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” 16 And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. 17 Then Jesus said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” 18 They immediately left their nets and followed Him. 19 When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the boat mending their nets. 20 And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him. 21 Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and taught. 22 And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of

Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN: TLH #422

“Savior, I Follow On”

SERMON – Exodus 23:20-21 Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way to bring you into the place which I have prepared. 21) Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in Him.

MOVING ON TO A PLACE PREPARED

- I. Behold Him Who keeps you in The Way!
- II. Beware of Him, His saving voice obey!

OFFERTORY

WS p.16

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

☩ **♩** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

HYMN: TLH #420

“My Jesus, As Thou Wilt”

– OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

OFFERING HYMN: TLH #788:1

“Lord, You Love...”

- C** ♪ Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand
Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land.
Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true
That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.

GENERAL PRAYER and the LORD’S PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord!

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God: Who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

C ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabbaoth, adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, “Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

**The Order of Holy
Communion**



In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." And the peace of the Lord will be with you always!

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
 blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
 part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
 tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

THE DISTRIBUTION

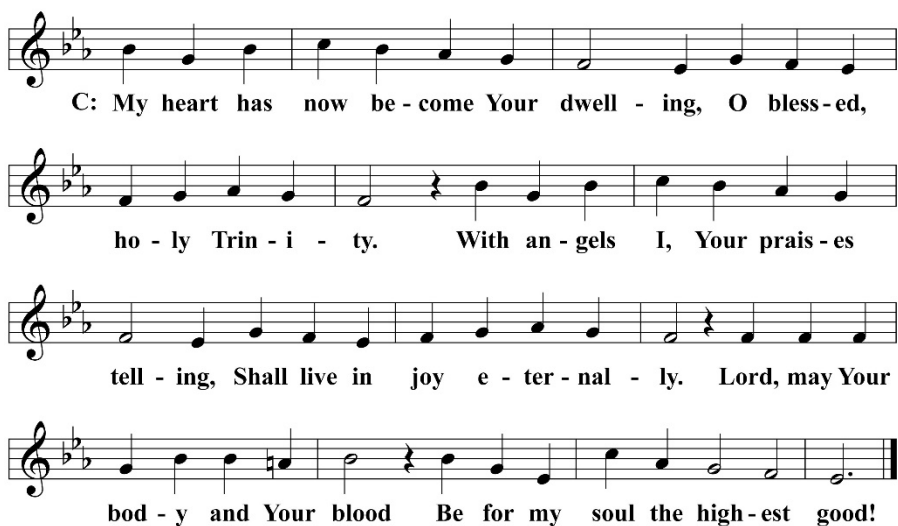
Please remain seated.

- P** Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
 Take and drink. This cup is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
 May this body and blood strengthen and preserve you in the true faith, unto life everlasting. Depart in peace. Amen.



C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.



C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

G Amen!

HYMN: TLH #54

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

✝ Announcements ✝

- ✝ **Jan 15** 9:15am Bible Class
10:15 Communion service
with Pastor Fossum Annual
Voters’ Meeting after church
Ladies’ Meeting after church
- ✝ **Jan 22** 8am Orlando service
10:15am WH service
- ✝ **Jan 27** Science Fair at school
6:30pm
- ✝ **Jan 29** 10:15am WH service,
Sign Comm. and Church
Council meet after church
- ✝ **Feb 5** 9:15am Bible Class
10:15 Communion service
with Pastor Fossum, Ladies’
Meeting after church
- ✝ **Feb 8** Cleaning of the
Parsonage to get ready for the
Sauers moving in
- ✝ **Feb 10** 12pm Move Sauers
into the parsonage
- ✝ **Feb 12** 10:15am WH
Installation Service of Pastor
Sauers – Welcome meal for
Pastor Sauers and family after
the service

Sign Fund We are in the process of designing a new sign and preparing the area around the sign in front of church. The sign itself is being made by Cypress Signs, and volunteer labor will be installing it and landscaping the area around it. Stone posts will be added to give the area more of a presence. If you would like to help defray the cost of the sign, please mark your envelope “Sign Fund.” Thank you for considering this need.

Ladeis’ Meetings There will be a Ladies’ Meeting after church today and a Ladies’ Meeting after church Feb. 5. They will be discussing collecting items to stock the pantry for Pastor Sauers and family and getting ready for the meal Feb. 12.

Last Week: WH – 22 Orlando - 10 **Total Offering** = \$1406.62 | Missions \$50 | Tuition \$675 |

ILC Sch. \$100 | Benevolence \$50 | Sign Fund \$30

Cleaner (1/21): Ream | **Acolyte (1/22):** Seth Bernthal

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; January 16 - January 21, '23

Mon John 1:43-51 Jesus gathers His disciples. Even before Nathanael “comes and sees” Jesus (v46), Jesus has seen him when “no one was looking.” Nathanael sees by this that Jesus is the Son of God, the King of Israel. Even before we came to Jesus, He saw us and came to save us. By this we see the glory of our Savior, and shall see more in the future.

Tues 1 Corinthians 2:6-8 The message proclaimed by the apostle was nothing but Jesus Christ and him crucified (2:2). Yet in this is the secret and hidden wisdom of God revealed. Even while not looking glorious to the rulers of this world, at His lowest point (crucified), Jesus is “the Lord of glory.”

Wed 1 Corinthians 2:9-12 What God has prepared for His own is beyond human imagination, but revealed by the very Spirit of God. The Spirit alone knows the things of God and reveals to us our glorious future with “the Lord of glory.”

Thurs 1 Corinthians 2:13-16 The very words that the apostle uses to proclaim Jesus Christ are taught him by the Spirit, and without the Spirit’s work it would all be foolishness to us. But because the Spirit of God works through the apostolic word, we have the mind of Christ (v16).

Fri Isaiah 61:1-3 The Servant of the LORD speaks of His mission, fulfilled by Jesus (Lk4:21), not only to defeat God’s enemies (v2), but especially to show His glory through the tender care of the lowliest of His poor people, brokenhearted, bereft, in bondage though they be.

Sat Isaiah 61:4-6 Those whom the LORD raises up and plants as trees of righteousness (61:3) will become builders in the kingdom, reflecting His glory. They will no longer be “poor,” the LORD will see to that. And everyone will have access to God as a priest through the anointed One (61:1), the Servant of the LORD.

The Master's Minute

Happy New Year! But don't count on your time in the coming year! For God has determined the exact length of your time on this earth, and His Son, Jesus Christ is *coming* to judge the world at any moment! But please, do *not* think of your times in terms of the hands of the clock, but in terms of the hands of Christ!

With each passing hour of every day in 2023 the cold hands of the clock will push and drive us here and there; but the flesh and blood-warm hands of the crucified and risen Christ would draw us ever closer by faith to God in heaven.

Like the Law of God the hands of the clock violently awaken us from spiritual sleep to know that our time on earth is short because of sin.

But the arms and hands of our Savior do not point and alarm; they embrace and warm! From the cross they declare to everyone who believes in Jesus as his Savior, that they belong to Him, whether they live or die, suffer, or prosper in 2023.

In Psalm 31, the inspired writer says: "*My times are in your hands, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.*" All who call on the Lord Jesus Christ in true repentance and faith, have this same confidence in the hands of their Savior. May this be your firm hope in the new year!

With much appreciation for your gift at Christmas,
Dear Brothers and Sisters of Immanuel:

I thank our God for all of you,
For faith and love this whole year through,
For fellowship in Christ our Lord,
Communing at His heav'nly Board.

We preach God's love for ev'ry one,
His Grace and peace found in His Son.
We see His children kind and true,
Fruits of His Spirit borne in you.

May He Who lights our path to heav'n
Through His only Son once given,
So bless you as He comes this year
With Gospel grace and holy cheer!
-- Pastor Vance Fossum