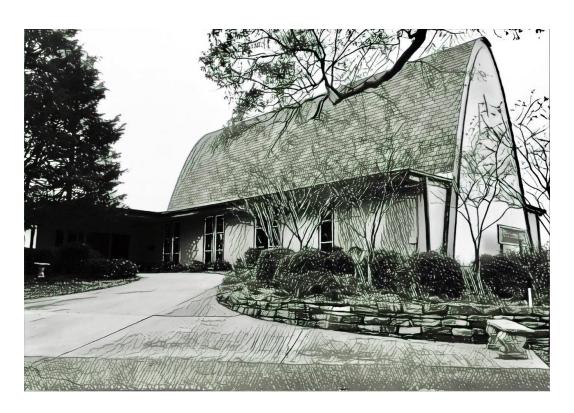
# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH





Rev. George Fields, Pastor Sr. Sara Fields, Deaconess

Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: **10:30 a.m.**Sunday School for all ages: **9:00 a.m.**4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055

www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY + January 28, 2024 +

# The Holy One of God



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.
We are so glad to have you worshiping with us today!

LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.

#### **WELCOME:**

"It was appropriate, since death first entered into the world through the devil's envy, that the healing medicine of salvation should first operate against him [...] The presence of the Savior is the torment of the devils."

- The Venerable Bede, Homilies on the Gospels

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Matthew 26:28: 1 John 1:7: 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# **DIVINE SERVICE I**

#### PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.

#### **OPENING HYMN**

#### The Son of God Goes Forth to War

(Tune #444)

- 1 The Son of God goes forth to warA kingly crown to gain.His blood-red banner streams afar;
  - His blood-red banner streams afar; Who follows in His train?
  - Who best can drink His cup of woe, Triumphant over pain,
  - Who patient bears his cross below—He follows in His train.
- 2 The martyr first, whose eagle eye Could pierce beyond the grave,
  - Who saw his master in the sky And called on Him to save.
  - Like Him, with pardon on His tongue In midst of mortal pain,
  - He prayed for those who did the wrong— Who follows in his train?

- 3 A glorious band, the chosen few, On whom the Spirit came,
  - Twelve valiant saints—their hope they knew And mocked the cross and flame.
  - They met the tyrant's brandished steel, The lion's gory mane;
  - They bowed their necks their death to feel—Who follows in their train?
- 4 A noble army, men and boys,
  The matron and the maid,
  Around the Savior's throne rejoice,
  In robes of light arrayed.
  They climbed the steep ascent of heav'n
  - O God, to us may grace be giv'n To follow in their train!

Through peril, toil, and pain.

# **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C 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 on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 you and forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD



Psalm 113:1-2, 4, 7-8; Ant. Psalm 113:3



From the rising of the sun to its | setting,\* the name of the LORD is | to be praised!

Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants | of the LORD,\*
praise the name | of the LORD!
Blessèd be the name | of the LORD\*
from this time forth and for- | evermore!

The LORD is high above all | nations,\* and his glory above the | heavens!

and to the Holy | Spirit;

He raises the poor | from the dust\* and lifts the needy from the | ash heap, to make them sit with | princes,\* with the princes of his | people.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*

# as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

From the rising of the sun to its | setting,\* the name of the LORD is | to be praised!







**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.



#### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - there



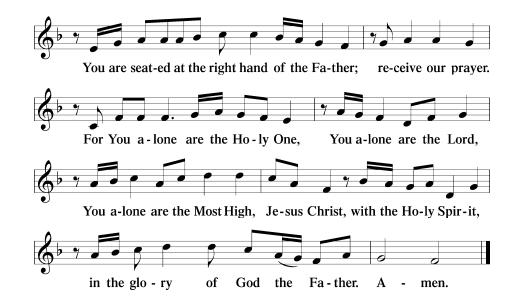
We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



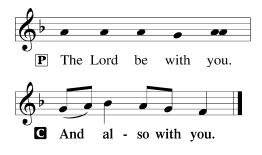
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



### **P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### **OLD TESTAMENT**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

"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—just 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.' And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. I 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. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

But 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."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.





Praise the LORD, all | nations!\*
Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\* and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\* bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

Therefore, 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." For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed 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.

However, 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. Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For 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? And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Please stand

#### ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:21-28

**P** The Holy + Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching.

And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately 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 out with a loud voice, came out of him. And 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." And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN Lord of Our Life #659

**SERMON** The Prophet That Is to Come

Please stand

#### **NICENE CREED**

```
C I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)
        the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)
        maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)
        and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16)
    And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9)
        the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)
        begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2)
        God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)
        very God of very God, (Col 2:9) begotten, not made, (Jn 1:2)
        being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30)
        by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)
        who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)
        came down from heaven (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)
        and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35)
        and was made man; (Jn 1:14)
        and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)
        He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)
        And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)
        and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9)
        and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55)
        And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64)
        to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)
        whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11)
    And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)
        the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)
        who proceeds from the Father and the Son. (Jn 15:26)
        who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17)
        who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5)
        And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)
        I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5)
        and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49: 1 Thess 4:13-18)
        and the life + of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30: Mt 10:40-42)
    Amen. (Ps 106:48)
                                                                          Us men means all people.
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Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition of the prayer:

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.** 

For comfort, health, and recovery: Shirley Bagley, Barbara Glenn, Faye Hartman, Vance Klager, Alicia Niemann, Lesley Tatum, Cynthia Widlitze;

For those who are ill or distressed: Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Wayne Burt, Bobby Carroll, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Marie Ferderer & Tahlia, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;

For college and graduate students: Sara Fields, Will Nelson;

For military servants and their families: Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;

For foreign missionaries: especially Rev. Vance & Linda Becker;

This week's prayer family: Bailey Martin and her loved ones.

Please be seated

#### **OFFERING**

Please stand

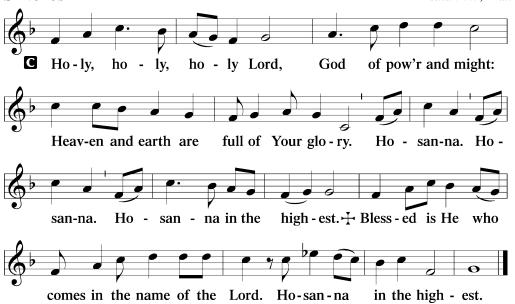


# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- © 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 \( \frac{1}{2} \) us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

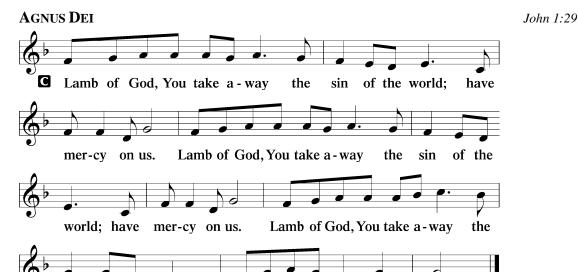
PAX DOMINI John 20:19

 $\blacksquare$  The peace + of the Lord be with you always.



sin

of the world:



grant

us

peace.

17

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

#### **Away from Us the Demon Cried**

(Tune #348)

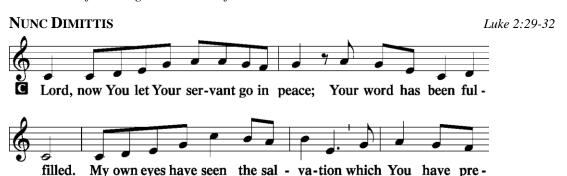
- 1 "Away from us!" the demon cried When Christ, the Lord, drew near."Our dark, disordered world is lost When You, the Light, appear!"
- 2 But Jesus spoke with God's own pow'r;"Come forth!" was His command;For evil cannot bear the LightNor sin the Truth withstand.
- 3 O risen Christ, God's living Word,To us, we pray, draw near.Come, speak the truth that cleanses sinWith love that conquers fear.
- 4 Drive out the doubt that cripples faith; Expel our pride and greed That we, from pow'rs that threaten us, May, by Your grace, be freed.
- 5 Then help us, Lord, to greet each day With hearts and wills made new And, when You call us forth to serve, To rise and follow You.

#### Hope of the World Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

#690

#630

Please stand following distribution of communion





#### **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**A** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26



The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



#### CLOSING HYMN

#### **Thy Strong Word**

#578

Elder: Eric Held

Acknowledgments

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#### **Serving Today:**

Pastor: Rev. George Fields **Acolyte:** William Hansford **Interpreter:** Denee Smith

**Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields **Cantor:** Keith Martin Altar Guild: Mary Atchley

**Communio Tonight:** "Commune" with us tonight at 5:00 as we gather at Will Pickering's home for our monthly dinner and discussion! Come with an appetite for learning – and for food, of course!

Readings for next Sunday, February 4th, the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany: Introit Ps. 13:3-5; Psalm 147:1-11; Isaiah 40:21-31; 1 Corinthians 9:16-27; Mark 1:29-39.

### This week at Christ Lutheran Church: January 29 – February 4

**Friday** Bible & Breaky 6:30 a.m.

**Sunday** Sunday School for all ages 9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Divine Service – The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany