

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH MINNEAPOLIS
1720 E MINNEHAHA PARKWAY
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55407



THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 15, 2023

Silent Prayer Before Worship: Holy God, our strength and our Redeemer, by Your Spirit hold us forever, that through Your grace we may worship You and faithfully serve You, follow You and joyfully find You, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. Amen.

Hymnals: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW, the red cover hymnal), The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH, blue hardcover hymnal), and With One Voice (WOV, blue paperback cover)*

Welcome

GATHERING HYMN, ELW 807

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: 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.

C: Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from You and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to You, and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. Amen.

P: God, Who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us all with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI, "O Christ, Lamb of God" [ELW, page 196]

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Thank You, LORD Jesus, for coming to be our Servant Savior. As You came in a Spirit of service to us, may we allow Your Holy Spirit to move in us in such a way, that we will find ways to be servants to others...and may we do it to Your glory. Amen.

FIRST READING, ISAIAH 49:1-7 (NRSV)

God calls Israel to be His servant to all peoples

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb He named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of His hand He hid me; He made me a polished arrow, in His quiver He hid me away. And He said to me, "You are My servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."

And now the LORD says, Who formed me in the womb to be His servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, and that Israel might be gathered to Him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength – He says, "It is too light a thing that you should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, Who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, Who has chosen you."

L: This is the word of the LORD.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING, PSALM 40:1-11 (NRSV)

A willing response to serve God

I waited patiently for the LORD; He inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

Happy are those who make the LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods. You have multiplied, O LORD my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

Sacrifice and offering You do not desire, but You have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required. Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your law is within my heart."

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as You know, O LORD. I have not hidden Your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness from the great congregation.

Do not, O LORD, withhold Your mercy from me; let Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

L: This is the word of the LORD.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR, "God So Loved the World" by Thomas Keesecker

GOSPEL READING, JOHN 1:29-42 (NRSV)

Jesus' earthly ministry begins!

The next day [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of Whom I said, 'After me comes a Man Who ranks ahead of me because He was before me.' I myself did not know Him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that He might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on Him. I myself did not know Him, but the One Who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on Whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the One Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, He said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are You staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and they remained with Him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated "Anointed"). He brought Simon to Jesus, Who looked at

him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

P: This is the Gospel of the LORD.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES CREED (ELW p. 206)

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 Christian+ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

+ Or, catholic, universal

HYMN OF THE DAY, ELW 720

"We Are Called"

SERMON, "What Does the LORD Expect?"

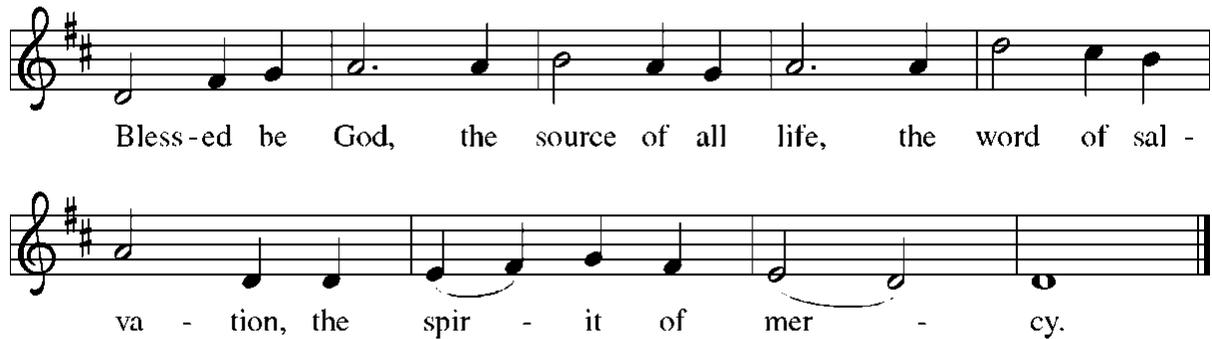
"[God] put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God."

"Sacrifice and offering You do not desire, but You have given me an open ear.

Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required."

Psalm 40:3 & 6

OFFERTORY, "Blessed Be God, the Source of All Life" [ELW 210]



Bless-ed be God, the source of all life, the word of sal -
va - tion, the spir - it of mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER, page 208 (right column, traditional)

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

BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The LORD share His presence with you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN, ELW 818

"O Master, Let Me Walk with You"

Spoken Announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Statistics

The attendance on Sunday, January 8 was 41. The total offering for was \$1,371.05 including \$5 for the Building Fund, \$1 for Synod and \$25 for Trinity First. In addition to the above \$600 was received electronically.

Annual Altar Guild Meeting

The annual Altar Guild meeting will be held on Saturday, January 28, from 9:30 to 11:30. We will meet in the family room from 9:30 to 10:30 for the meeting and from 10:30 to 11:30 for our annual cleanup chores.

Farewell to Pastor Don -- It is with extreme gratitude and the most heart-felt thanks that we will say "so long" to Pastor Don on February 5. We will have a time of fellowship following the service on his final Sunday. Pastor Don has joined Holy Cross! So after some well deserved time off, he will be back – just in the pew instead of the pulpit.

2022 Financial Statements

Your record of financial giving for 2022 was emailed this past Thursday. Those without email will be receiving a statement in the mail. If you have NOT received a statement by January 15, be sure and let us know.

Celebrations this Week

Birthdays: Jonathan Woltman (1/20)

Anniversary: Dave and Tina Ubl (1/13)

News about our New Pastor

- Pastor Jay Carlson has accepted the call to be the new pastor of Holy Cross.
- His first day in the office will be February 6.
- His first Sunday in the pulpit will be February 12.
- His installation is scheduled for February 19 at 2:00 PM
- Bishop Ann Svennungsen of the Minneapolis Area Synod will be presiding at the installation.
- A reception for Pastor Jay and his family will follow the service.

Volunteers Needed

- **Ushers and Counters:** We are in need of volunteers to usher and count. Please let the office know if you are available!
- **Snow Shoveling:** Our snow removal contract is for 1 inch or more. If we have LESS than an inch we still need to shovel the sidewalks. If this is something you can help with, there is a signup sheet in the narthex. Talk to Jerry Rusk for more information.

Pillar of Warmth and Love

We are once again collecting warm socks, new or gently used hats, scarves, and mittens for the Holy Cross pillar throughout the winter. Your donations are greatly appreciated. The collection bin is in the Family room. We'll start putting items out in mid-December when the really cold weather sets in. *Hands in Ministry*

Administrative Assistant

We will be in need of a new Administrative Assistant in the near future. Copies of the job description are on the table in the back of the church,

PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE

- *"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results" James 5:16*
- *" For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer..." 1Peter 3:12*

Prayerfully consider joining or continuing to be a part of Holy Cross' Prayer Team!

We at Holy Cross are so thankful for the dedication and love that Milly Phelon has given us in using her gifts from the Lord of being a prayer warrior. She is ready to step down and has asked Kim Blomberg to take over as coordinator of the prayer chain. The structure will change a bit, meaning it is more of a prayer group than a chain.

Prayer requests can come to Kim via her confidential email kvstar99@aol.com or voicemail 612-803-4884 and in the near future a button on the HC website.

She will be collecting the prayers and email the requests on a weekly basis to those with emails. For those that don't have email she will print out the sheet and give it to you at church or mail it to you.

Not everyone has an email or is tech savvy, so those that don't she will be calling with urgent prayers ie; surgeries, time sensitive requests etc.

We want everyone to be able to participate even if they are homebound.

More to come! Thank you!

**FILL OUT THE BLUE INSERT
HAND IT TO THE USHER
OR LEAVE IT IN THE BASKET ON THE TABLE
IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
IF YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER GROUP**

SERVING TODAY

Today, January 15

January Altar Guild: Linda Scanlon
January Elder: Becky Dennis
Choir Director: David Hinrichs
Choir Accompanist: Wendy Kofoot
Counters: Keith and Mary Lange
Lector: Linda Scanlon
Organist: Julie Wright
Interim Pastor: Rev. Don Mulfinger
Recorder: James Blomberg
Treats: Carol Rusk
Usher: Andy Tatham

Next Sunday, January 22

January Altar Guild: Linda Scanlon
January Elder: Becky Dennis
Choir Director: David Hinrichs
Choir Accompanist: Wendy Kofoot
Counters: Lynn Oolman & Sandi Likely
Lector: Sally Gorski
Organist: Julie Wright
Interim Pastor: Rev. Don Mulfinger
Recorder: James Blomberg
Treats: Kim Blomberg
Usher: Tim Phelon

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