



January 30, 2022

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“How Great Thou Art”

- ♪ O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;
~Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
- ♪ When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; ~Then...
- ♪ But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; ~Then...
- ♪ When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” ~Then....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 801 -Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg 1859-1940, tr. Stuart W. K. Hine 1899-1989;
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Invocation

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Jesus Christ was in the world, and the world was made through Him,

Yet the world did not know Him.

He came to His own,

And His own people did not receive Him.

But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name,

He gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:10-12

Confession and Absolution

O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you.

Nehemiah 1:5-6a

♪ **Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.**

Even I and my father's house have sinned. We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses. Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.'

Nehemiah 1:6b-9

♪ **Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.**

They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name.

Nehemiah 1:10-11a

♪ **Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.**

God has come to us to make us His own children. Let us confess our sins of unbelief that He may give us faith to receive Him and His love.

O God, we confess that we have ignored Your voice and Spirit by choosing to go our own way. Without You, we are lost and confused and without hope. Without You, we do not know love. Come now to us and forgive our waywardness and weakness. Give us Your gifts of faith, hope, and love. Receive us again into the family of Your redeemed. Amen.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Our sins are forgiven by Jesus, the Word made flesh who died on the cross and rose to life.

♪ **Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heav'n above
With wisdom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awesome God.**

Our God is an awesome God! Our God is an awesome God!

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The Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

- ♪ I am Jesus’ little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my name and still provides me,
Loves me ev’ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.
- ♪ Day by day at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay,
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.
- ♪ Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd’s lamb?
And when my short life is ended, By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 740-Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn 1724-82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Tune: Choral-Buch, Leipzig 1784; Setting: Ewald Weiss 1906-98; ©1984 Bavarian Lutheran Church; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 1:4–10, 17–19

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,

and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” ⁷But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the LORD.”

⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

¹⁷But you, dress yourself for work; arise, and say to them everything that I command you. Do not be dismayed by them, lest I dismay you before them. ¹⁸And I, behold, I make you this day a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls, against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land. ¹⁹They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, declares the LORD, to deliver you.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:13

^{31b}And I will show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“O Savior, Precious Savior”

♪ O Savior, precious Savior, Whom yet unseen we love; O name of might and favor,
All other names above, We worship thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our holy Lord and King.

♪ O bringer of salvation, Who wondrously hast wrought Thyself the revelation
Of love beyond our thought, We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our gracious Lord and King.

♪ In Thee all fullness dwelleth, All grace and pow’r divine; The glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is Thine. We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our glorious Lord and King.

♪ O grant the consummation Of this our song above In endless adoration
And everlasting love; Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where perfect praises ring,
And evermore confess Thee, Our Savior and our King!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 527 -Text: Frances R. Havergal 1836-79; Tune: Arthur H. Mann 1850-1929; Public Domain.

Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Luke 4:31–44

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, ³²and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. ³³And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴“Ha! 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.” ³⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. ³⁶And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!” ³⁷And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

³⁸And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. ³⁹And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

⁴⁰Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. ⁴¹And demons

also came out of many, crying, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

⁴²And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, ⁴³but he said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.” ⁴⁴And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“When Peace Like a River”

♪ When peace, like a river, attendeth my way When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;

Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

~It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul), It is well, it is well with my soul.

♪ Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control,

That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate And hath shed His own blood for my soul. ~It...

♪ He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; My sin, not in part, but the whole,

Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! ~It...

♪ And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,

The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; Even so it is well with my soul. ~It....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 763-Text: Horatio G. Spafford 1828-88;

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Children's Message

The Hymn

“The Lamb”

♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?

Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!

~Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own! The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.

The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. ~Worthy...

♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill

So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. ~Worthy...

♪ He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.

He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. ~Worthy...

♪ He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows,

His song prolongs Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. ~Worthy....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 547 -Text & Tune: Gerald P. Coleman b.1953; ©1987 MorningStar Music Publishers;

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Proclamation of the Word

“The Love Letter?”

1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:13

Response Hymn

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

- ♪ O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:
- ♪ Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.
- ♪ Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.
- ♪ A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.
- ♪ Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.
- ♪ O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 733-Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748; Tune: William Croft 1678-1727;
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Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Each petition is concluded with:

Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

- ♪ Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.
- ~Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!
- ♪ Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ~Great is...
- ♪ Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside. ~Great is....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 809 - Text: Thomas O. Chisholm 1866-1960; Tune: William M. Runyan 1870-1957
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Postlude

Door Offering *You may place your offering in the plate at the door as you leave.*