



Blessed are All
Who Live Their
Lives in Love
and Faith!



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**“Blessed are All who Live
Their Lives in Love and Faith!”**

January 29, 2023
4th Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am
Christian Education: 11:00 am

James N. Proeber, Pastor
Wisconsin Synod

Welcome to Our Redeemer

How many people would say their lives are blessed? Some might believe they are, but would also maintain the caveat, things could be better. Because of what God has done for us through his Son, we can say with complete confidence, we are blessed! We can live with this assurance, because we know what our Lord does for us today, every day, and for eternity.

For Parents with Small Children . . .

There is a children's bulletin available in the basket together with the service folders as you enter. Please pick one up. There is also a video monitor and rest rooms in the fellowship hall. Go to your left as you walk out of the church, and walk through the double doors.

The Order of Worship

Pre-Service Music

Call to Worship

P: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD is dawning upon you. Look, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness covers the peoples, but the LORD will dawn upon you, and his glory will be seen over you.

Opening Hymn:

“As We Begin Another Week”
Christian Worship 223

The Invocation

P: I will thank you, LORD, with all my heart. I will tell about all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in you. I will make music to your name, O Most High. The LORD is seated forever. The LORD will be a refuge for those who have been crushed, a refuge for times of trouble. Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, O LORD, are the God of our salvation—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

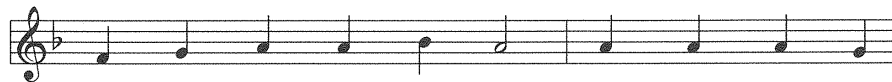


C: A — men!

The Confession of Sins

P: Dearly loved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



C: Lord, have mer— cy on us. Christ, have mer— cy



on us. Lord, have mer — cy on us.

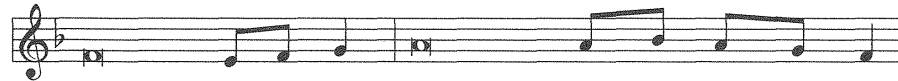
Absolution*God's Forgiveness Proclaimed*

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A — men!

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



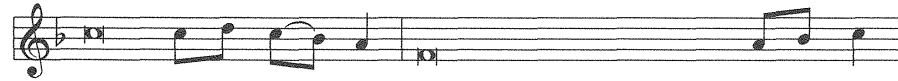
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor- ship you, we glorify you,



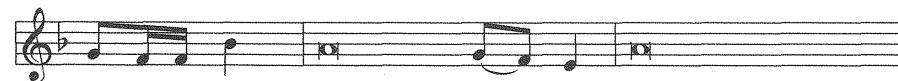
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'nly King,



God the Fa- ther Al-mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



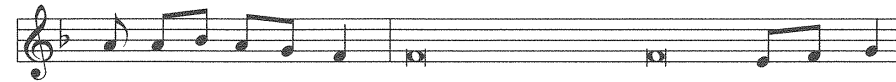
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

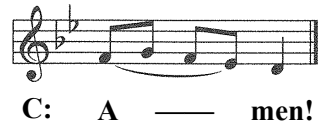
Prayer for the Day

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al— so with you.

P: O gracious and compassionate heavenly Father, through your Son you have set us apart to receive a lifetime and an eternity of your rich blessing. Help us understand what these blessings are, and why you give them according to your promise. Purify our hearts to receive everything with contentment, joy, and thanksgiving. Use these gifts to draw us closer to you, and to rely more completely on your daily provision. Remove every distraction the devil would employ to deceive us. Keep our eyes ever fixed on the blessings which lead to life in heaven. There we will praise you—together with your Son and the Spirit—throughout all eternity.



The Lessons from God's Word

"O LORD, our LORD, how majestic is your name!"

Old Testament

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:11–13

³Seek the LORD, all you humble people of the earth who have carried out his commands. Seek righteousness. Seek humility. Maybe then you will be sheltered in the day of the LORD's anger.

^{3:11}In that day you will no longer bear the shame of your rebellions against me. Then I will remove the proud boasters from among you, and you will never again be arrogant on my holy hill.

¹²But I will leave among you the people who are humble and weak. They will seek refuge in the name of the LORD. ¹³The Israelites who remain will no longer act unjustly. They will not lie, and a deceitful tongue will not be found in their mouth. Instead, they will graze peacefully like sheep and lie down. No one will terrify them.

Psalm for the Day

Psalm 1

Refrain



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Psalm tone



Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel
of the | wicked, *
or stand in the way of | sinners.

But his delight is in the law | of the LORD, *
and on his law he meditates | day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in | season; *
and whose leaf does not wither; whatever he
does | prospers.

Refrain

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment, *
nor sinners in the assembly of the | righteous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the | righteous, *
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son, *
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Refrain

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

²⁶For example, consider your call, beloved. Not many of you were wise from a human point of view, not many were powerful, and not many were born with high status. ²⁷But God chose the foolish things of the world to put to shame those who are wise. God chose the weak things of the world to put to shame the things that are strong, ²⁸and God chose the lowly things of the world and the despised things, and the things that are not, to do away with the things that are, ²⁹so that no one may boast before God. ³⁰But because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us the wisdom from God, namely, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹God did this so that, just as it is written, “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

Verse of the Day

P: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might for ever and ever. Amen!

Alleluia



C: Al - le - lu — ia! Al - le - lu — ia! Al - le - lu — ia!

The Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel is recorded in the fifth chapter of Matthew, reading from the first verse.



C: Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up onto a mountain. When he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²He opened his mouth and began to teach them. He said these things:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
because theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn,
because they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the gentle,
because they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
because they will be filled.

⁷Blessed are the merciful,
because they will receive mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart,
because they will see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers,
because they will be called sons of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted because of
righteousness,
because theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you
and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

¹²Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven. In
fact, that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before
you.”

P: This is the Word of our God, and the source of every blessing.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

The Confession of Faith

(we will unite in the words of the Apostles Creed)

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there 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.**

Hymn of the Day

“The Man is Ever Blest”
Christian Worship 475

Sermon

Matthew 5:1-12

“What Does a Blessed Life Look Like?”

From the world’s perspective

From the Lord’s perspective

“Create in Me”

Psalm 51



C: Cre- ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-



new a right spir—it with—in me. Cast me not a-



way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho— ly Spir — it



from me. Re-store un—to me the joy of your sal—va —



tion, and up—hold me with your free Spir-it. A—men.

Thanksgiving and Prayer
“Everyone Who Trusts in the Lord
will Never be Put to Shame”

Litany Recounting the Lord’s Blessing

P: ¹May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us—²so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. ³May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you. ⁴May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples with equity and guide the nations of the earth. ⁵May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 67:1-5

Congregation sings

“Oh, Bless the Lord, my Soul”
Christian Worship 238 st. 1

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join,
And aid my tongue to bless his name whose favors are divine.

P: ¹Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. ²Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. ¹⁰Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD’s unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him. ¹¹Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

Psalm 32:1-2, 10-11

Congregation sings

“Oh, Bless the Lord, my Soul”
Christian Worship 238 st. 3

‘Tis he forgive my sins; ‘Tis he relieves my pain;
‘Tis he that heals my sicknesses and makes me young again.

P: ¹Blessed are those who fear the LORD, who find great delight in his commands. ⁶Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever. ⁷They will have no

fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
⁸ Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear; in the end they
will look in triumph on their foes. *Psalm 112:1, 6-8*

Congregation sings

“Oh, Bless the Lord, my Soul”
Christian Worship 238 st. 4

He fills the poor with good; he gives the sufferers rest;
The Lord has judgments for the proud and justice for
th’ oppressed.

P: ¹ Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in obedience to
him. ² You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and
prosperity will be yours. ³ Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around
your table. ⁴ Yes, this will be the blessing for the man who fears
the LORD. *Psalm 128: 1-4*

Congregation sings

“Oh, Bless the Lord, my Soul”
Christian Worship 238 st. 5

His wondrous works and ways he made by Moses known;
But sent the world his truth and grace by his beloved Son.

Special Prayers and Requests

The Lord’s Prayer

(spoken by the congregation and pastor)

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen!**

Hymn

“Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”
Christian Worship 465

Closing Prayer

P: Gracious Savior and loving Lord, I was glad to be here, gathered with your people to worship you, and to receive your blessing. Cause the Word I have heard to take root in my heart and bear fruit in my life. Guide me in your paths of righteousness that my words and actions might lead others to glorify you. By your grace, O Lord, grant:

That the lips which here have sung your praise —
may continue to glorify you in the world;

That the ears which have heard your truth proclaimed—
may always be open to your Word and closed to hatred,
discord, and deception;

That the tongues which have freely confessed your name—
may always speak the truth in love and without fear;

That all of us who have worshiped together today—
may be united by your rich blessing, and in true love for
each other as you have loved us.



C: A ——— men!

The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, aim for perfection, listen to God’s Word, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and compassion will be with you.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
The Lord look on you with favor, and give you peace.



C: A— men. A— men. A — men.

Closing Hymn

“Go, My Children with My Blessing”

Christian Worship 332

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Today—*Welcome in Name of our gracious Savior, Jesus Christ!*
May the blessing of our faithful God be with you, and fill you with joy as you live in joyful contentment and blessing. If you are visiting this morning, please sign the guest book. Come back and worship with us again, soon.

- Following the worship service there will be time for fellowship and some snacks prepared by the ladies of the congregation. Everyone is invited.
- Christian Education will follow the service. We will consider Paul’s encouragement from the epistle lesson—consider what you once were, and now are, because of faith in Christ Jesus.

Monday—Handbell choir practice starts at 7:00 pm.

Wednesday—Bible Class at 7:00 pm. We continue with the study on the miracles of Jesus. This evening we will review the raising of Lazarus from the dead. It is not too late to come to the class, since each week is a new miracle.

Friday—Office Hours from 10:30 am—2:30 pm.

Saturday—Church Cleaning—J. Schueler

- Mowing beginning February 4th—J. Schroeder

Sunday, February 5th—**In Person Worship and Live-Streaming at 9:30 am.** Jesus helps us understand the power and the purpose of the law. It had to be fulfilled, and it had to be ful-

filled perfectly. This is why we could never secure our rescue by our efforts. We have to rely on Jesus who is our perfect Substitute under the law.

- Christian Education will follow the service and will focus on who and what we are according to the righteousness secured for us through faith. We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, the people who are God's own possession.

Thank You

To Al Todd, our Hymnsoft operator; to Josh Schueler and Jim Everson for controlling the audio and video portions of the streaming; to Sue Proeber for placing flowers on the altar—to the glory of God and in grateful thanks for all of his blessings; and to Karolyn Hanna and Jan Scheffler for providing snacks after the service.



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