

January 29, 2023

4th Sunday of Epiphany

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Darrin Ream

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne



FAITH



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PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 15

O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? 2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; 3 who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; 4 in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; 5 who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

Order of Divine Worship

Hymn: TLH #370

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

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

C  **A - - - men.**

P Pastor

C Congregation

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C  **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C  **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C  **A - - - men.**

INTROIT

Psalm 1:1-5

- P** For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.
- C** **Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**
- P** but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.
- C** **He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.**
- P** In all that he does, he prospers.
- C** **The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**
- P** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory be to the Father"

C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

The musical score consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

VERSE OF THE DAY


Matthew 5:3

Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

C  All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

P 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.

C  A - - - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – 1 Kings 19:9-19 And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” 10 So he said, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.” 11 Then He said, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; 12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. 13 So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” 14 And he said, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.” 15 Then the Lord said to him: “Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria. 16 Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place. 17 It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. 18 Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.” 19 So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was

plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Then Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle on him.

EPISTLE READING – 1 Corinthians 3:1-11 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; 3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? 4 For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” are you not carnal? 5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. 9 For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

- 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: TLH #649

“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

SERMON – Matthew 14:22-33 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night

Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” “Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.” (NIV)

THE GREATER DANGER

1. The Danger of a Polluted Faith (v.22)
2. The Danger of an Overwhelmed Faith (vv.25-27)
3. The Danger of an Unfocused Faith (vv. 28-32)

OFFERTORY

- C** *♩* Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #396

“Oh, for a Faith That Will Not Shrink”

- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

OFFERING: TLH #442:2

“Lord of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us”

- C** *♩* Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee- Gladly, freely, of Thine own; With the sunshine of Thy goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by Thee, at length believe That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- 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.

- C** *♩* Amen, amen, a – men.

✠ **Announcements** ✠

Last Week: WH – 19 Bible Class – 23 **Total Offering** = \$430.25

General = \$430.25

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 needed 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.

- ✠ **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, Installation of Church Officers, 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
- ✠ **Feb. 19** 10:15am WH service with Church Council and Elder Meeting after church

Donations If you would like to donate non-perishable goods to stock Pastor Sauers pantry, please bring them to church. If you would like to donate money, please give any money to Christy Kuehne. She will purchase fresh groceries the week the Sauers move in. Thank you.

Help If you would like to do some final cleaning of the parsonage, please talk to Christy Kuehne. She will be there Wednesday, Feb. 8. If you can help move the Sauers into their house, we will be starting at noon on Friday, Feb. 10. Thanks.

Installation Service Sunday, Feb. 12, will be Pastor Sauers installation. There will be a welcome meal

following the service. Please bring a dish to share. Thanks.

Midweek Lenten Worship The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd. Lent has been observed by Christians for centuries as a time to prepare for the Savior's death and resurrection. This year, our theme is "Chronicles of the King." Throughout this series, we will explore how the kings of Judah are a shadow of Christ, the King of kings who sits upon the throne of David, His Father, forever. We will see how the kings in Chronicles point us to Christ, who fulfills all the kingly promises that the kings of Judah were unable to realize in themselves. We hope you will make plans to join us

for worship each Wednesday during the Lenten season at 6:30 pm. -Pastor Sauers

Cleaner (2/4): Tina | Acolyte (2/5): Maxwell Kuehne

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; January 30 - February 4, '23

Mon Matthew 7:24-29 Jesus closes His "Sermon on the Mount" with a call to hear and follow His words. It is a matter of standing or falling when the rain, floods, and winds beat against us. The crowds are astonished at His authoritative teaching, and we behold the glory of the Word made flesh (Jn1:14).

Tues Romans 8:1-9 Walking according to our sinful flesh leads to death, but the Spirit who testifies of Jesus Christ leads to life. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God (v8), but there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (v1).

Wed Ezekiel 33: 10-16 The prophet is sent with a message for those who see the terrible spot their sins have put them in: turn to me and live! It is not our righteous acts that save us when we sin, but our Savior God who has no pleasure in the death of the wicked (v11).

Thurs John 5: 39-47 Jesus speaks to those who refuse to come to Him (v40), who will not believe His words (v47). They do not see His glory because His glory does not come from people (v41). They claim to follow Moses, but if they did they would also follow Him of whom Moses wrote (v46).

Fri 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 When God gave the Law through Moses, he returned with a glorified face. The glory of the Law, however, was only for a time, but the grace and truth that came by Jesus Christ far outshines the fading glory of Moses. And we all, with unveiled face, behold the glory of the Lord (v18).

Sat Exodus 3:1-6 The Lord appeared to Moses in a burning bush to make him leader of the Children of Israel. It was an awesome sight and a great calling. But Moses, who would lead the exodus of his people from Egyptian bondage would still depend on the exodus that Jesus would lead (Lk9:31) out of sin, death, and hell.