Sunday Worship January 28, 2024 Fourth Sunday After Epiphany



"He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him"

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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a "prayer request" or a "praise report", please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

INTRODUCTION

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church, these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the Word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE How Great Thou Art Arr: Hassell

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our rock and refuge,

C: we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

We have wounded one another and sinned against you.

We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #519

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray . . .

C: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC Hallelujah Miami East Acappella Group Andrew Crane, Vincent Crane, Lexi Loughman, Tristan Rowley, Chris Smith, Emma Whitten

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

R: [Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 111

- R: ¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- C: ²Great are Your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.
- R: ³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.
- C: ⁴You cause Your wonders to be remembered; You are gracious and full of compassion.
- R: ⁵You give food to those who fear You, remembering forever Your covenant.
- C: ⁶You have shown Your people the power of Your works in giving them the lands of the nations.
- R: ⁷The works of Your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.
- C: ⁸They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.
- R: ⁹You sent redemption to Your people and commanded Your covenant forever; holy and awesome is Your name.
- C: ¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

R: ¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by Him. ⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet 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.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸Food will not bring us close to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin

against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red Hymnal #102

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia,

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia,

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, He entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and 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." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once His fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CONFIRMATION Red Hymnal #234

Bryce Clum, Madison Dorn, Hannah Kessler, Owen Vonderheide

SERMON Pastor Dale Schaefer

HYMN Red Hymnal #728

Blest are They

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator 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 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 again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS (Response after each petition)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer...

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

Now, Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in Peace
Now, Lord You let Your servant go in peace: Your word has been
fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have
prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal You to the
nations and the glory of Your people Israel. Now, Lord, You let Your
servant go in peace.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYERS WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.)

BLESSING

P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you + bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #886

SPECIAL MUSIC

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:

"Serving Christ through serving others."

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow Arr: Burkhardt

The altar flowers are given by a thankful congregation for Pastor Dale's dedication to Zion as his two year interim service comes to an end, and in celebration of the confirmation of Bryce, Hannah, Madison & Owen

Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.

In Helpful Service

Acolyte Charlotte Dorn
Pastor Dale Schaefer
Reader Chuck Drake
Communion Assist Bob Keppel

Greeters Chuck & Erma Swanson

ATTENDANCE 1/20 & 21: 102 Sunday School: Adults 10 Unified Giving 1/20 & 21: \$2,151.00 Youth 4 Kids 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMANDS RECEPTION & PASTOR DALE FAREWELL: Will be held immediately after service today.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Shoes 4 the Shoeless Sock Hop

January's Mission of the Month is a Sock Drive to benefit Shoes 4 the Shoeless. When this organization travels to schools in the Miami County/Dayton area to give children a pair of needed new shoes, they also give the children socks to wear with their new shoes. During the month of January, please put a pair or package of new children's socks in the laundry baskets at the back of the sanctuary. This project is co-sponsored by Thrivent. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Contact Kathy Groth with questions.

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SUPER BOWL WATCH PARTY & CHILI COOKOFF: Sunday, February 11th Do you have a great chili recipe? Want to see how it ranks in a competition? Here's your chance. Chili cook off dinner starts at 5:00. At 6:30, watch the Super Bowl on Zion's big screen. A sign up sheet is in the fellowship hallway. This is being brought to you by the Zion Technology Team. Support their effort and have some fun!!

SUNDAY SERVICE HELPERS: February still has some openings for helpers during service. The sign up poster is in the fellowship hallway. Please consider offering assistance.

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION is the first Sunday of every month. Donations of non-perishable food items can be placed in the green barrel in the Walnut Street entrance. Needy Baskets picks up the items and distributes the food to those in need in our community.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, January 28	Confirmands Reception & Farewell Brunch after service No Randall Residence Outreach		
Monday, January 29	10:30 am 3:30 pm 6:30 pm	Mission Quilts TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Boy Scouts	
Tuesday, January 30	10:00 am 8:00 - 9:00 pm	Mission Quilts AA	
Wednesday, January 31	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	

GO YE NOW IN PEACE

Go ye now in peace, and know that the love of God with guide you. Feel His presence here beside you showing you the way. In your time of trouble, when hurt and despair are there to grieve you, Know that the Lord will never leave you. He will bring you courage Know that the God who sent His Son to die that you might live Will never leave you lost and alone in His beloved world. Go ye now in peace.

Staff

Dale Schaefer, Interim Pastor; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, Choir Directors; Lori Sebastian, Organist; Jessica Dorn, Christian Education Director Annette Calicoat, Office Manager; Sue Rambeau, Treasurer; Tina Putnam. Custodian