

## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Jesus' Amazing Authority  
January 27 & 28, 2018

**PRE-SERVICE** "Love is War" Joel Houston (8:00)  
"Brass Choir "Lead On, O King Eternal" Stephen Bulla (10:30)

### AS WE GATHER

When the Israelites were about to enter the Promised Land and Moses was about to die, he announced that the Lord had promised another prophet to follow him. While the people saw Joshua as that prophet, centuries later, Jesus was the complete fulfillment of the prophecy. When He spoke, all creation—including unclean spirits—obeyed, to the amazement of the people in today's Holy Gospel. Unfortunately, as Paul reminds us in the Epistle, we do not always hear a clear command from our Lord as we deal with one another. But Jesus' sacrifice for us frees us to put our neighbor's needs above our own.

### WELCOME

#### MINISTRY MOMENT – *Dr. Wayne Jensen, Martin Luther High School*

So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper;  
I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God.

Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (*Hebrews 13:6-8*)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### OPENING HYMN #648 "Glorious Things of You Are Spoken"

(10:30 – Congregation sings stanzas 1,2,4 Choir will sing stanza 3)

Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken Formed you for His own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, You may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply your sons and daughters And all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river Ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, See the cloud and fire appear  
For a glory and a cov'ring, Showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,  
Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them on their way.

Savior, since of Zion's city I through grace a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Your name.  
Fading are the world's vain pleasures, All their boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasures None but Zion's children know.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: In the name of the Father,

**People: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.**

Pastor: and of the ✠ Son,

**People: Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.**

Pastor: and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, Psalm 111 teaches: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding."

**People: We have not practiced it perfectly.**

Pastor: Therefore, we cannot come into His presence as we are. "He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name!"

**People: Because the Lord is gracious and merciful, let us go to Him, confessing our sins.**

Pastor: "He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever."

**People: We confess that we have not always shared our daily bread with others, O Lord, and we have failed to keep all our promises. Forgive us.**

Pastor: "He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations."

**People: We confess that we have not always recognized the good gifts God has given us. Forgive us.**

Pastor: “The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy.”

**People: We confess that the works of our hands, the words of our mouths, and the thoughts of our minds have been neither faithful nor just. We have not loved you, O Lord, with all that we are; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us.**

Pastor: “They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.”

**People: We confess that we have wavered in honesty. Forgive us.**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, “the Lord is gracious and merciful.” Through Jesus’ death and resurrection, “He sent redemption to His people.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**People: “Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. His praise endures forever!”**

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE (5:00) #809 “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.

**Refrain: 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. *Refrain*

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! *Refrain*

**Troubadours (8:00) “Oceans (Where Feet May Fall)”** Joel Houston, Matt Crocker, Salomon Lighthouse

**Concert Choir (10:30) “O Sing Unto the Lord a New Song” (Psalm 96:1-3)** Jan Bender

#### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, you know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright.

**People: Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

#### **☩ WORD ☩**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Deuteronomy 18:15–20*

(God promises a prophet to follow Moses.) “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’”

#### **EPISTLE** *1 Corinthians 8:1–13*

(Paul warns against hurting the faith of a weak brother.) Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many

“gods” and many “lords”— yet 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. However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

### CHOIR ANTHEM

**Troubadours (8:00)** “All I Need is You” Marty Simpson

**Concert Choir (10:30)** “The Morning Trumpet” B.F. White

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Mark 1:21-28* (People are amazed at Jesus' authority over unclean spirits.) And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And 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.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

(Be seated)

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON HYMN #658 “Preserve Your Word, O Savior”

Preserve Your Word, O Savior, To us this later day.  
And let Your kingdom flourish; Enlarge Your Church, we pray.  
O keep our faith from failing: Keep hope's bright star aglow.  
Let nothing from truth turn us While living here below.

Preserve, O Lord, Your honor, The bold blasphemer smite;  
Convince, convert, enlighten The souls in error's night.  
Reveal Your will, dear Savior, To all who dwell below,  
Great light of all the living, That all Your name may know.

Preserve, O Lord, Your Zion, Bought dearly with Your blood;  
Protect what You have chosen Against the hellish flood.  
Be always our defender When dangers gather round;  
When all the earth is crumbling, Safe may Your Church be found.

Preserve Your Word and preaching, The truth that makes us whole,  
The mirror of Your glory, The pow'r that saves the soul.  
Oh, may this living water, This dew of heav'nly grace,  
Sustain us while here living Until we see Your face.

Preserve in wave and tempest Your storm-tossed little flock;  
Assailed by wind and weather, May it endure each shock.  
Stand at the helm, our pilot, And set the course aright;  
Then we will reach the harbor In Your eternal light.

### SERMON

### “Authority For Good”

**Mark 1:21-28**

(Rise)

**APOSTLES' CREED** *found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

**SONG (10:30) Brass Choir** “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” arr. David Marlatt

(Rise)

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Heavenly Father, your servant Moses promised that you would raise up a prophet like him from among your people, putting your words into his mouth. We praise you for fulfilling that promise in Jesus and giving Him and His Word authority over Satan, sin, and death.

**People: Make all ministers of your Church faithful in preaching that Word of authority, and grant all your people grace to hear and welcome it with joy.**

Pastor: Father, as your Son spoke with power and showed His authority to release people from the oppression of the devil, continue to deliver people today who struggle with spiritual darkness.

**People: Through our Savior's mighty Word, continue to free those in bondage to the powers of darkness, transferring them into the Kingdom of your Son, that with us they may marvel at your gracious love.**

Pastor: Loving Lord, you are the source of every good and perfect gift. We rejoice with John and Lois as they celebrate their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in these days.

**People: Bless them and all Christian couples to live together in holy love, supporting and encouraging one another as they journey through life together.**

Pastor: Into your merciful keeping, we commend all those entrusted with civil authority among us. Help them to serve our nation and communities with honor.

**People: Remember also all those who serve in our armed forces and particularly our chaplains who minister to them in your name.**

Pastor: Almighty God, as we come to the end of National Lutheran Schools Week, we again give you thanks and praise for St. Paul's Lutheran School and all institutions of Christian education. Bless all who teach and those who learn to continue to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and the love of Christ.

**People: We also give you thanks for the students of Martin Luther High School who share their gifts and abilities with us to enhance our worship services this Sunday.**

Pastor: Father, you invite everyone who is godly to offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found. Hear the cries of your children who call to you in their time of need: those who are ill, hospitalized, injured, grieving, lonely or frightened and especially all we name before you: Sue, Janet, Donna, Dolores, Pat, Cliff, Jerry, Dee, Manley, Debbie, Pat, Charles, Ruth, Shirley, Gladys, Herb, Matthew, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, LuEva, Jean, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah.

**People: Have mercy on them all, O Lord, and let them take comfort in your steadfast love that surrounds those who trust in you.**

Pastor: Lord of life, we lift before your throne of grace the families affected by the tragic school shooting in Kentucky this past week. Comfort those who grieve. Give your peace to those still troubled in spirit. Bring the light of Christ's love into the darkness of this event.

**People: Bless your people to surround those affected with prayer, with support, and with the encouragement that comes through faith in Christ.**

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgression you forgive and whose sin you cover. Grant that all who approach the holy altar today to partake of your Son's true body and blood may taste the goodness of your forgiveness with repentant faith.

**People: Bless us all by your Holy Spirit to live in grace and to bring forth the fruits of faith in our lives.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

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

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

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

8 (Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**Troubadours (8:00)** “Search My Heart” Joel Houston, Matt Crocker

**Concert Choir (10:30)** “How Firm a Foundation” arr. Bob Krogstad

**HYMN #851 “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us”**

Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand  
To the unthankful and the evil With Your own unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Gladly, freely of Your own.  
With the sunshine of Your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by You, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed ‘Tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor You have given To our humblest charity  
In Your own mysterious sentence, “You have done it all to Me.”  
Can it be , O gracious Master, That You deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Your poor and needy, “Give as I have giv’n to you”?

Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust You boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on You;  
but, oh, best of all Your graces, With Your love our love renew.

**HYMN #737 “Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing”**

Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing, A cheerful trust maintain;  
For God, the source of ev’rything, Your portion shall remain.

He is your treasure, He your joy, Your life and light and Lord,  
Your counselor when doubts annoy, Your shield and great reward.

Why spend the day in blank despair, In restless thought the night?  
On your Creator cast your care; He makes your burdens light.

Did not His love and truth and pow’r Guard ev’ry childhood day?  
And did He not in threat’ning hour Turn dreaded ills away?

He only will with patience chide, His rod falls gently down;  
and all your sins He casts aside In ocean depths to drown.

His wisdom never plans in vain Nor falters nor mistakes.  
All that His counsels may ordain A blessing ending makes.

Upon your lips, then, lay your hand, And trust His guiding love;  
Then like a rock your peace shall stand Here and in Heav’n above.

**HYMN #533 “Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure”**

Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal,  
Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;  
God-head, humanity, union supernal,  
O great Redeemer, You come as our friend!  
Heaven and earth, now proclaim this great wonder:  
Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!

Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!  
Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.  
See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!  
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,  
Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.  
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God’s thunder!

Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.  
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!  
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death’s fortress,  
Brings forth the pris’ners triumphant, unharmed.  
Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!  
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!

Jesus has come as the King of all glory!  
Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow’r,  
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;  
Welcome Him now in this fast fleeting hour!  
Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for you!  
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!

## COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift,

**People: and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

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

**People: Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## CLOSING HYMN #918 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more:  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

## CHORAL BENEDICTION

**(8:00) Troubadours "Go Ye Now in Peace"** Joyce Elaine Eilers

**(10:30) Concert Choir "God Be in My Head"** Kenneth T. Kosche

## POSTLUDE (10:30) Brass Choir "Carillon" Louis Couperin

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Children's Message

Organist

Martin Luther Troubadours & Concert Choir

Martin Luther Brass Band

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Russell Hurst, Jim Adams, John Ficken

Dante Militello, Lillia Carson, Laura Quigley

Laurel Privatt

Michelle Prince

Timothy Franz

Jessica Kindsche Walter