

## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Waiting Patiently  
January 28 & 29, 2017

### AS WE GATHER

Although Jesus does not say “blessed are the patient” as He speaks that special list of attributes of God’s people that we know as the Beatitudes, the fruit of patience underlies the “blessed are” statements He does mention. It takes patience to be merciful and to act as peacemakers. Staying calm when being persecuted for righteousness’ sake takes patience. Enduring unfair criticism takes patience as well. There may even be a need for patience as we share with the saints in the worship life of the Church. May it be fully evident among us at all times!

### SPECIAL GUESTS

On Sunday, we are blessed to have students from Martin Luther High School joining us in worship and sharing with us their God given musical talents.

**8:00 PRE SERVICE MUSIC** *“We Gather Together” – Netherlands Folk Song 1626*

### WELCOME

**MINISTRY MOMENT** Dr. Wayne Jensen

"Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: Jesus appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory." (1 Timothy 3:16)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

**OPENING HYMN #409** *“Hail, O Source of Every Blessing”*

Hail, O Source of ev’ry blessing, Father of our human race!  
Gentiles now, Your grace possessing, In Your courts obtain a place.  
Grateful now, we fall before You, In Your Church rejoice to live,  
See Your glory and adore You, Thankful for the grace You give.  
  
Once far off but now invited, We approach Your sacred throne,  
In Your covenant united, Reconciled, redeemed, made one.  
Now revealed to eastern sages, See the Star of Mercy shine,  
Myst’ry hid in former ages, Myst’ry great of love divine.

Hail, O all inviting Savior! Gentiles now their off’rings bring,  
In Your temples seek Your favor, Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.  
May we, body, soul, and spirit, Live devoted to Your praise,  
Glorious realms of bliss inherit, Grateful anthems ever raise.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?

**People: Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us go to our patient, loving Father, confident of His forgiveness for Jesus’ sake. Heavenly Father,

**People: we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have failed to exhibit patience, the fruit of your Holy Spirit, in our thinking, speaking, and acting. We have not loved you completely or our neighbors as ourselves. We have let our momentary hurts and anger displace the forbearance you have shown us. We have not walked humbly before our God. Our Lord Jesus revealed His person and ministry through His words and actions. In your great mercy, forgive, renew, and lead us so that we may be revealed as His faith-filled followers to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.” Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**THEME CELEBRATION**

“Patience”

Pastor: “Love is patient and kind.” As Paul wrote these words, he was in no way limiting them to bridal couples or married people. He was affirming that patience is an important fruit of the Spirit for everyone. In Ephesians, he directs his readers “to walk . . . with patience” as they live out their unity in Christ. Paul sees exhibiting true patience as finding its source in Jesus. He writes to his young co-worker Timothy, “But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience.” In bearing the fruit of patience, we show forth a Christlike virtue.

**5:00 & 10:30 HYMN #685 “Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus” Stanzas 1 & 2**

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,  
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,  
full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father’s bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;  
All discomforts that annoy Shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share your woe; Help me there your joy to know.

**8:00 ANTHEM “Those Who Trust in the Lord”** *(Psalm 125:1-2) – Heinz Werner Zimmermann*

(Rise)

**SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Father in heaven, throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus revealed His identity and mission through words and deeds.

**People: Grant that your Holy Spirit will strengthen us, so that we may be revealed as His faith-filled followers as we demonstrate the Spirit’s fruit of patience as we listen to our friends and await your answers to prayer;**

Pastor: through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**✠ WORD ✠**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING Micah 6:1–8** (God’s great deeds have not been reflected in His people’s lives.) Listen to what the LORD says: "Stand up, plead your case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. Hear, O mountains, the LORD's accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel. "My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. My people, remember what Balak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD." With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

**EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 1:18–31** (Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.)

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate." Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength. Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things-- and the things that are not-- to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God-- that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: "Let him who boasts boast in the Lord."

**5:00 CHOIR ANTHEM “Forever/A Mighty Fortress”** *Choral Setting by Jack Schrader*

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 5:1–12* (The Beatitudes)

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

(Be seated)

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #842 “Son of God, Eternal Savior”**

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,  
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead;  
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs and help our need.

As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others love.  
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.  
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;  
We but stewards of Our bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race;  
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,  
Grant, O grant our hope’s fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.

(Rise)

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

(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.

**ANTHEMS DURING OFFERING**

8:00

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord” *William Broughton*

10:30

“Soul on Fire” *arr. Cliff Duren*

(Rise)

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray to the almighty God, who has given us wisdom, holiness, and righteousness in His Son, Jesus Christ. Father in heaven, we pray for your people all around the world, that the Lord Jesus would preserve them from walking in the counsel of the wicked but lead them in the paths of righteousness.

**People:** **Turn us from our sinful ways and the ways of the world, that by your grace we might delight in your holy Word and live according to your Truth.**

**Pastor:** Lord of the church, we pray for Christians who suffer persecution, that you would protect them from danger and deliver them from those who hate them.

**People:** **Sustain them in grace and faith, bless them even as they are reviled and persecuted because of Christ, and deliver them according to your good and gracious will.**

**Pastor:** Father of us all, we pray for our congregation and all Christian congregations around the world, praying that your people would joyfully gather to receive your gifts of grace and life.

**People:** **Strengthen us all to act justly, to love kindness and to walk humbly each day with our God.**

Pastor: Lord of all knowledge, as we conclude National Lutheran Schools Week, we again give you thanks and praise for the blessing of our Lutheran Schools. Strengthen them in all ways to be places of learning and of growing in faith and grace.

**People: Bless the students and staff of our preschools, dayschools, high schools, universities, and seminaries. May Jesus Christ and His Word be central to all they do, as they build daily upon the Rock of our salvation.**

Pastor: Lord of all, we pray for all who preach, that they might faithfully proclaim the wisdom of the cross in an age that demands signs and insists on the supremacy of human reason.

**People: Strengthen all who preach and teach the truth of the gospel, that they would stand firm on the Word and rejoice in the “foolishness” of Christ crucified and the Wisdom of the cross.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we pray for all Christians in their various callings in life, that they would be diligent in their duties and glorify Christ in all they do.

**People: Bless all your people, that they would never be ashamed of Christ and Him crucified, but freely let their lights shine for Christ each day.**

Pastor: God of healing, hope, and consolation, we pray for those who mourn, especially Carol and Larry Hoffman and family upon the death of Carol’s mother, Katherine, and Phil and Jean Weigand and family upon the death of Phil’s sister, Esther. Enfold them in your arms and comfort them with the promise of life everlasting. We pray also for those who are troubled by sickness and affliction including Ervin, Bill, Eleanor, Larry, Flora, Virginia, Eleanor, Marion, Matthew, Arlene, Mae, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Roemelle, LuEva, Kathleen, Jean, Russ, Helen, Leonard, Linda, Gladys, Jack, Shirley and Sarah, comfort and heal them according to your good and gracious will.

**People: Whenever your people face difficult days, may they always turn to Christ who is their Rock of refuge and their loving Savior.**

Pastor: God of every blessing, we rejoice in all your good gifts, joining with John and Lois as they celebrate 64 years of marriage. Bless their marriage and all marriages by the love of Christ.

**People: Grant each of us to rejoice in your goodness and count our blessings each day.**

Pastor: Lord of our salvation, we pray for all who will receive Holy Communion this day, that your people would come with a penitent hunger and a thirst for righteousness.

**People: Give us the peace of sins forgiven found in Christ’s own body and blood.**

Pastor: Almighty God, we give thanks to you as you have faithfully delivered your people from sin and death throughout the ages. Preserve us in your grace and truth, that we might be confident of your blessings now and eagerly await the day when we see with our own eyes the very kingdom of heaven; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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

Page 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(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.

#### 8:00 ANTHEM

*“Festival Te Deum”* Kenneth T. Kosche

#### HYMN #625 “Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread”

**“Blest Are They”**

AGPS #74

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

**Refrain:**

**Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you. Rejoice and be glad!  
Yours is the kingdom of God!**

Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. **Refrain**  
Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.  
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God! **Refrain**  
Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.  
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. **Refrain**  
Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.  
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see. **Refrain**

**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.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks, heavenly Father, that you have refreshed us through this Sacrament, and we pray that we shall ever put our hope in Jesus, your Son and faithful servant; through the same 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 blessing of God Almighty—the Father, who gave His Son for the life of the world; the Son, who has revealed to us God’s grace, mercy, and love; and the Spirit, by whose fruit we are seen to be children of God—bless you now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**5:00 CLOSING HYMN #794 “The Lord, My God, Be Praised”**

The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven;  
My maker, who to me Has soul and body given;  
My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day  
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.  
The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven;  
The Father’s own dear Son, whose life for me was given,  
Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood  
And give to me by faith The highest heav’nly good.  
The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heaven,  
The Spirit, whom the Son In love to me has given.  
His grace revives my heart And gives my spirit pow’r,  
Help, comfort, and support In sorrow’s gloomy hour.

The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the everliving,  
To whom the heav'nly host Their laud and praise are giving.  
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,  
God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost.

**8:00 CLOSING ANTHEM** *"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"* Peter C. Lutkin

**10:30 CLOSING ANTHEM** *"Go Ye Now In Peace"* Joyce Elaine Eilers

**8:00 POSTLUDE** *"March from Dramica per musica"* J.S. Bach, arr. Robert King

Preacher	Pastor Harold Bender
Liturgist	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lectors	Rachel Osell, Ben Reinhardt, Nik Mueller
Acolytes	Thomas Kadolph, Claire Igielski, Jeff Moravec
Organist	Michelle Prince
Choir Director	Nancy Hoelke
Martin Luther Brass Choir Director	Jessica Kindschi Walter
Martin Luther Concert Choir & Troubadours Director	Timothy S. Franz