

## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

God in Flesh Made Manifest

January 30 & 31, 2016

### AS WE GATHER

The purpose of the ministry of Jesus, unfolding during the Epiphany season, is forcefully expressed in these words: “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose” (Luke 4:43). Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom of God not only in His adopted hometown of Capernaum, where He was well known and comfortable, but also beyond familiar locations to Samaria and even as far the land of Tyre and Sidon. We are called to be those people who go beyond our comfort zones to share the Gospel news that we know and believe by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### WELCOME

This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. (1 John 4:2-3a)

### HANSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #803 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” *Rise last stanza*

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow’rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav’n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow’ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.

(Rise) Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountainhead of love divine:  
Joyful, we Thy heav’n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 Thessalonians 5:23–24*

Pastor: O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.

People: **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: We confess that we have not always said in our hearts “Thy will be done” when we have been faced with decisions in our lives.

People: **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: We confess that your love has not reached others through us in every situation, and we admit to being thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

People: **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: We confess that we have not always been defenders of the weak and helpless—advocates of those not yet born and those in the final stages of life.

People: **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: We confess that we have not used every opportunity given us to witness to the faith that is ours and have let the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh set the agendas for our lives and actions.

People: **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

People: Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE #818 "In Thee Is Gladness"**

In Thee is gladness Amid all sadness, Jesus sunshine of my heart.  
By Thee are given The gifts of heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art.  
Our souls Thou wakest, Our bonds Thou breakest;  
Who trust Thee surely Has built securely; He stands forever: Alleluia!  
Our hearts are pining To see Thy shining,  
Dying or living To Thee are cleaving; Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

Since He is ours, We fear no powers, Not of earth nor sin nor death.  
He sees and blesses In worst distresses; He can change them with a breath.  
Wherefore the story Tell of His glory With hearts and voices;  
All heav'n rejoices In Him forever: Alleluia!  
We shout for gladness, Triumph o'er sadness,  
Love Him and praise Him And still shall raise Him Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

**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. 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.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**✠ WORD ✠**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Jeremiah 1:4–10* (Jeremiah is called to speak for the Lord.) The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." "Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant."

**EPISTLE** *1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:13* (Paul writes of the importance of charity and love.) And now I will show you the most excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**8:00 SOLO** "Gesú Bambino" (The Infant Jesus) *Pastor Emeritus Thomas Hinz*

**10:30 ANTHEM** "Make Joyful Music" *Middle School Choir*  
(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 4:31–44* (Jesus casts out demons.)

Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach the people. They were amazed at his teaching, because his message had authority. In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an evil spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, "Ha! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are--the Holy One of God!" "Be quiet!" Jesus said sternly. "Come out of him!" Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him. All the people were amazed and said to each other, "What is this teaching? With authority and power he gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!" And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area. Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them. When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and

would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ. At daybreak Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

(Be seated)

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### HYMN OF THE DAY #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.

#### SERMON "His Power and Authority Made Manifest" Luke 4:31-44

(Rise)

#### CATECHISM *The First Article*

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

**People: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land,**

**animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.**

(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.

(Rise)

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: The Lord promises, "I am with you to deliver you." So let us pray to Him with faith in Christ and confidence in His mercy.

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . 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

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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.

**HYMN #832 “Jesus Shall Reign”**

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run:  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head;  
His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song;  
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns: The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,  
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

**HYMN #829 “Christ the Eternal Lord”**

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word To ev'ry passing age,  
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture's page;  
Transform our thought and mind, Enlighten all who read,  
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won For ev'ry child of earth;  
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,  
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,  
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief journey ends.

Christ the ascended King Exalted high above,  
Whose praise unending ages sing, Whom yet unseen we love;  
When mortal life is past Your voice from heaven's throne  
Shall call Your children home at last To know as we are known.

**HYMN #636 “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”**

Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
Come into the daylight's splendor, There with joy your praises render.  
Bless the One whose grace unbounded This amazing banquet founded;  
He, though heav'nly, high, and holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

Hasten as a bride to meet Him, And with loving rev'rence greet Him.  
For with words of life immortal He is knocking at your portal.  
Open wide the gates before Him, Saying, as you there adore Him:  
Grant, Lord, that I now receive You, That I nevermore will leave You.

He who craves a precious treasure Neither cost nor pain will measure;  
But the priceless gifts of heaven God to us has freely given.  
Though the wealth of earth were proffered, None could buy the gifts here  
offered: Christ's true body, for you riven, And His blood, for you once given.

Now in faith I humbly ponder Over this surpassing wonder  
That the bread of life is boundless Though the souls it feeds are countless:  
With the choicest wine of heaven Christ's own blood to us is given.  
Oh, most glorious consolation, pledge and seal of my salvation!

Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding:  
Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You  
Worthily let me receive You And, so forward, never leave You.

Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,  
Jesus, joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
At Your feet I cry, my maker, Let me be a fit partaker  
Of this blessed food from heaven, For our good, Your glory, given.

Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

Jesus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me gladly here obey You.  
By Your love I am invited, Be Your love with love requited;  
By this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
Through the gift of grace You give me As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

### **COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for having fed us with the  
body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, assuring us that we are truly  
members of His Body, the Church. We ask you to help us by your Holy  
Spirit that we may continue in this fellowship and do the good works  
you desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, to whom  
with you and the same Spirit be all honor and glory forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold to what is good;  
return no person evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the  
weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God, the Father,  
the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you.

**People: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN #922 "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"**

Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.  
In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.  
Go, My children, with My blessing – You are My own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him, Saw His glory.  
Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace.  
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

Preacher	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Liturgist	Pastor Harold Bender
Lectors	Debbie Ulbing, Grant Gundersen, Pam Akey
Acolytes	Keenan Novak, Liz Percell, Elena Gonzalez-Clark
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Middle School Choir Director	Shannon Krueger
10:30 Accompanist	Caleb Wiegert
Soloist	Pastor Emeritus Thomas Hinz

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