

ST. Luke 4:18

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to
proclaim good news to the poor.”



Jesus reads scripture in the synagogue

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 23, 2022

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW) No. 654

*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

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

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

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

C: And also with you.

*The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Hymn of Praise *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak* (ELW) NO. 676

Listening for the Promise
Weekly Devotional
January 23, 2022—Third Sunday After Epiphany

"Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4:21)

We go to church and pray for God to come among us, speak to us and to reveal God's will for us. Do we expect God to answer our prayers? And what if God did? What if God actually gave us what we asked? What would we do with that?

Jesus returns to his hometown synagogue in Nazareth. They hand the hometown boy, the young rabbi, the scroll of the prophet Isaiah to read. These were hopeful words that kept God's people together through centuries of persecution. They would say, "Today we're having a tough time. But tomorrow there will be good news. God is coming to help the poor, release the prisoners, give the blind their sight, liberate those who are oppressed. Today we are powerless and burdened, but our day will come when God sets things right."

Jesus said that the day of the Lord is now. "The kingdom of God has come near," Jesus said. Things went okay as he read the poetic words of Isaiah in the synagogue. Then Jesus had the gall to announce, "Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing," and the people completely lost it. Things got ugly and the congregation was filled with wrath (vs.28). It was being so near, so NOW, that caused the crisis.

Jesus's incarnation was not only in flesh but also in time. When our time is commanded by God and what was only a distant expectation — a vague hope — becomes real, present, now ... we get nervous and our defenses against God shift into high gear. Is Jesus Christ only someone you have heard of who lived two thousand years ago? If yes, no need to be threatened by Jesus because he is so far removed from time. This is a defense against Jesus because we think he is unrelated to our time.

There's a huge difference between a preacher saying, "Once upon a time, Jesus said..." and a preacher saying, "Jesus Christ says to you now, today..." It's one thing to hear Jesus say, "One day, someday, I'll be there for you," and another to hear Jesus say, "Now, today, come to me. Now."

What will you do when Jesus ends a sermon by saying to you, "Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing"?

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty and eternal God, graciously look down on our weakness. Reach out to us with Your majestic right hand, and satisfy us with His glory. We ask through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 19:(1-6) 7-14

[¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows His handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

⁴Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

⁵In the deep has He set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.]

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

⁸The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

(continue on next page)

¹²**Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength & my redeemer.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

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

* The Gospel

Luke 4:16-30

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (*sung after announcement of the Gospel*)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (*sung after conclusion of the Gospel*)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

O Lord, We Praise You

(ELW) No. 499

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Church Offering Change: In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

543

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(ELW) No. 188

*The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Announcements

*The Benediction (*sung response*)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

(ELW) No. 543

*FLC Sending Hymn

Be The Love of Christ

arr. Michael Showalter

Roger Thornhill

*The Dismissal (*response*)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Organist and Music Director: Kristina Schuerle

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God by the Maust family reminding us of the scripture from Isaiah 40:8, "The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of God endures forever." A donation is made to the roof fund.

The Lay Reader is Dennis Schmidt.

Acolytes are Cole Johnson and Heidi Walsh.

Counters/Greeters today are S. Rea and L. Sten.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

188

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

O Lord, We Praise You

499



1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, in thanks -
2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en, life to
3 Lord God, be - stow on us your grace and fa - vor, that we



giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your
win for us in heav - en. No great - er
fol - low Christ our Sav - ior and live to -



bod - y and your blood you nour - ish our weak souls that
love than this to you could bind us; may this feast of
geth - er here in love and u - nion, nor re - pent this



they may flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy!
that re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
blest com - mu - nion. O Lord, have mer - cy!



May your bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, that our
Lord, your kind - ness so much did move you that your
Let not your good Spir - it for - sake us; by this



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, and your blood for us plead
blood now moves us to love you. All our debt you have paid;
ho - ly ban - quet re - make us. Give your church, Lord, to see



in all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
peace with God once more is made. O Lord, have mer - cy!
days of peace and u - ni - ty. O Lord, have mer - cy!

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Bell Choir Practice on Monday at 7 PM.

Dartball on Tuesday, Jan. 25—IC#2 here.

The Flower Chart for 2022 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2022. Please write you names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2022. Please sign up.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.

Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Betty Johnson, Janet Burke, Maureen Curry, Eveline Reihner, Rocky and Carol, Shari Kienzle, Chiquita, Stacy Carroll, Byron Christian, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, Sandy Hebrank, Lynn Hudak, Allan Zimmerman, the Pollana family, Ashley McCartney, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, Kevin Ryan, Bob Cable, baby Ryan David Mayer, Danielle Pinkerton, Dan, Fritz Group, Amy, Lucy & Dave Mehaffey, Stephanie Kennedy, Jessi, Bill Hisiro, Richard, Ruby Rogers, Becky, Mel & Klaus Behrens, Joanne Reck, Barbara, Michael Selarud, Jackie, Jeff Ulanich, Carolyn Wright, Bill Stewart, the Penvose family, Morgan, Sharon Fritz, baby Matthew, Tim & Karen Edwards, Tom Liam, and Gary.

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
 2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
 3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
 4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -

liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
 wan - d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
 pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
 til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and

let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
 we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.