

St. John 1:29a

“Behold the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!”



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 15, 2023

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn *Here I Am, Lord* (ELW) No. 574

*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the \dagger 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 \dagger 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 *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth* (ELW) NO. 340

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

January 15, 2023—Second Sunday After Epiphany

“God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” – 1 Corinthians 1:9 -

God is faithful. Have you ever pondered to think about what that really means? If you've read the book of Hosea, it's about the prophet Hosea who marries a prostitute named Gomer because God told him to do so. God used the relationship of Hosea and Gomer to illustrate his relationship with us, his children. The faithful prophet Hosea represents God; the prostitute Gomer represents us. Not exactly flattering, is it? To be compared to a prostitute! But if we think about the other way: what a wonderful, underserving gift we have in our Heavenly Father.

When we woke up this morning, did we sin? Of course, we did. We fall into sin all the time, even when we don't mean to do so. And that's why we are Gomer. We are unfaithful to God over and over again because of sin. The great and wonderful news is that God remains faithful to us even when we are unfaithful to him. His promises to us are never broken! That means that when God says he promises to forgive us every time we ask for his forgiveness, he will! Every time we pray to God, he hears our prayer!

Because of our Savior Jesus Christ, we are united with God. Sin no longer separates us from the love that God has for his children. It's no secret that we humans mess up all the time. Even when we try to live by God's law, we simply can't. We need Jesus Christ to make us right with God. Those who trust in his redeeming blood for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. God is faithful and just to fulfill all that he has promised to those who trust in Jesus Christ.

Fellowship with Christ is the work of the Holy Spirit. It is his task to take the things of Christ and make them known unto us, to make the person of Jesus real in our daily experience. As Martin Luther reminds us, it is the Holy Spirit that calls us through the Gospel, enlightens us with his gifts, and sanctifies and preserves us in true faith.

Prayer: Faithful God, thank you for your love and faithfulness. Thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit that unites the whole Christian church on earth with Jesus Christ, our Lord. In his name, we pray. 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.

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty and eternal God, You restrain the powers of heaven and earth. Mercifully hear Your people's prayers for peace in our time. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalms 40:1-11

¹I waited patiently upon the LORD;

He stooped to me and heard my cry.

²He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay;

He set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

³He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

⁴Happy are they who trust in the LORD!

they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

⁵Great things are they that You have done, O LORD my God!

How great Your wonders and Your plans for us!

there is none who can be compared with You.

⁶Oh, that I could make them known and tell them!

but they are more than I can count.

⁷In sacrifice and offering You take no pleasure;

You have given me ears to hear You;

⁸Burnt-offering and sin-offering You have not required,

and so I said, "Behold, I come.

⁹In the roll of the book it is written concerning me:

'I love to do Your will, O my God; Your law is deep in my heart.'

¹⁰I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation;

behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O LORD, You know.

¹¹Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;

I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your deliverance;

I have not concealed Your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.

Son of God, Eternal Savior

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Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

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

John 1:29-42a

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

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

(ELW) No. 249

*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.

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

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.

*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

Son of God, Eternal Savior

(ELW) No. 655

*The Dismissal (*response*)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

First Lutheran Church

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e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

website: www.flcwash.church

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God in memory of my father, James Verderber and a friend, Howard Rice by Mark Verderber. Both had birthdays in January. A donation was made to the church.

The Lay Reader is Dennis Schmidt.

Acolytes are Heidi Walsh and Denico Walsh.

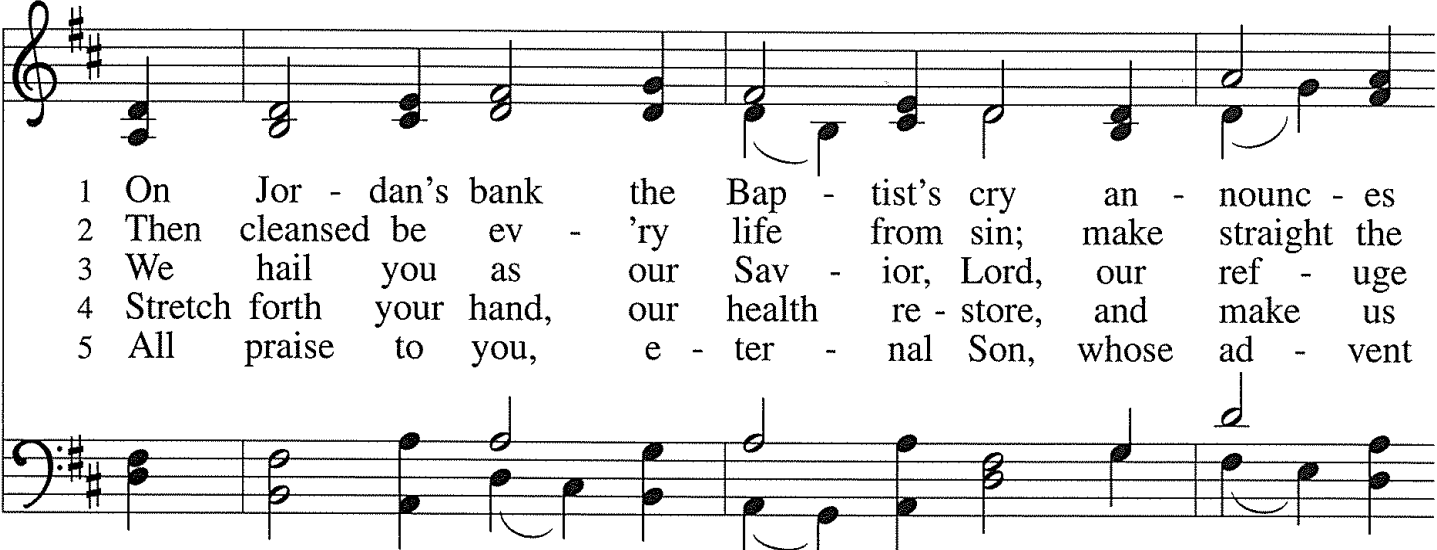
Counters/Greeters today are J. Black and L. Coleman.

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.

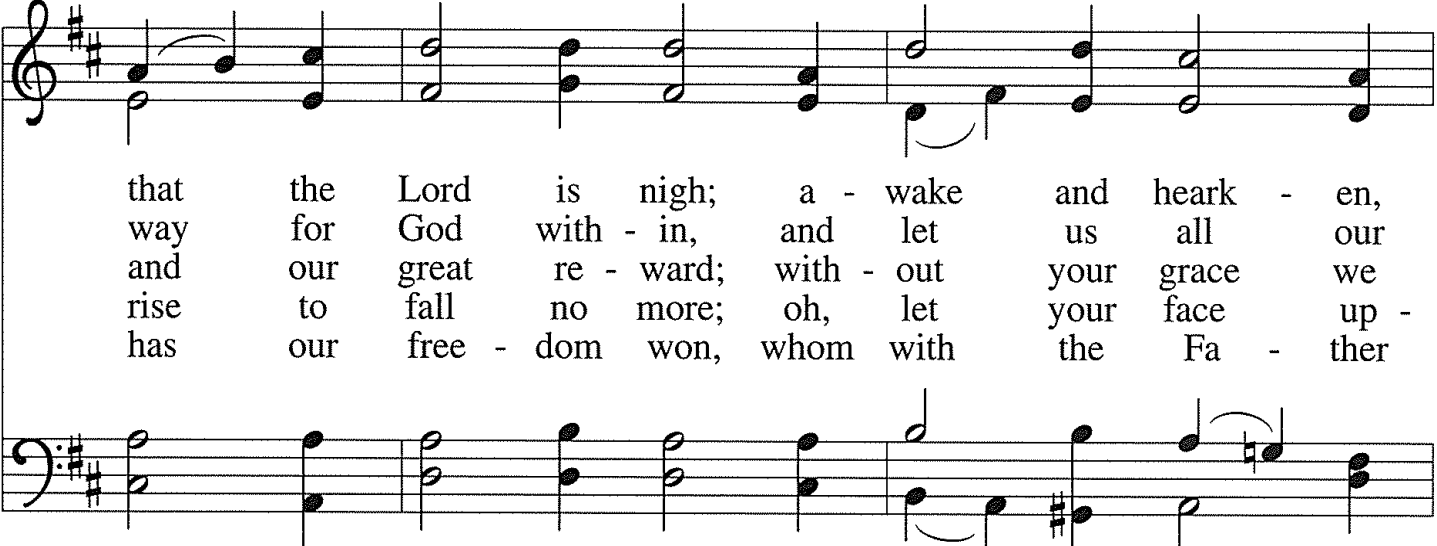
Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

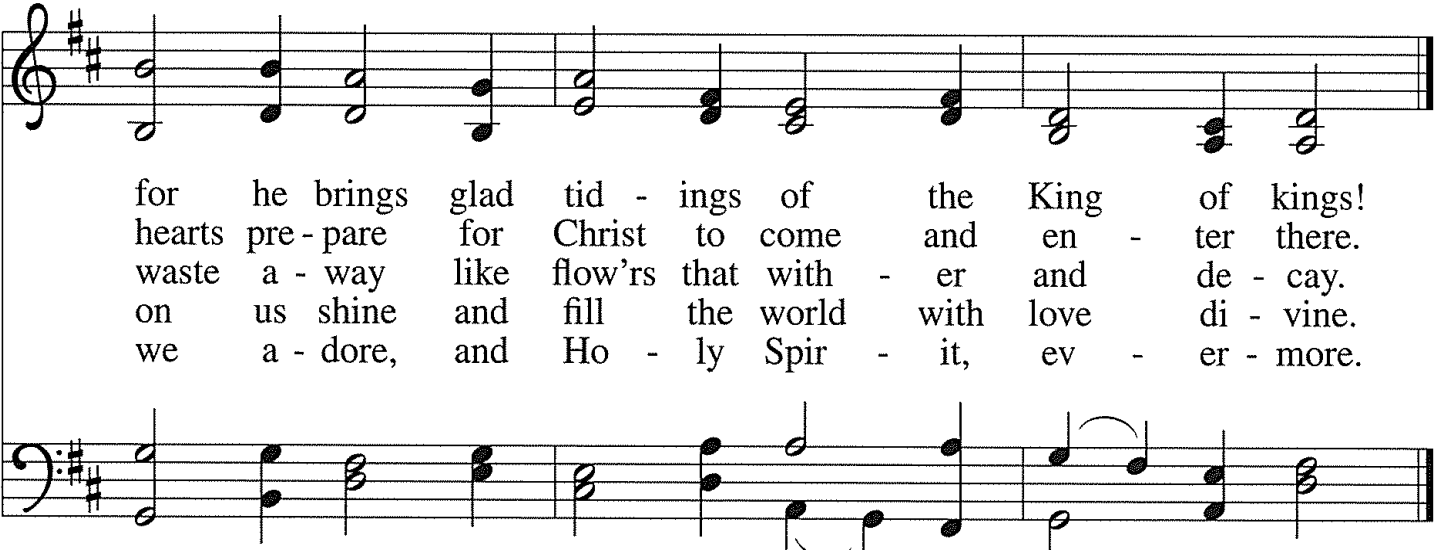
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1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

out com - plaint; his spot - less life he of - fers. He bears the shame,
 from their dread of death and con - dem - na - tion. The pain - ful stripes
 can - not right the Son was sent from heav - en. What love, O Love,
 ter - ni - ty be - fore the throne of heav - en, where we shall stand

the stripes, the wrath; his an - guish, mock - er - y,
 are hard to bear, but by your death they all
 who came to save by lov - ing e - ven to
 close by your side, your church, the well - ap - point -

and death for us he glad - ly suf - fers.
 can share the joy of your sal - va - tion."
 the grave un - til the stone was riv - en.
 ed bride, when all the faith - ful gath - er.

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 6 PM.

The Flower Chart for 2023 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 2023. Please write your 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 2023. 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:

Janet Burke, Eveline Reihner, Carol, Shari Kienzle, Chiquita, Stacy Carroll, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, the Pollana family, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, Kevin Ryan, baby Ryan, Dan, Fritz Group, Amy, Lucy & Dave Mehaffey, Jessi, Bill Hisiro, Richard, Klaus Behrens, Joanne Reck, Bill Stewart, Morgan, Sharon Fritz, Tim & Karen Edwards, Tom Liam, Gary, Daniel, Judy Dombrowsky, Emily Buchleitner, Jean Erdmann, Greg Mason, Alexandra Perry, Lu Mayne, Pat, Delores Stebella, Jerry Vitteck, Chaz Sands, Rev. Phil Gagnon, Jacob, Lindsay, Maxine Banko, Brooke, Ellen, Jacob Orr, USN, Jammie, Roger, John Bartanus, Helen Swank, Becky & Chuck, Nikki, and Rosemary Dittman.

Here I Am, Lord

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1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

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A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A lamb goes un - com - plain-ing forth to save a world of sin - ners.
2 This lamb is Christ, our great-est friend, the Lamb of God, our Sav - ior,
3 Our Sav - ior an - swered from his heart that he would take the bur - den:
4 Of death I am no more a - fraid; your dy - ing is my liv - ing.



He bears the bur - den all a - lone, dies shorn of all his hon - ors.
whom God in mer - cy chose to send to win us reb - els o - ver.
"My Fa - ther's will is my com-mand; I'll do as I am bid - den."
You clothe me in your roy - al robes that you are al - ways giv - ing.



He goes to slaugh - ter, weak and faint, is led to die with -
"Go down, my child," the Fa - ther said, "and free my chil - dren
Oh, won-drous love! Oh, lov - ing might! To right what mor - tals
Your love is dress e - nough for me to wear through all e -

