

✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

28171 West Highway 64 PO Box 851

Canton, Texas 75103

www.holycrosscanton.com

Pastor Mark Huston

903-603-5071

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 23, 2021

Divine Service, Setting Three

As We Gather

At Easter, on the road to Emmaus, the Lord Jesus taught us how all the Scriptures ultimately point to Him and His ministry of salvation. Today, we hear the same claim at the beginning of His ministry. Quoting Isaiah 61, He tells His hometown neighbors, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). They were impressed. But only for a short moment. Not everyone will listen to the Word of God until it first inspires repentance over sin. Only when God gets us to face up to our real need, the forgiveness of sins, does the Spirit of God work true faith in the heart that results in praise of God who saves us. The world wants only to cover up and does not like hearing God call what we are doing and what we are sin. In a strange way, however, the Christian actually likes getting honest and facing up to sin, confessing it in order to receive God's gift of forgiveness and new life. As one Body in Christ, we respond with one voice in praise to God.

658 Preserve Your Word, O Savior



1 Pre-serve Your Word, O Sav - ior, To us this lat - ter day,  
2 Pre-serve, O Lord, Your hon - or, The bold blas - phem - er smite;  
3 Pre-serve, O Lord, Your Zi - on, Bought dear - ly with Your blood;  
4 Pre-serve Your Word and preach - ing, The truth that makes us whole,  
5 Pre-serve in wave and tem - pest Your storm-tossed lit - tle flock;



And let Your king - dom flour - ish; En - large Your Church, we pray.  
Con - vince, con - vert, en - light - en The souls in er - ror's night.  
Pro - tect what You have cho - sen A - gainst the hell - ish flood.  
The mir - ror of Your glo - ry, The pow'r that saves the soul.  
As - sailed by wind and weath - er, May it en - dure each shock.



O keep our faith from fail - ing; Keep hope's bright star a - glow.  
Re - veal Your will, dear Sav - ior, To all who dwell be - low,  
Be al - ways our de - fend - er When dan - gers gath - er round;  
Oh, may this liv - ing wa - ter, This dew of heav'n - ly grace,  
Stand at the helm, our pi - lot, And set the course a - right;



Let noth - ing from truth turn us While liv - ing here be - low.  
Great light of all the liv - ing, That all Your name may know.  
When all the earth is crum - bling, Safe may Your Church be found.  
Sus - tain us while here liv - ing Un - til we see Your face.  
Then we will reach the har - bor In Your e - ter - nal light.

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Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.
- Grant this, Lord, unto us all.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 102:18–22; antiphon: v. 13*

- P** You will arise and have pity on | Zion;\*  
it is the time to favor her; the appointed | time has come.
- C** **Let this be recorded for a genera- | tion to come,\***  
**so that a people yet to be created may | praise the LORD:**
- P** that he looked down from his | holy height;\*  
from heaven the LORD looked | at the earth,
- C** **to hear the groans of the | prisoners,\***  
**to set free those who were | doomed to die,**
- P** that they may declare in Zion the name | of the LORD,\*  
and in Jerusa- | lem his praise,
- C** **when peoples gather to- | gether,\***  
**and kingdoms, to wor- | ship the LORD.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**
- P** You will arise and have pity on | Zion;\*  
it is the time to favor her; the appointed | time has come.

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10*

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Nehemiah, chapter 8.

<sup>1</sup>All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. <sup>2</sup>So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . .

<sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. <sup>6</sup>And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . . .

<sup>8</sup>They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 12:12–31a*

**P** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 12.

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

<sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup>which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.



**G** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

**P** <sup>16</sup>[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup>And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” <sup>22</sup>And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” <sup>23</sup>And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” <sup>24</sup>And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. <sup>25</sup>But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, <sup>26</sup>and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. <sup>27</sup>And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” <sup>28</sup>When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. <sup>29</sup>And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But passing through their midst, he went away.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles’ Creed

**C** 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 Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

### 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en  
 2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now  
 3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may  
 4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the  
 5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now  
 lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose  
 find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science  
 wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who  
 won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - jice.  
 in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.  
 sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.  
 walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,  
 You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

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Sermon

*Manifested in the Word*

Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

6



**C** 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** In thanksgiving to the Lord of Zion, who has arisen and shown pity to our fallen world, setting us free from our sin and death; in thanksgiving for Christ, in whom the appointed time of favor has come for all people; and for the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Word of God, that Christ's name would be declared among all peoples and His grace received with delight in every place, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

- P** For eagerness to hear the Word of God with understanding, as in the days of Ezra the priest, that with attentive ears we may receive it, our days be sanctified by it and His commandments be put into practice among us, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For harmony in the Christian Church, arranged as members of one body in Christ Jesus, that we may be free of jealousy or contempt toward our fellow Christians, bestow honor on weaker brothers, suffer and rejoice together, and serve in harmony as those baptized in one Spirit, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all families and homes, that one generation may tell to the next the wonderful works of God in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who govern our communities and country, that they would be given wisdom and courage to lead; that they would follow God's will rather than man's whims; and that our Father would grant us willingness to support them with our prayers and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the comfort of those who mourn and the care of those who need healing, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that the Great Physician would mend the bodies and uplift the spirits of all who need His compassion, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- P** 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.
- C** **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**

### Benedicamus

LSB 202

- P** Bless we the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## 401 From God the Father, Virgin-Born



1 From God the Fa - ther, vir - gin - born To us the  
2 Be - gin - ning from His home on high, In hu - man  
3 Glide on, O glo - rious Sun, and bring The gift of  
4 A - bid with us, O Lord, we pray; The gloom of



on - ly Son came down; By death the font to con - se -  
flesh He came to die; Cre - a - tion by His death re -  
heal - ing on Your wing; To ev - 'ry dull and cloud - ed  
dark - ness chase a - way; Your work of heal - ing, Lord, be -



crate, The faith - ful to re - gen - er - ate.  
stored, And shed new joys of life a - broad.  
sense The clear - ness of Your light dis - pense.  
gin, And take a - way the stain of sin.

- 5 Lord, once You came to earth's domain  
And, we believe, shall come again;  
Be with us on the battlefield,  
From ev'ry harm Your people shield.

- △ 6 To You, O Lord, all glory be  
For this Your blest epiphany;  
To God, whom all His hosts adore,  
And Holy Spirit evermore.

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## Announcements

**Adult Sunday School** is studying Genesis at 9am on Sunday mornings.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory.

The **Ladies Bible Study** next meets Wednesdays at 10am. They are studying the Book of Numbers.

**Church Council** next meeting is **Feb 13** at 8am.

January has a **Fifth Sunday!** Get your hymn ideas to Pastor Huston by **Jan 23**.

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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