# + Holy Cross Lutheran Church +

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Pastor Mark Huston

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# Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

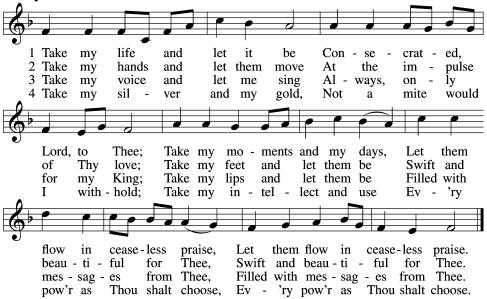
**January 30, 2021** 

# **Divine Service, Setting Three**

#### As We Gather

At the beginning of the Church Year, many sang the hymn "Love Came Down at Christmas." Indeed, the Bible says, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son" (John 3:16). It is only on Good Friday, however, that we discover the depth and power of God's love in the cross of the Lord's death. And so it was that ever since the beginning of His earthly ministry, after His Baptism, we are given clear hints about the true nature of God's love. Initially people marveled at Jesus' preaching and miraculous healings. Yet not only did the crowds quickly reject our Lord, but Satan also was actively opposing Him from the beginning. The love of God is the power of God to defeat Satan and free the world from the grip of sin and death. The standard of love is the cross of Christ. In today's Epistle, Paul describes love in and through Christ. Substitute "Christ" for "love" and you get, "Christ is patient and kind; Christ does not envy or boast; . . . Christ rejoices with the truth." This love of Christ is given to us and through us. "Faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these" is the cross of Christ!

### 784 Take My Life and Let It Be



Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

Stand

# **Confession and Absolution**

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,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 10:16–18; antiphon: v. 12

- P Arise, O LORD; O God, lift | up your hand;\* forget not the af- | flicted.
- The LORD is king forever and | ever;\* the nations perish | from his land.
- P O LORD, you hear the desire of the af- | flicted;\* you will strength- | en their heart;
- you will incline your ear to do justice to the fatherless and | the oppressed,\* so that man who is of the earth may strike ter- | ror no more.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit;

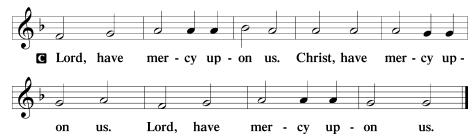
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P Arise, O LORD; O God, lift | up your hand;\* forget not the af- | flicted.

**Kyrie** 

LSB 186



### 941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God



#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **P** 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.

C Amen.

Sit



## **Old Testament Reading**

Jeremiah 1:4–10

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Jeremiah, chapter 1.

<sup>4</sup>Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

5"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,

and before you were born I consecrated you;

I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

<sup>6</sup>Then I said, "Ah, Lord GoD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a youth';

for to all to whom I send you, you shall go,

and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them,

for I am with you to deliver you,

declares the LORD."

<sup>9</sup>Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me,

"Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.

<sup>10</sup>See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms,

to pluck up and to break down,

to destroy and to overthrow,

to build and to plant."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



Epistle 1 Corinthians 12:31b—13:13

P The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapters 12 and 13.

I will show you a still more excellent way.

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup>Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup>but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

<sup>13</sup>So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:31–44

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



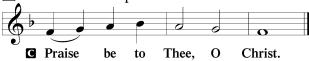
P <sup>31</sup>[Jesus] went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, <sup>32</sup>and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. <sup>33</sup>And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup>"Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." <sup>35</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. <sup>36</sup>And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!" <sup>37</sup>And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

<sup>38</sup>And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. <sup>39</sup>And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

<sup>40</sup>Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. <sup>41</sup>And demons also came out of many, crying, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

<sup>42</sup>And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, <sup>43</sup>but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." <sup>44</sup>And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

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

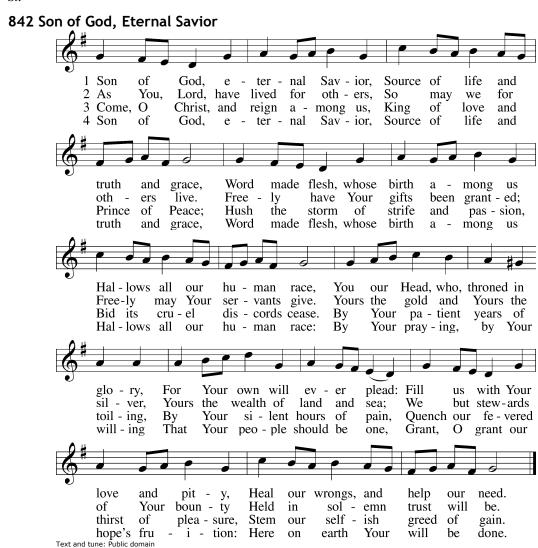


### **Apostles' Creed**

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 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,

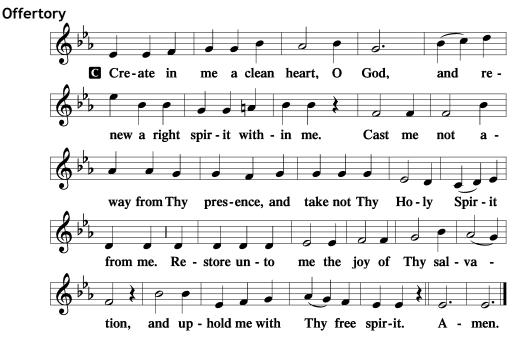
and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Sit



Stand

LSB 192



## Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For all those afflicted by the demonic and every force of darkness, whether open or hidden, that they would be released by Christ, whom even the demons obey; for our brotherhood throughout the world who suffer for Christ's sake, that they may have courage, faith, peace and relief; and for God's children everywhere, that He would hold them in His care, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For the holy ministry, that Christ who taught with authority may be at work now to forgive sins, strengthen faith and empower lives of good works; and that the people of this world would see His love in us, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For the forgiveness of sins, especially those false acts that cannot pass for real love; that God would enable us to reflect His love, which is patient and kind, does not envy or boast, is not arrogant or rude, and does not insist on its own way; and that His Spirit would fill our lives with good works that truly care for others, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- In thanksgiving for the gift of marriage and family [especially God's blessings to \_\_\_\_\_]; and that He would make all husbands and wives a picture of Christ's ceaseless love for His Bride, the Church, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For parents as they raise their children, that God would give every father and mother zeal that points constantly to His ways and His forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

P	For children, that they may be filled with obedience, respect and love for their parents, let us pray to the Lord:
C	Lord, have mercy.
P	For our nation and its governors and leaders, that God would preserve them; and for the confidence that comes from the Word of our Lord's mouth, which stands over nations and over kingdoms, that we may not be dismayed as citizens in this world or as citizens of His eternal kingdom, let us pray to the Lord: <b>Lord, have mercy.</b>
_	
P	For the afflicted, [especially ,] that the Lord would not forget them, but arise to hear their desires and strengthen their hearts, let us pray to the Lord:
C	Lord, have mercy.
P	In thanksgiving for [and] all who have lived and died with faith in Christ and now rest in His presence; and for all who commune this day, that we may be united with Christ and with those saints as we eat and drink His life-giving body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:
C	Lord, have mercy.
P	Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
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 C	The Lord be with you.  And with thy spirit.
Benedican	nus LSB 202
P	Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

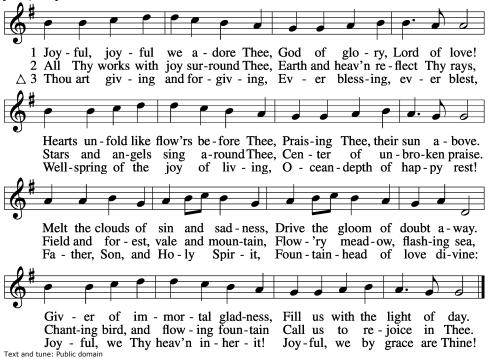
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C Amen.

**Benediction** 

LSB 202

### 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



#### **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! Join us after church for the potluck luncheon, today!.

#### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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