

Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany

Order of Worship*

January 29, 2012

8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

THE GATHERING HYMN: "Psalm 141"

booklet, p. 4

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

I. GOD GATHERS US IN HIS PRESENCE

**ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God, you are worthy and trustworthy; faithful and merciful. In you we are blessed, filled with your goodness and love. Help us to hear your echoes of mercy and your whispers of love. We bring our confession to you in the full confidence that you forgive us.

Song: "Open Our Eyes"

**Open our eyes, Lord;
We want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him,
And say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord,
And help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord,
We want to see Jesus.**

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** those who are able are invited to stand

Let us pray:

God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin. In our thoughts, words, and actions we betray the deeper reality that we cannot fix ourselves or change on our own. Open our eyes. We want to see Jesus. We want to be touched by him. We need our sins to be forgiven.

Forgive us for those harmful thoughts we name before you now. (silence)

Forgive us for those careless words that we name before you now. (silence)

Forgive us for those destructive behaviors we name before you now. (silence) Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus.

Song: "Open Our Eyes"

**Open our eyes, Lord;
We want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him,
And say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord,
And help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord,
We want to see Jesus.**

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O God, we give you thanks and praise for the saving actions of Jesus Christ whose life, death, and resurrection forgives sin. Your story has become our story. Your story is the truth for all people everywhere. Your story will spring from our lips in songs of praise and worship.

We worship and praise you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen..

OPENING HYMN: "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" hymn 310, vv. 1,3

THE GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

And also with you.

Let us pray.

As the man from Capernaum withered in your presence so we, too, are weakened by sin. Yet, you have promised to deliver us. You have sent your Son to redeem us. Strengthen our bodies with your Spirit. Fortify us with your Word. Then, though weak, we will stand. This we pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now ...

and forever. Amen.

(10:30) ANTHEM: "Everlasting God"

junior choir

II. GOD ENCOUNTERS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

WORSHIP TALK FOR CHILDREN

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

THE FIRST LESSON Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (page 174 in Old Testament)

Moses is about to die. The Israelites ask for a prophet to help them remain faithful. God promises to provide one from among them.

(after the reading) *The Word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL VERSE (sung)

p 8 (HS)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28 (page 35 in New Testament)

When Jesus preached, life changed.

(after the reading) *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "When the Boat Keeps Rocking" Pastor James R. Lichtenberger
Psalm 46, p. 517

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

- Meditate on these words: "The Lord of hosts is with us."

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "There is a Balm in Gilead"

hymn 614, vv. 1,3

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER SONG:

8:15: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

see wall

10:30: "Psalm 141"

booklet, p. 4

THE PRAYERS

(after each petition) *Lord, in your mercy,*
hear our prayer.

(the prayers conclude) *...through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*
Amen.

**PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Greet one another in joy and love: "The Lord be with you!")

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

8:15 Anthem: "Everlasting God"

junior choir

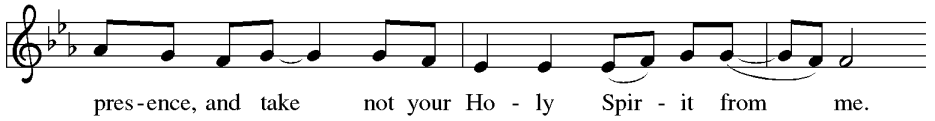
10:30 Offertory: "Bread from Heaven"

senior choir

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE (*as the gifts are brought forward*)

hymn 185

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 to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me



with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,



and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, take selfishness away and replace it with selflessness. Take greed away and replace it with the joy of giving. Make us humble, faithful stewards who care for all you have given and gratefully share it with one another. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

III. GOD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE IN HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ who is your light made manifest to all the nations. And so, with the church on earth, all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**You are holy, you are whole.
You are always evermore
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.**

**Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here
To your church in wine and bread,
Raised from soil, raised from dead.
You are holy, you are wholeness.
You are present, let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God!**

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You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Hungry, I Come”

**Hungry I come, thirsty I come.
Hungry I come to You.
Hungry I come, thirsty I come
And I feast with wine and bread.
By Your mercy I am fed.
For the bread of Your body
For the wine of Your blood
For You, Word incarnate, I come, I come.**

In the night that he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, “Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

**For the bread of Your body
For the wine of Your blood
For You, Word incarnate, I come, I come.**

Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

**For the bread of Your body
For the wine of Your blood
For You, Word incarnate, I come, I come.
Hungry I come, thirsty I come.
Hungry I come to You.
Hungry I come, thirsty I come**

**And I feast with wine and bread.
By Your mercy I am fed.**

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

(Come, receive the gifts of God's grace in Holy Communion! All baptized Christians are invited to the Lord's table. As Lutherans we believe that the Body and Blood of Christ is truly present in the bread and cup for the forgiveness of our sins. Please fill out a communion registration card found in the pew rack, and hand it to the usher as you come forward **down the center aisle**. Proceed to the altar rail, as directed by the ushers. If you desire grape juice instead of wine, do not pick up a glass as you come to the communion table.

All are welcome to come to the Lord's Table even if they do not commune. Gluten-free wafers are available; ask for one from a communion server. Children may receive Holy Communion if they have completed a course of instruction about the meaning of the sacrament. Until that time, children are invited to come with their parents and receive a fish cracker which symbolizes the inclusion of the child in God's love and grace.)

Hymns during the distribution: 773, 856, 483, 860, 616

******(after all have communed) *May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.*

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. God of love, our ears have heard your voice and our eyes have seen your salvation. Increase our love for you and one another. We bless you now and evermore.

Amen.

IV. GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE FORTH TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

*The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor*

and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE SENDING HYMN

8:15:- "Let All Things Now Living"

hymn 881, v. 1

10: 30 - "Soli Deo Gloria"

hymn 878 vv. 1, 5

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Psalm 100"

Justin Heinrich



Mission Statement

for Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

As children of God and disciples of Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are called to share God's Word, His love and saving grace by:

worshipping together

inviting and welcoming everyone

studying the Scriptures

praying

servicing the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of each other, our community and the world.

Adopted May 7, 2000