

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

¹ Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. ² Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. ³ But whoever loves God is known by God. ⁴ So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.” ⁵ For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”), ⁶ yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. ⁷ But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. ⁸ But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. ⁹ Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol’s temple, won’t that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? ¹¹ So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. ¹² When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

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

Gospel Acclamation: “Gloria, In Excelsis Deo” (*stand as you are able*)

Gloria, in excelsis Deo. Gloria, in excelsis Deo. In excelsis Deo.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28

²¹ They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²² The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. ²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!” ²⁵ “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” ²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. ²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” ²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

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

Children’s Message: Pastor Eric Hanson (*you may be seated*)

Sermon: Pastor Eric Hanson

Hymn of the Day & Offering:

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

Children of the Heavenly Father #781

**Vs. 1: Children of the heav’nly Father safely in his bosom gather.
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e’er was given.**

**Vs. 2: God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.**

**Vs. 3: Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever.
Unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**Vs. 4: Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne’er forsaketh.
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.**

Offertory Response: “Give Thanks” (*ushers bring offerings forward*)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.
Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.**

Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

**C: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek & follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Baptism of Mila Voth

The Prayers: (*call and response*)

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.* Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer especially for Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Judy Carpenter, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Geri Lindholm, Shawn Fredrixon, Marc Bode and the family of Deb Gerber. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer: 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.

Meal and Hymns: (*you may be seated*)

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

“Healer of Our Every Ill” #612

Refrain: Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

Vs 1: You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. [Refrain]

Vs 2: In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. [Refrain]

Vs 3: Give us strength to love each other, every sister, every brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. [Refrain]

Vs 4: You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. [Refrain]

“There is a Balm in Gilead” #614

Chorus: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole:
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.

Vs 1: Sometimes I feel discouraged. And think my work’s in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again [Chorus]

Vs 2: If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, “He died for all.” [Chorus]

Vs 3: Don’t ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend; and if you lack for knowledge,
he’ll ne’er refuse to lend. [Chorus]

Communion Prayer: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray together.

C: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing: P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord’s face shine on you with grace and
mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace. Amen.

Sending: *“Jesus Shall Reign” #434*

Vs 1: Jesus shall reign where’er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Vs 2: To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise with ev’ry morning sacrifice.

Vs 3: People and realms of ev’ry tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Vs 4: Blessings abound where’er he reigns: the pris’ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Vs 5: Let ev’ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

Dismissal: P: Go in peace to love the Lord and serve your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
9:30AM • January 28, 2024

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting:

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.

Confession and Forgiveness: *(stand as you are able)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse
the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and
worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin.
We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, & uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live & serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with
Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God
strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: *“Shine, Jesus, Shine” #671*

Refrain: Shine Jesus shine, Fill this land, With the Father’s glory, Blaze Spirit blaze, Set our hearts on fire,
flow river flow, Flood the nations, With grace & mercy, Send forth Your word Lord, & let there be light.

Vs 1: Lord the light of Your love is shining. In the midst of the darkness shining. Jesus Light of the world
shine upon us. Set us free by the truth You now bring us. Shine on me shine on me. [refrain]

Vs 2: As we gaze on Your kingly brightness. So our faces display Your likeness. Ever changing from
glory to glory. Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story. Shine on me shine on me. [refrain]

Prayer of the Day: *(you may be seated)*

P: Let us pray together

C: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal
your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that
all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.