

*Grace Lutheran Church  
Welcomes You!*



*By Grace you have been saved!*

*"We have decided to follow Jesus and  
There's no turning back!"*

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

\*\*\*\*\*

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**January 31, 2021**

**Pastor Jim Helgren**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Prelude & Announcements**

**Opening Hymn "Rise, Shine, You People"**

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

**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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P: Most merciful God,**

**C: we confess that we are in bondage 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**

**Kyrie: C: response... "Lord, have mercy. ....Amen**

**P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

**C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father. We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God. You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**The Prayer of the Day**

**See Insert**

**The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

**See Insert**

**Psalms 111**

**See Insert**

**Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

**See Insert**

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

See Insert

P: The Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: ....The Gospel of the Lord"

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Apostles' Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**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**

Offering

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

Offering Prayer

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

The 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, the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

Benediction and Dismissal

Closing Hymn "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

Postlude

***We pray always for . . .***

*Robert Armknecht, Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Evelyn Effken,  
Bruce Gerking, Mary Goudie, Casey Holsing, Erin Ebeler Rolf,  
Axl Walters,*

*our military men and women, their families and their leaders.*

***We also remember in our prayers . . .***

*Grace, Oscar & Sabra, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania.*

*You may email the church office at [grace68329@gmail.com](mailto:grace68329@gmail.com)*

***You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)  
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613(cell)***

**Today 1/31/2021**

*Worship – 10:00 a.m.*

**Tuesday 2/2/2021**

*Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day*

**Wednesday 2/3/2021**

*Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.*

**NEXT SUNDAY 2/7/2021**

*Worship with communion – 8:30 a.m.*



# Today's Readings

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
January 31, 2021

## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## First Reading

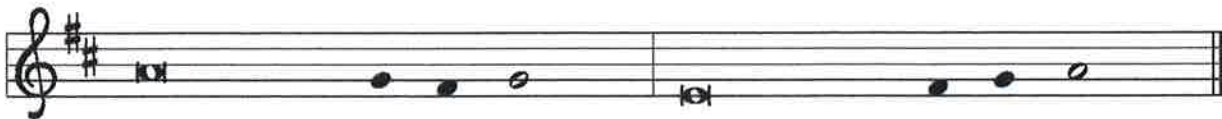
Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their

own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

## Psalms

Psalm 111; tone 6



Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the LORD  
with <sup>1</sup> my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright,  
in the <sup>1</sup> congregation.

<sup>2</sup>Great are your <sup>1</sup> works, O LORD,  
pondered by all  
who de- <sup>1</sup> light in them.

<sup>3</sup>Majesty and splendor  
<sup>1</sup> mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness  
en- <sup>1</sup> dures forever.

<sup>4</sup>You cause your wonders  
to <sup>1</sup> be remembered;  
you are gracious  
and full <sup>1</sup> of compassion.

<sup>5</sup>You give food  
to <sup>1</sup> those who fear you,  
remembering forev- <sup>1</sup> er  
your covenant.

<sup>6</sup>You have shown your people  
the power <sup>1</sup> of your works  
in giving them  
the lands <sup>1</sup> of the nations.

<sup>7</sup>The works of your hands  
are faithful- <sup>1</sup> ness and justice;  
all of your pre- <sup>1</sup> cepts are sure.

<sup>8</sup>They stand fast forev- <sup>1</sup> er and ever,  
because they are done  
in <sup>1</sup> truth and equity.

*continued*

<sup>9</sup>You sent redemption to your people  
and commanded your cove-<sup>1</sup>nant  
forever;  
holy and awesome<sup>1</sup> is your name.

<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the LORD  
is the begin-<sup>1</sup>ning of wisdom;  
all who practice this  
have a good understanding.  
God's praise en-<sup>1</sup>dures forever.**

## Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as

food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

## Gospel

## Mark 1:21-28

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, “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>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

TODAY'S READINGS January 31, 2021

Volume 52, Number 1

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39.

TODAY'S READINGS (ISSN 1069-0166, USPS 009628) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 510 Marquette Ave, Suite 800, Minneapolis, MN, 55402. Periodicals postage paid in Twin Cities, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Today's Readings, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$3.90 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day and psalm from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Psalm tone accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year B* (Augsburg Fortress, 2008). Please visit our Web site at [augsburgfortress.org](http://augsburgfortress.org). Lectionary year B.