

**WELCOME!**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**January 7, 2024**



- \* = Please stand if able
- = Please be seated

- **Prelude - *By Roxanne Groff***
- **Office of the Acolyte**
- **Ringling of the Bell**
- **Welcome**

# \* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross,  
the sign marked at baptism...*

**L: We confess our sins before God and  
one another.**

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

**L: God of all that is,**

# **\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**C: We have failed to trust you to care for us. We have tried to be our own god in our lives and the lives of others. We have not listened to your call, nor lived in faithfulness to you. We have caused harm directly and indirectly to ourselves, our neighbors, and your creation.**

# **\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**C: In your infinite grace and mercy, forgive and restore us, so that with your help, we might become the people you created us to be.**



# \* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**L: Hear the good news: By the power of the Holy Spirit we are made new creations in Christ Jesus, and through his selfless sacrifice, God forgives us all our sin. ✝ Walk with God in this newness of life.**

**C: Amen.**

# \*Gathering Song/Hymn of Praise

“Brightest and Best”

LBW 84

(Verses 1-4 Only)



1 Brightest and best  
of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness and  
lend us your aid.  
Star of the East,  
the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant  
redeemer is laid.



**2 Cold on his cradle  
the dewdrops are shining;  
low lies his head  
with the beasts of the stall;  
angels adore him  
in slumber reclining,  
maker and monarch  
and savior of all.**

**3 Shall we not yield him,  
in costly devotion,  
fragrance of Edom and  
off'rings divine,  
gems of the mountain  
and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest  
or gold from the mine?**

**4 Vainly we offer  
each ample oblation,  
vainly with gifts would  
his favor secure;  
richer by far is  
the heart’s adoration,  
dearer to God are  
the prayers of the poor.**

# \* **APOSTOLIC 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.**

# \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray... Transforming God, in Christ Jesus you make all things new, turning the status quo on its head and calling us to push out of our comfort zones for the sake of others. Strengthen our faith through your holy word and meal that we might carry Jesus' message with us to the world. In his name we pray.

**C: Amen**





# • **Scripture Reading**

**L: Our scripture reading for this day is from the Gospel of Mark, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter.**

**C: Glory to you O' Lord!**

- **Mark 2:1-22**

**<sup>1</sup>When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. <sup>2</sup>So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. <sup>3</sup>Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. <sup>4</sup>And when they could not bring him to Jesus**

- **Mark 2:1-22**

because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." <sup>6</sup>Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, <sup>7</sup>Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but

- **Mark 2:1-22**

**God alone? <sup>8</sup>At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? <sup>9</sup>Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? <sup>10</sup>But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"**



- **Mark 2:1-22**

— he said to the paralytic — <sup>11</sup>I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home. <sup>12</sup>And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

<sup>13</sup>Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. <sup>14</sup>As he was

- **Mark 2:1-22**

walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

<sup>15</sup>And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples — for there were many who followed him. <sup>16</sup>When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with

- **Mark 2:1-22**

sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>17</sup>When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

<sup>18</sup>Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's

- **Mark 2:1-22**

disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. <sup>20</sup>The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.



- **Mark 2:1-22**

**<sup>21</sup>No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. <sup>22</sup>And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."**



- **Mark 2:1-22**

**R: This is the Word of the Lord.**

**C: Praise to You, O Christ**

# Sermon



# \* **APOSTLE'S CREED**

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

## **\* APOSTLE'S CREED**

**C: 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.**

# \* APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: 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.**



# \* **APOSTLE'S CREED**

**C: 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.**

# \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition will end with the words,*

**A: God our teacher and healer,**

*The congregation will respond with:*

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

# \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The prayer concludes...*

**P:** Confident that in Christ Jesus you answer prayer, we lift to you all for whom pray, aloud and in our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our savior.

**C:** Amen.

- **OFFERING**



# \* OFFERING PRAYER





# **\* THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: 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.**

# \* THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: For thine is the kingdom, and  
the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



# \* **SENDING BLESSING**

**P:** God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always.

**C:** Amen.

**\* Sending Song**  
**“As With Gladness Men of Old”**  
**LBW 82**  
*(Verses 1-4 Only)*





**1 As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore be led by thee.**

**2 As with joyful steps they sped,  
Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy seat.**

**3 As they offered gifts most rare  
at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.**

**4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.**

# \* **DISMISSAL**

**P: ... Depart in Christ's Love.**

**C: Seeking, welcoming, and serving  
all. Amen!**

## **POSTLUDE**

**By**

**Roxanne Groff**

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