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Our vision for ministry ...

"God calls us to reach out and to grow in Christ's love"



4 Epiphany

4 Epiphany January 28, 2024

Announcements and Parish Concerns

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Let's join in praising our Lord Jesus!

Hymn ELW (red book) 873 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

¹Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing; your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king. Refrain

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

²With voice as full and strong as ocean's surging praise, send forth the sturdy hymns of old, the psalms of ancient days. Refrain

³With all the angel choirs, with all the saints on earth pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth. Refrain

⁴Still lift your standard high, still march in firm array, as pilgrims through the darkness wend till dawns the golden day. Refrain

⁵At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest; the pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest. Refrain

⁶Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore: the Father, Son, and Spirit blest, one God forevermore. Refrain

Greeting

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

Hymn Of Praise Tune: ELW (red book) **855**"Crown Him With Many Crowns"

Glory to God on high, and to the earth God's peace! With thanks God's name we glorify; let gladsome praise increase! With angel hosts we sing your holy name to bless, Almighty Father, heav'nly King, enthroned in holiness.

Jesus, the Father's Son, the Lamb for sinners slain, You are the Lord, the Holy One by earth and heav'n proclaimed. To all eternity you with the Spirit live, In God the Father's majesty, to God all glory give!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together: 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.

You may be seated.

First Lesson: 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. 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." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. 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. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. 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." nrsv

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: 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. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. 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." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—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. 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. "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. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. 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? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. 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. nrsv

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Response: Please stand and sing

Tune: ELW (red book) 301 "Bright and Glorious Is The Sky"

And this star, as bright as day, that will never lead astray with its message so appealing, is the word of God, revealing Christ, the way, the truth, the life, Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Gospel Lesson: The Good News Of Our Lord Jesus Christ! The Good News according to St. Mark the First Chapter. Glory to You, O Lord.

Mark 1:21-28

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, 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." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 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." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. nrsv

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

You may be seated

Sermon: Pastor Rachel Hacker

Hymn ELW (red book) 725 "When the Poor Ones"

¹When the poor ones, who have nothing, still are giving; when the thirsty pass the cup, water to share; when the wounded offer others strength and healing:

Refrain: We see God, here by our side, walking our way; We see God, here by our side, walking our way. ²When compassion gives the suff'ring consolation; when expecting brings to birth hope that was lost; when we choose love, not the hatred all around us: Refrain

³When our spirits, like a chalice, brim with gladness; when our voices, full and clear, sing out the truth;

when our longings, free from envy, seek the humble: Refrain

⁴When the goodness poured from heaven fills our dwellings; when the nations work to change war into peace; when the stranger is accepted as our neighbor: Refrain

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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 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.

Prayers of the Church

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

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.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \(\Psi\) one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen**.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of 🗗 Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord, shaking hands or embracing and saying "The Peace of the Lord be with you" After sharing God's peace, you may be seated.

Musical Offering: "There is a Balm in Giliad" Winnagene Hatch

Offering Response Tune: ELW (red book) 296 "What Child Is This"

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven? What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given? This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together: 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 and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Preface to Communion

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 our thanks and praise. It is right and good join their unending hymn.

Sanctus Tune ELW (red book) 302 "As With Gladness"

Holy, holy, Lord. God of power and might adored! Heav'n and earth cannot contain. All the glory of Your name! With the heav'nly host we sing; Praise to our eternal King.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Invitation to the Table

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see. Amen!

You may be seated

You are invited to Commune at our Table

Emmanuel's Church practices open communion, inviting all who are baptized and believe in the presence of Christ in the bread and wine to come to receive communion here.

Instructions for Today's Communion

One side of the sanctuary will be communed at a time. When your pew is released by the usher please move to the side aisle. The wafer will be given with the words "The body of Christ, given for you". Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Please hold the wafer and proceed to the server with the cup. As the server offers the cup, please dip (intinct) the edge of the wafer into the wine and place it in your mouth as the server says, "The blood of Christ, shed for you". Grape juice is also available in leu of wine. When you have finished communing, please move to your pew via the center aisle.

Children are Welcome, Too!

Children who have not received instruction for first Holy Communion are welcome to come to the altar to receive a blessing.

Sharing of communion for those attending online:

Body of Christ, given for you. Blood of Christ shed for you.

Hymn During Communion: ELW (red book) 720 717

After all have communed, at the Pastor's invitation: Please stand

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction:

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

Hymn ELW (red book) **418** "Rejoice in God's Saints" Tune: ELW 825 "You Servants of God"

¹Rejoice in God's saints today and all days! A world without saints forgets how to praise. Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer, their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.

²Some march with events to turn them God's way; some need to withdraw, the better to pray; some carry the gospel through fire and through flood: our world is their parish, their purpose is God.

³Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown, who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own: the share our complaining, our comforts, our cares: what patience in caring, what courage is theirs!

⁴Rejoice in God's saints today and all days! A world without saints forgets how to praise. In loving, in living, they prove it is true: their way of self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.

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Sending Forth to Serve
Go in peace, You are God's beloved. Thanks be to

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