

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 29, 2023
9:30 a.m.**



GATHERING

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,
that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ☩ Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Gathering Song: "How Great is Our God"

The splendor of a King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the Earth rejoice
All the Earth rejoice

He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
Trembles at His voice

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

Age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the end
Beginning and the end

The Godhead Three in One
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

Name above all names
Worthy of our praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

Greeting

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray . . . Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says:
Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th Chapter
C: Glory to You, O Lord

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Be Unto Your Name”

We are a moment, You are forever
Lord of the Ages, God before time
We are a vapor, You are eternal
Love everlasting, reigning on high

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name

We are the broken, You are the healer
Jesus, Redeemer, Mighty to save

You are the love song we'll sing forever
Bowing before You, blessing Your name

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name

Apostle’s Creed

**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**

Prayers of Intercession

*(Each petition ends with... Merciful God, the congregation responds: **receive our prayer***

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you

The Offering Please leave your offering on our website: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPcImH2sG-idxWYJMFGW_IQfxkD4hBw8W0Q6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKk0PpduXvnt8gXUeZiQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen.

SACRAMENT

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 our thanks and praise.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
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.

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 sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. . . Faithful God,
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.
Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Sending Song: "I Could Sing of Your Love Forever"

Over the mountains and the sea
Your river runs with love for me
And I will open up my heart
And let the Healer set me free

I'm happy to be in the truth
And I will daily lift my hands
For I will always sing
Of when Your love came down

I could sing of Your love forever
I could sing of Your love forever
I could sing of Your love forever
I could sing of Your love forever
(Sing whole song 2x)

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To *gather* as God's people and nurture one another
- + To *know* the Word of God
- + To *grow* in faith, love, and service
- + To *go* into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen
Music/Choir Director: Michael Dettra
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant: George Henry

GUEST REGISTER

If you are visiting with us today, please sign our Guest Book in the narthex.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God.

NUEVA CREACIÓN MISSION SUPPORT

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in Philadelphia who does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign up sheet is found on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

8:00 a.m. 14 9:30 a.m. 27 Sunday School 5 **Total 46**

CHURCH COUNCIL OPEN POSITIONS

Advent's Church Council currently has three open positions. These are all positions where the chairperson works with the assistance of the Church Council.

1. The **Evangelism Chairperson** identifies prospective members and encourages them to unite with the congregation and will also reach out to current members. The chairperson also tries to find ways to have Advent connect to the local community and other churches.
2. **Youth Coordinator** identifies and coordinates group activities for our youth. The committee assists in developing and maintaining programs that promote the special needs of personal growth and spiritual development for youth.
3. The **Congregation Life Chairperson** helps plan and implement fellowship/community activities, including special events and fellowship time/refreshments after church services.

We ask that you prayerfully consider volunteering to fill one of these positions. Please contact Church Council President, George Henry, or Pastor Matt if you are interested or have any questions.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

On **February 26** we will have **one service at 9:00 am** the Annual Congregational Meeting will follow the service. Please plan to attend so that we make quorum and be able to conduct the business of the Church. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person please plan to attend via zoom.

Meeting ID: 884 7671 6384 Pass code: 083867

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88476716384?pwd=ZkZ5SzY0RkZlN3ppY205Y29qZEQrdz09>

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2023

The Offering Envelopes for 2023 are on the table in the narthex for pickup. If you did not receive envelopes, please contact the church office or Cindy Frey at 267-205-0713. Offering statements for 2022 are also on the table.



CHOIR AND PRAISE BAND PRACTICE RESUME

Practice of the Choir and Praise Band will take place **Wednesday nights, 6:30 Praise Band, 7:15 Choir.** All are welcome and encouraged to join, no prior experience is necessary. Please see Mike Dettra, Music and Choir director or Pastor Matt for more details.



PING PONG TUESDAY NIGHTS

We are playing Ping Pong weekly on Tuesday nights, starting at **6:30 pm** and ending around 8 pm.

All are invited. No equipment is required. Please contact Ray Heiss if you plan to give it a try (rayheiss1@gmail.com).

STITCH CLUB ITEMS AVAILABLE

If you would need anything throughout the year from the Stitch Club for babies or the elderly i.e. blankets, etc., please contact Hanna McCollum at 215-962-9032 or Jeff Jobes at 215-355-4149. They can have them available on Saturdays or Sundays. **Stitch club meets Saturday morning, all are welcome to join.**

ALTAR FLOWERS AND MISSION SUPPORT SIGNUPS

The Altar Flower and Mission Support Charts for 2023 are on the table in the narthex. One bouquet of flowers is \$25 and one week of mission support is \$25. Please sign up early and often!

DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION

If you have food for the Warminster Food Pantry that you or your friends would like to donate, and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. For suggestions on which items are requested each week, go to: www.warminsterfoodbank.org.

FELLOWSHIP TIME

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the late service. The 2023 sign-up sheet thru June is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e. coffee & tea) and all paper products.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY - JANUARY 29

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
- Sunday School age 4 - grade 6
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Cindy Frey
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

- 7:30 p.m. A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

- 6:30 p.m. Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice
- 7:15 p.m. Choir Practice

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

7:30 p.m. A.A. Step Meeting

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

10:00 a.m. Stitch Club

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY - FEBRUARY 5

8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: George Henry

10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study