



**MORRISON  
ZION  
LUTHERAN**  
Wisconsin Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to  
**Glorify God**  
as we  
**Gather**  
around the Gospel  
to help people  
**Grow**  
in the Gospel  
and  
**Go**  
with the Gospel

**Welcome!** We thank  
God that you have  
joined us at worship  
today.

Restrooms are  
located in the  
basement. Hearing  
loop headphones and  
Large Print Hymnals  
are available from an  
usher.

If your children need  
to leave worship,  
please take them to  
the basement. A TV  
broadcasts the service  
in the basement.

Today we gather  
together in the  
presence of God. He is  
present among us in a  
special way through  
his Word and  
Sacrament. We  
acknowledge our sin  
and rejoice in the good  
news of forgiveness  
through the life and  
death of Christ. This is  
the focus of our  
worship.

January 23 & 26, 2025  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany



## Rejection is Not Proof of Failure

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When you are trying to share some important information with someone, but they refuse to listen or perhaps totally reject what you are saying, it feels like you have failed. This is especially true when someone rejects the gospel! We proclaim the good news because we want others to know the love of Christ. When people are disinterested in God's Word, we feel like we've failed.

So, here is this week's epiphany. Rejection is not proof of failure. Precisely because the gospel is divine revelation, it is guaranteed to be rejected by many. God's Word offends like an unwelcome diagnosis from the doctor. When someone rejects God's Word (including us), that rejection is proof that God's Word powerfully cuts straight to the heart of mankind's biggest problem—sin. Yet, what causes Jesus' words to hurt is what gives them power to heal. That reality encourages us to receive God's Word with joy and to proclaim it boldly to others.

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*Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.*

Opening Hymn

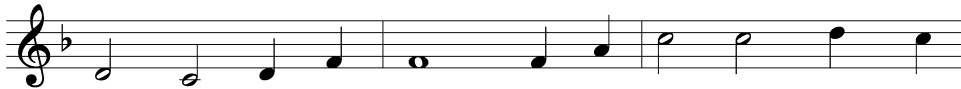
*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* CWS 517:1-2



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness with a lib - er -  
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren with a strong, yet



at - ing light; praise the one who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing  
gen - tle, word; praise the one who drove out de - mons with the



blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the one who preached the  
pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool



gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, calm - ing  
wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand; from this



storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the Fa - ther's word of peace.  
well comes liv - ing wa - ter, quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.

*Stand*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

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CONFESSION OF SINS

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M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

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## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Hymn

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* CWS 517:3

3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered  
in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious that we  
may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and  
glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done; let us  
praise the true Re - deem - er, praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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Tune: Public domain

*Be Seated*

Sunday 10:30 am service continues with the Rite of Holy Baptism. Thursday and Sunday 8:00 am services continue on page 5.

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## THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM (Pg. 262)

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M: Christ's almighty Word gives Baptism its power to save. Jesus promises in the last chapter of Mark, "*Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.*" The apostle Peter declares in 1 Peter 3, "*Baptism now saves you.*" Scripture also teaches that the power and promise of Baptism are intended for young and old alike. On the day of Pentecost, the apostle testified, "*The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.*" By water and the Spirit, we are born again and are united with Christ and his people as members of the Church.

In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought *Greyson* to be baptized. In Mark 10, it is written: *Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

We see the Holy Trinity at work in baptism. Paul writes in Galatians 3, *for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.* For it is in baptism that a child receives the benefits of the death and resurrection of Christ. It is through baptism that a child receives the gift of the Holy Spirit which, plants the seed of the faith. It is in baptism that God the Father adopts us as his children.

Holding firmly to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on *Greyson*. Through this water of Baptism, cleanse *him* from all sin and deliver *him* from death and the devil. Set *him* apart from the unbelieving world and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep *him* in the true Christian faith all the days of *his* life. Guide, strengthen, and protect *him* so that *he* may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Greyson Donald Wagner*, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and the heart ✠ to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

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## EXHORTATION

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### *Stand*

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that *Greyson* may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

**C: Yes, as God gives me strength.**

M: Let us pray: We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received *Greyson* as your own child and made him a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to him and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### *Be Seated*

*Thursday and Sunday 8:00 am services continue here.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Grades 1-2** (*Sunday 8:00 am*)

God has given us His Word, it's written here!  
God has given us His Word, it's written here!  
God has given us His Word, it's written here!  
God has given us His Word, it's clear.

God has given us His Word, it's really true!  
God has given us His Word, it's really true!  
God has given us His Word, it's really true!  
God has given us His Word, it's true.

### **God Has Given Us His Word**

God has given us His Word, He's Jesus Christ!  
God has given us His Word, He's Jesus Christ!  
God has given us His Word, He's Jesus Christ!  
God has given us His Word to share.

By Karen Marie  
1995 Concordia Publishing House

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## THE WORD

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### First Lesson

### Isaiah 61:1-6

Israel had rejected the Lord. So God allowed them to be conquered and carried off as captives. Yet, he also promised to forgive their rejection and grant them freedom.

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives  
and release from darkness for the prisoners,  
<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor  
and the day of vengeance of our God,  
to comfort all who mourn,  
<sup>3</sup>and provide for those who grieve in Zion—  
to bestow on them a crown of beauty  
instead of ashes,  
the oil of joy  
instead of mourning,  
and a garment of praise  
instead of a spirit of despair.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
a planting of the LORD  
for the display of his splendor.  
<sup>4</sup>They will rebuild the ancient ruins  
and restore the places long devastated;  
they will renew the ruined cities  
that have been devastated for generations.  
<sup>5</sup>Strangers will shepherd your flocks;  
foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.  
<sup>6</sup>And you will be called priests of the LORD,  
you will be named ministers of our God.  
You will feed on the wealth of nations,  
and in their riches you will boast. (NIV)

# Psalm of the Day

# *I Will Praise the Lord All My Life* Psalm 146a

## Refrain

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.

## Tone

I will praise the LORD / all my life;  
I will sing praise to my God as long / as I live.  
Do not put your trust in / princes,  
in human beings, who / cannot save.  
Blessed are those whose help is the God of / Jacob,  
whose hope is in the / LORD their God. *Refrain*

He upholds the cause of / the oppressed  
and gives food to the / hungry.  
The LORD sets / pris'ners free,  
the LORD gives sight / to the blind.  
The LORD reigns for- / ever,  
your God, O Zion, for all generations. / Praise the LORD.  
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Henry V. Gerike  
Setting: Henry V. Gerike  
Music: © 2002 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: License no. 130522915

## Second Lesson

**Acts 4:23–31**

Just as the Jewish religious leaders had rejected Jesus, they rejected the work and words of the apostles. So the apostles prayed for boldness to proclaim the gospel in the face of that opposition.

<sup>23</sup>On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup>When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. <sup>25</sup>You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

“ ‘Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?

<sup>26</sup>The kings of the earth rise up  
and the rulers band together  
against the Lord  
and against his anointed one.’

<sup>27</sup>Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. <sup>28</sup>They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. <sup>29</sup>Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. <sup>30</sup>Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

<sup>31</sup>After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. (NIV)

## Verse of the Day

**M:** Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is on me; he has anointed me to preach good news.  
Alleluia. (Luke 4:18 NIV)

*Stand*

## Gospel

**Luke 4:16-30**

In one of Jesus' first sermons, delivered in his hometown, people took offense at his words and ultimately rejected him.

<sup>16</sup>He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:



<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup>Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. <sup>21</sup>He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

<sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

<sup>24</sup>“Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. <sup>25</sup>I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. <sup>26</sup>Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. <sup>27</sup>And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

<sup>28</sup>All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. <sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

### **Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be Seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus* CW 721



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bere'd with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need-less pain we bear,  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–1886, alt.

Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

**Luke 4:16-30**

*Stand*

## Create in Me

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

*Be Seated*

## Offering

*Stand*

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

## Prayer of the Church

### 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.**

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## THE SACRAMENT

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M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

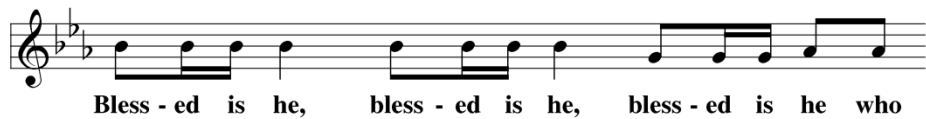
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is good and right so to do.**

### Proper Preface

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### Holy, Holy, Holy



### Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen

### O Christ, Lamb of God



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be Seated*

### Distribution

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.

# Distribution Hymn

*Good News of God Above* CW 905



1 Good news of God a - bove is ours to tell a -  
 2 The love of Christ pro - claim, who left his home on  
 3 The Lord of glo - ry lives! From cross and death and  
 4 Hear now the Mas - ter's word to those who bear his



broad, the Fa - ther's ev - er - last - ing love in  
 high; to live our hu - man life he came, our  
 grave his own a - bun - dant life he gives to  
 name: "So send I you," till all have heard, "make



Christ the ris - en Lord. For neigh - bors near and  
 hu - man death to die. The Fa - ther's on - ly  
 those he died to save. His right - eous - ness and  
 known, de - clare, pro - claim!" Go forth in all the



far the seed of life is sown; then spread the  
 Son be - came the sin - ners' friend, our lot to  
 peace de - clare from sea to sea; his prais - es  
 earth; em - brace the path he trod with Christ be -



seed by word and deed to make the Sav - ior known.  
 share, our sin to bear, and death's do - min - ion end.  
 sound the world a - round for Christ has made us free.  
 side as friend and guide to bring good news of God.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer, b. 1949

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## THANKSGIVING

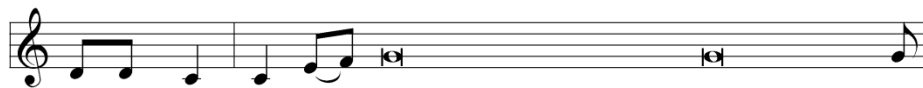
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*Stand*

### Song of Simeon



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing



to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-



pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the



Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra-el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C: And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Benediction

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*Be Seated*

Hymn

May the Peace of God CW 929



1 May the peace of God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther,  
2 May this peace which pass - es un - der - stand - ing,



and the grace of Christ the ris - en Son,  
and this grace which makes us what we are,



and the fel - low - ship of God the Spir - it  
and this fel - low - ship of his com - mun - ion



keep our hearts and minds with - in his love.  
make us one in spir - it and in heart.

*Refrain*



And to him be praise for his glo - rious reign



from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.



We de - clare the name of the Lamb once slain—



Christ e - ter - nal, the King of kings.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974  
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