

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

John 1:29b

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Second Sunday after Epiphany – January 19, 2014

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Rev. Mark Bringman, Pastor

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*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday after Epiphany – January 19, 2014

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

PRELUDE – ‘Folktune’ – Charles Callahan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Confession (sometimes called absolution) has been a part of the Christian worship service from the beginning. In the Augsburg Confession it says this: “Our people are taught that they should highly prize the absolution, as being the voice of God, and pronounced by God’s command. The power of the Keys [Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven] is set forth in its beauty.”

The Confession goes on to emphasize that we do not need to list our specific sins – since God already knows them. Moreover as we have no mediator between us and God, we do not need a priest or anyone else to offer us forgiveness. Titus says this about Jesus: “He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all sin and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.” (Titus 2:14)

The order of confession and forgiveness declares God’s forgiveness to us. It is a reminder that we come to worship the one who makes us right and holy. It is a great way to start our week and our worship.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Holy and faithful God,

we so often choose our own way instead of yours. We think we can evade your commandments. We have spoken in ways that kill, strayed with our hearts, betrayed friends, and hated enemies. We have broken our promises. Search us deeply and create us anew. Lift the heavy burden of our sin and free us to follow your way of life. Amen.

"Call upon me," says the Lord, "and I will answer." Our God has come among us to loose every bond and set us free from all that weighs us down. Receive the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of + Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG #311: Hail to the Lord’s Anointed**

***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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*This comes from the gathering of the people together (the term in the Latin was *collecta*) was a prayer used at the beginning of the service before the procession in to worship. The prayer of the day typically has five parts: 1) the addressee, 2) a celebration of a divine attribute, 3) a petition or request, 4) an explanation of the reason for the petition and finishing with 5) a reminder that we ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

In short the prayer of the day is a description of the Christian life together.

Let us pray. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant Israel speaks for herself and acknowledges herself as God's secret weapon. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel itself. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task

Listen to me, O coastlands,

pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,
and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength —

⁶he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40

I waited patiently on God,
He stooped and heard my plea;
And from the pit, the mire and clay,
My Savior lifted me.

High on a cliff he set my feet,
Made safe my traveling;
And placed a new song in my mouth,
A song of praise to sing.

Many shall see and stand in awe,
And trust the Lord for aid;
Happy are they who trust in Him,
Not gods their hands have made.

Great things, indeed, O Lord my God,
Are they that you have done;
How great your wonders and your plans;
Who is like you? Not one.

If only I could tell your deeds,
But who can know them all?
You ask no sacrifice or gift,
But ears to hear your call.

Burnt-offering you have not required
And therefore, for my part,
I said, "I come to do your will;
Your word is in my heart."

From: *A New Metrical Psalter*

Tune: Richmond

SECOND READING: Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL READING: John 1:29-42**

The gospel according to John.

Glory to you O Lord.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON**

***HYMN OF THE DAY #507: O God of Light**

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 INTERCESSION**

Guided by the light of Christ, who has been made known to the nations, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the church throughout the world, that it proclaim salvation through Christ to the ends of the earth, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all coastlands and waters, for the well-being of creation, and for our proper stewardship of those gifts of God, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the leaders of the world at all levels, for those who bring about peace in war-torn areas, and for all people of faith everywhere, that compassion and love thrive, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those who are suffering in mind, body, or spirit, especially Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen, and for those who care for the suffering, that God's steadfast love and faithfulness through Christ bring about healing and wholeness, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the fellowship gathered in this place, for the spiritual gifts of each of our members, for those celebrating significant events in their lives, that the Holy Spirit guide us in our work and our journeys, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for the saints who have died in Christ especially Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, that the witness of their faithfulness inspire us in our Christian lives, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Radiant God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who has made his dwelling among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY – *Meditation on 'Repton'* – Callahan
(*'He Comes to Us as One Unknown'*)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

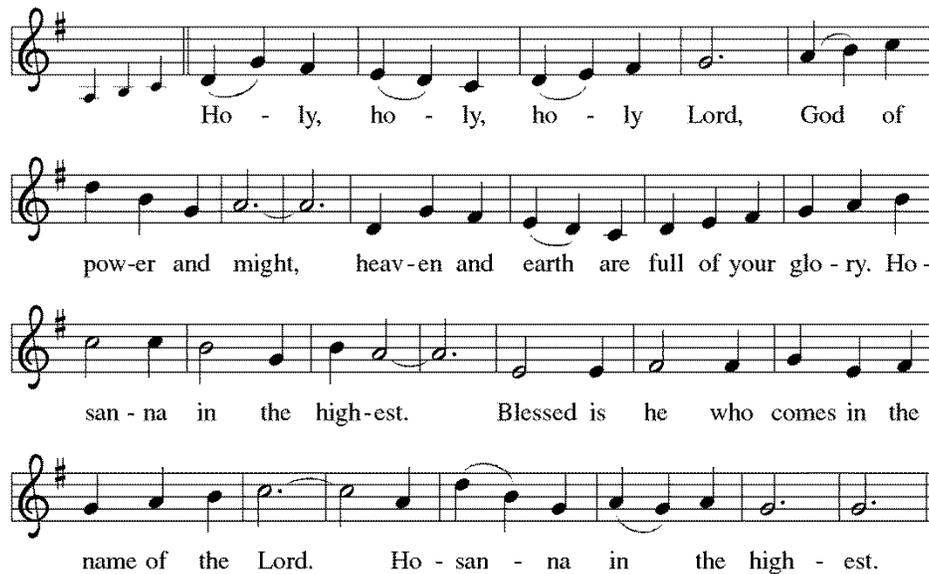
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was handed over, 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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light. By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both 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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Blessed are all who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

COMMUNION

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The inner ring of individual cups has grape juice.

AGNUS DEI: Lamb of God

This song title literally means Lamb of God, a title for Jesus that comes from today's gospel reading and from the book of Revelation. In Judaism, the Passover lamb is a symbol of the greatest act of salvation God gave his people and is a part of the Passover meal – the holiest service in the Jewish year. In Passover (c.f. Exodus 12) the blood of the lamb saves the people from the Destroyer.

In Christianity, we know that Jesus is God's lamb sent to save the entire world, not just from Pharaoh but from the powers of sin and death. As we gather around the table for our holy meal, we are gather to eat the flesh and drink the blood of the lamb, who takes away our sin, who gives us mercy and who grants us peace.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN #661: I Love to Tell the Story

*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.
Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Lord, it is good for us to be here, for we have tasted your glory in this holy meal. Continue your goodness as we go out from here. Open our eyes to see your face shining in every person, and send us to be your servants in every place, for you are the life and light of all, both now and forever. **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

May the God of glory dwell in your richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of the almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #574: *Here I Am, Lord

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is your light.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *‘Herr Christ, der ein ‘ge Gottes Sohn* – J.S. Bach
(‘O Thou, of God the Father’)

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Dave Knauff

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte:

Usher:

Attendance Last Week: 74

Weekly Budgeted Need: \$ 2,640.27

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$ 7,920.81

YTD Actual Expense: \$ 466.00

10:30 am

Assisting Minister: Sally Foster

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte:

Lector: Cardinal

Usher:

Attendance last year: 72

Last Week’s Giving: \$ 1,462.00

Year to Date Receipts: \$ 4,748.00

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