

*to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God*

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany – January 29, 2023
9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call to Worship

A: O God, may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

**C: may those who love your salvation say continually:
'Great is the Lord!'**

A: As for me, I am poor and needy, yet the Lord thinks of me.

**C: O God, you are my help and my deliverer;
do not delay, O my God. Amen.**

Gathering Hymn – Dearest Jesus – ELW #520
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fyDEHxm_Fi0

Invocation

L: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence for reflection.

L: Holy One, source of our renewal,

**All: 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.**

L: 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 Jesus, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Greeting

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise – Rise Up, O Saints of God – ELW #669

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQil4RTBxeU>

Prayer of the Day

A: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart.

C: 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.

The Word

First Reading – Micah 6:1-8

Hear 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?

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

¹O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

²**Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;**

³who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

⁴**in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

⁵**who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

Second Reading: - 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ

Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message – Tim Leitner, SAM

https://youtu.be/4_WvNBUg9Sw

Hymn of the Day – O Master, Let Me Walk With You - ELW #818

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KG6GPf1KWR8>

The 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

L: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world,
and all in need.

Silence for reflection

A: Holy God, cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every
size, teach us to boast only of the cross. Shape your church to be
people of kindness, generosity and justice. Merciful God,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Creating God, the foundations of the earth bear witness to your
faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo your holiness. When we
mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with
reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,

C: hear our prayer.

A: O God, our Shepherd, raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love, mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Healing God, bless all who the world rejects. Accompany those who are outcasts, oppressed, those suffering from illness, addiction, and abuse. Bring comfort and healing to those we name out loud and those we name in our hearts. Merciful God,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, praise to you for all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. Merciful God,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We offer these spoken prayers and those held in our hearts, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Offertory Prayer

A: Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.

C: Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

A: We magnify and adore You, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Offertory Hymn - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful– ELW #182

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gej7OvEtsA>

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth, as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom,
the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

Amen.

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

L: Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Holy One,

C: we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.

Benediction

L: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod + bless, strengthen and uphold you, today and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn – Christ Be Our Light - ELW #715

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xaw7UFnow9Q>

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Follow in the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude