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∞ FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ∞  
ORDER OF WORSHIP • JANUARY 28, 2024 • 9:00 AM  
✝ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

✝ OPENING HYMN

○ GOD OF LIGHT  
LBW #237

✝ INVOCATION & VERSES

*from Isaiah 60*

WL: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

WL: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

All: **The glory of the Lord rises upon you.**

WL: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

All: **Proclaim God's praise among the nations.**

✝ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Let us confess our sins to God. We come in boldness and confidence, not according to our merit, but according to God's grace towards us in Jesus Christ.

All: **God of grace, you have called us to walk your path of love, all the way to the cross. We confess that we don't always trust in the power of love but rely instead on the power of worldly might and violence. You have called us to walk your path of healing. We confess that we don't always believe in the power of healing but instead rely on the power of revenge and retribution. You call us to forgive as you forgive, to share as you freely share, and to trust in you and your authority. We have fallen short. We have strayed from your path. We have failed to trust in you. Forgive us. Forgive us and turn us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. We pray in the name of Christ, our Light. Amen.**

WL: Friends, God is for us and not against us. For that very reason God sent Jesus into the world—not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. Together, let us declare the good news of the Gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. We are set free to live a new life in Him. We can walk as children of light. Thanks be to God!**

## ✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

WL: 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.

**All: Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

## DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20

R: The First lesson for this Fourth Sunday after Epiphany is from the eighteenth chapter of Deuteronomy.

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the Lord our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die."

The Lord said to me: "What they say is good. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE LESSON

## 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

R: The Epistle is from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, the eighth chapter.

Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that "We all possess knowledge." But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God.

So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that "An idol is nothing at all in the world" and that "There is no God but one." For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## ✠ ALLELUIA VERSE

Tune: "God Is So Good"

**All: Alleluia! (repeat)**

*Cantor: Alleluia! To whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia! To whom shall we go?  
You have the words of life.*

**All: Alleluia! (repeat)**

## ✠ HOLY GOSPEL

MARK 1:21-28

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

All: **Glory to your, O Lord!**

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

## PRESCHOOL MINISTRY MINUTE AND CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### TODAY'S MESSAGE

#### ✠ MESSAGE HYMN

JESUS SHALL REIGN  
LBW #530

#### ✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

WL: Let us boldly confess our faith, with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

## GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*Giving Envelopes are available in the back of each pew*

*Give online at [www.poporlando.com/give](http://www.poporlando.com/give)*

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## PARISH CHOIR ANTHEM

## CHRIST IS WITH ME

*We were buried with him into death,  
That as he was raised by God's glory  
We might walk in life made new by grace  
Having died with Christ, we shall live with him*

*Christ is with me everywhere I go,  
Never to leave me, this I know.*

*I have now been grafted to the vine,  
Drawing life from roots rich in mercy,  
Bearing fruit as I abide in him:  
Fruit forever fresh, glorifying God.*

*Christ is with me everywhere I go,  
Never to leave me, this I know.*

*I have now been crucified with Christ,  
I no longer live, Christ lives in me.  
Now I live by Faith God's own Son,  
One who loved me so – gave himself for me.*

*Now I live by Faith God's own Son,  
One who loved me so – gave himself for me*

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### ✠ PREFACE

**WL:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

**WL:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**WL:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## ✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### ✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: As Jesus taught His disciples to pray, so we pray together:

All: **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.**

### ✠ PAX DOMINI

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

All: **Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### COMMUNION SONG

### THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD

#### *REFRAIN*

**There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin-sick soul.**

- 1 Sometimes I feel discouraged  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. *REFRAIN***
- 2 If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus  
and say, "He died for all." *REFRAIN***
- 3 Don't ever be discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend;  
and if you lack for knowledge  
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *REFRAIN***

## ✠ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

All: **Amen.**

## ✠ CLOSING PRAYER

WL: God of blazing light, all authority on heaven and on earth is yours. Send us out into the world to walk in your way. Give us courage and conviction, that we may joyfully follow you into new adventures of faithful service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: **Amen.**

## ✠ BLESSING

WL: May the love of God uphold you; the light of ✠ Christ guide you; and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit fill you with joy, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

## ✠ SENDING HYMN

OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES  
TO SING  
LBW #559

## ✠ SENDING

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

# TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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Liturgy from Lutheran Service Book.

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### CHRIST IS WITH ME

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