

Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany

January 28th 2024 9:30am



Share

Read

Talk

Pray

Bless

Preparation For Worship: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. *Psalms 111:1*

Opening Song

Worthy Of It All

All the saints and angels
They bow before Your throne
All the elders cast their crowns
Before the Lamb of God and sing

You are worthy of it all
You are worthy of it all
For from You are all things
And to You are all things
You deserve the glory

Interlude

All the saints and angels
They bow before Your throne
All the elders cast their crowns
Before the Lamb of God and sing

You are worthy of it all
You are worthy of it all
For from You are all things
And to You are all things
You deserve the glory

You are worthy of it all
You are worthy of it all
For from You are all things
And to You are all things
You deserve the glory

Instrumental

Day and night night and day let incense arise
Day and night night and day let incense arise
Day and night night and day let incense arise
Day and night night and day let incense arise

Day and night night and day let incense arise
Day and night night and day let incense arise
Day and night night and day let incense arise
Day and night night and day let incense arise

Interlude

**You are worthy of it all
You are worthy of it all
For from You are all things
And to You are all things
You deserve the glory**

**You are worthy of it all
You are worthy of it all
For from You are all things
And to You are all things
You deserve the glory**

Ministry Spotlight *Share*

Invocation

Pastor: We gather today in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: God the Father loved us so much that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever would believe in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

People: **The promised Messiah came! We celebrate the Epiphany of His coming. Emmanuel is God with us, and Christ will come again! He is the Prince of Peace, and Lord of all! God is good!**

Pastor: All the time!

People: **All the time!**

Pastor: God is good!

People: **Let us come to Him then with an honest heart to worship Him in spirit and truth.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: We confess our need of forgiveness, and that God's forgiveness is the gift that leads to newness of life. Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, born in a manger, died on a cross, and risen from the grave: All to redeem us from sin, death, the devil, and our sinful self. As Paul wrote in Romans 3 "This was to show God's righteousness, because in God's divine forbearance God had passed over former sins; it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and that God justifies the one who has faith in Jesus." Acknowledging the promise and call of God to confess, repent and receive forgiveness, we join in the Apostle John's words:

People: **If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned we make God a liar, and His Word is not in us.**

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Forgive me of my sins, I pray. (*Reflection for confession*)

Pastor: Jesus laid down His life for our sins to be forgiven. He cleanses us, and calls us clean as we believe and receive His reconciliation. As you have confessed and believed, as a called servant of Jesus our Christ, and according to His Word, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Daily Text

All the nations You have made shall come and bow down before You, O Lord,
and shall glorify Your Name. *Psalm 86:9*

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is
among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be His peoples, and God
Himself will be with them." *Revelation 21:3*

Let us pray:

People: Holy One among us, I am overflowing with wonder and gratitude that You, Most Holy, dwell with me, and with all people. I am abundantly blessed to be counted as one of Your beloved. I am so grateful that I am not alone. Thank You for Your continuous love for me. To You be all honor and glory. Amen.

Scripture Lessons *Read*

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

¹⁵ "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶ just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' ¹⁷ And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. ²⁰ But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or ^[a] who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'

The Psalm

Psalm 111

¹ Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. ² Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. ³ Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. ⁴ He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful. ⁵ He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations. ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy; ⁸ they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. ⁹ He sent

redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name! ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

¹ Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ² If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³ But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. ⁴ Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵ For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— ⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. ⁷ However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸ Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹ And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹² Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

Reader: Please rise for the reading of the Gospel. God has given us Good News.

People: **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. You have the words of eternal life.**

Psalm 119:105, John 6:68

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:21-28

²¹ And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²² And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³ And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴ “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷ And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸ And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

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

People: 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit, He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son, He is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Sermon Song

Battle Belongs

When all I see is the battle
You see my victory
When all I see is a mountain
You see a mountain moved
And as I walk through the shadow
Your love surrounds me
There's nothing to fear now
For I am safe with You

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You

And if You are for me
Who can be against me
For Jesus there's nothing
Impossible for You
When all I see are the ashes
You see the beauty
When all I see is a cross
God You see the empty tomb

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You

(An) Almighty Fortress You go before us
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God
You shine in the shadows
You win every battle
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God

(An) Almighty Fortress You go before us
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God
You shine in the shadows
You win every battle
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(An) Almighty Fortress You go before us
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God
You shine in the shadows
You win every battle
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You
O God the battle belongs to You

Sermon/Watchword *Talk --- New, Knew, Next*

Pr Knoll

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding

Offering Song

Agnus Dei

Alleluia alleluia - for the Lord God Almighty reigns
Alleluia alleluia - for the Lord God Almighty reigns
Alleluia

continued on next page

(You are) Holy holy
Are You Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb
You are holy holy
Are You Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb

(You are) Holy holy
Are You Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb
You are holy holy
Are You Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb
Amen

Prayers of the Church *Pray*

The congregation is invited to join in prayers that include whole Church, the nation, those in need, the parish, additional petitions and special concerns.

Pastor: Let's join together to pray with Jesus for all that He loves right here, and to the ends of the earth. Father, our Father in heaven, You are the present active, Creator, and Redeemer of our heart, soul, mind and body.

People: **Thank You Lord, that in You we are made a part of Your great salvation of all that You have created. You have made us Your redeemed children. We join today with all those throughout the world who follow You, and pray that Your kingdom would come, and Your will would be done among us as it is in heaven.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with these words...

Pastor: You are our God, and we are Your people... Thank You that You hear our prayers, and work in all things for the good of those who love You. To You be all glory, honor, and praise.

People: **Amen.**

Preface, Proper Preface and Sanctus

Pastor: The Lord be with You.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**People^(sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Words Of Institution

Pastor: 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 in 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 in remembrance of Me."

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remembering Your love and Your life we pray as You taught us to pray:
People: 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 Of Holy Communion

All who sincerely believe in the real presence of Christ in the Holy Communion – that the cup of blessing is the Communion of the blood of Christ and the bread is the Communion of the body of Christ, and sincerely believing that in receiving Him we have the forgiveness of our sins, salvation, and strength for the Christian life, come – partake of the Lord's Supper.

Communion Song

Holy Forever

**A thousand generations
Falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb**

**Your Name is the highest
Your Name is the greatest
Your Name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your Name stands above them all**

**And the angels cry - Holy
All creation cries - Holy
You are lifted high - Holy
Holy forever**

**If you've been forgiven
And if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom
If you bear His Name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen**

**And the angels cry - Holy
All creation cries - Holy
You are lifted high - Holy
Holy forever**

**Hear your people sing – Holy
To the King of kings - Holy
You will always be - Holy
Holy forever**

**Your Name is the highest
Your Name is the greatest
Your Name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your Name stands above them all**

**Jesus, Your Name is the highest
Your Name is the greatest
Your Name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your Name stands above them all**

**And the angels cry - Holy
All creation cries - Holy
You are lifted high - Holy
Holy forever**

**Hear your people sing – Holy
To the King of kings - Holy
You will always be - Holy
Holy forever
You will always be - Holy
Holy forever**

Nunc Dimittis

Pastor: Now Lord, let your servants depart in peace, according to your Word. For our eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and will be, world without end. Amen.

Benediction *Bless*

Pastor: Now, may the Lord bless you and keep you.
May He make His face shine on you, and be gracious unto you.
May the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you His peace.

People:^(Sung) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Blessing: Child of God, there is no power greater than God; and know that God's perfect love casts out all fear.

Pastor: Our worship continues,

People: **our service begins!**

Closing Song

I Raise A Hallelujah

**I raise a hallelujah
In the presence of my enemies
I raise a hallelujah
Louder than the unbelief
I raise a hallelujah
My weapon is a melody
I raise a hallelujah
Heaven comes to fight for me**

**I'm gonna sing
In the middle of the storm
Louder and louder
Your gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes
Hope will arise
Death is defeated
The King is alive**

**I raise a hallelujah
With everything inside of me
I raise a hallelujah
I will watch the darkness flee
I raise a hallelujah
In the middle of the mystery
I raise a hallelujah
Fear you lost your hold on me**

**I'm gonna sing
In the middle of the storm
Louder and louder
Your gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes
Hope will arise
Death is defeated
The King is alive**

**Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)**

**Sing a little louder
In the presence of my enemies
Sing a little louder
Louder than the unbelief
Sing a little louder
My weapon is a melody
Sing a little louder
Heaven comes to fight for me
Sing a little louder**

**I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated, the King is alive**

**I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated, the King is alive**

I raise a hallelujah

SHARING OF PEACE AS WE GO IN GOD'S PEACE

Welcome To Worship At Zion. We are pleased to have you join us. *If you are a visitor* please check the shelf outside the office for our newsletter and brochure.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for all the children, grands, and great-grands represented by our congregation. "Tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever!" *Psalm 48:14*

The 2024 Altar Flower Chart is up in the hallway. You may sign up for one or two vases. The cost per vase is \$22.50 per vase or \$45.00 for both vases. Please indicate whether it is in honor or memory of an individual or special event.

The Mission of the Month for January is the Mitten Tree. Use the Mission of the Month envelopes to support this ministry and read the article in the Zion newsletter for more about the funds that are used to support local children.

The January Newsletter is available on the tables across from the Chapel and Lounge, on the shelf outside the church office and also on the desk in the library. *Please remember: We no longer have a way to find out if you have moved. Call the church office with new addresses and/or phone numbers.*

Bible Studies/Small Groups

Wednesday **6:00pm** G.I.F.T.
Thursday **6:00pm** Knowing and Experiencing God Bible Study

Worship at Zion

Wednesday **7:00pm** Worship and Praise
Saturday **5:00pm** Chapel
Sunday **8:00am** Worship
 9:30am G.I.F.T. Worship
 11:30am Swahili-English Worship

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