Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29th, 2023





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January 29th, 2023

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Today we welcome back Pastor Rachel Thorson Mithelman as our presiding minister.

Pastor Rachel will also be with us the next two Sundays (Feb. 5th and 12th).

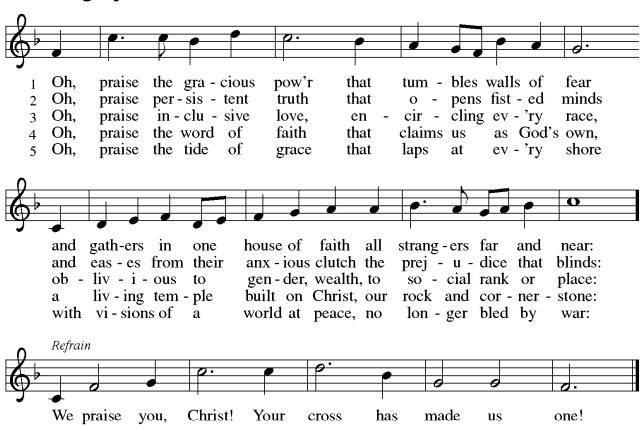
Lutheran Lakeside Executive Director Brittney Swanson will be with us Feb. 19th.

Pastor Marcia Kisner is providing visitation and pastoral care during this time.

Prelude: "Dearest Jesus, We Are Here" - Cherwien, Burkhardt, Manz Lois Theesfield, organ

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "Oh, Praise the Gracious Power" ELW #651



- 6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth, the love, the word, the tide.
 Yet more than these, oh, praise their source, praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*
- 7 Oh, praise the living Christ with faith's bright songful voice!
 Announce the gospel to the world and with these words rejoice: Refrain

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936

Text and music from New Hymns for the Lectionary, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.

We have not practiced your righteousness.

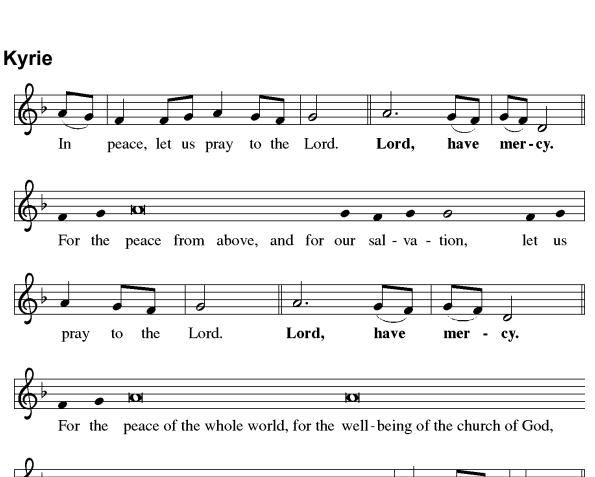
Our hearts have turned away from you.

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.

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 our Savior.

Amen.





pray





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





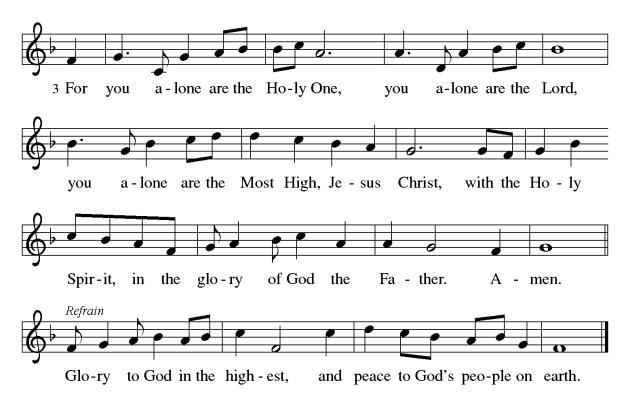
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend gra - cious Lord. us,



3

Glory to God





Prayer of the Day

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

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Lector: Kenzie Alderson

Hear what the Lord says:
 Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.
 Hear, 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?

Will 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?"

He 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

All sing verses and Refrain

Refrain



Psalm Tone



¹Lord, who may dwell in your | tabernacle? Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

REFRAIN

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends; they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the Lord.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

REFRAIN

²Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right, who speak the truth | from their heart;

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Lector: Kenzie Alderson

¹⁸The 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,

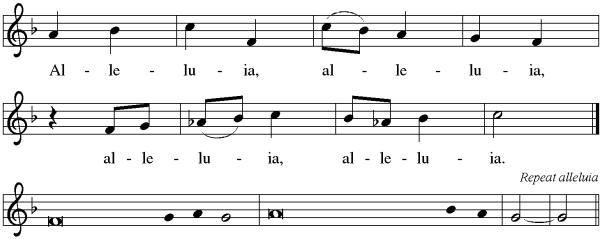
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

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.

Gospel Acclamation



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

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

The Gospel according to Matthew Glory to You, O Lord

³ Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹When 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:

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.

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**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "When the Poor Ones" ELW #725

Verse 1: All

Verse 2: Women; All join on refrain Verse 3: Men; All join on refrain

we see God, here

Verse 4: All



by our side, walk-ing our way.

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.

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 power of 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

Response: P: "Merciful God,

r. Merchar Goa, Creacina are ar

C: receive our prayer"

Sharing of the Peace

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

THE MEAL

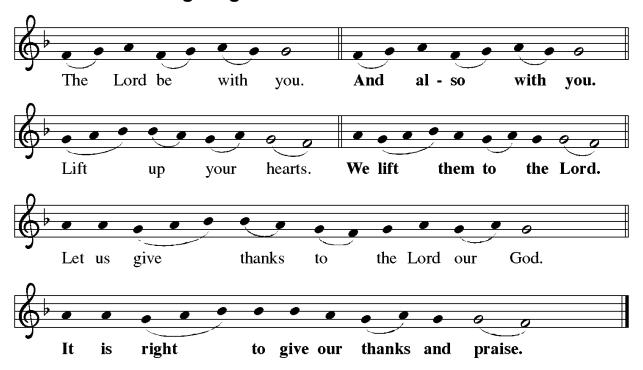
Offering

Music Voluntary: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" - arr. Jane Holstein Memorial Choir

Offering Prayer

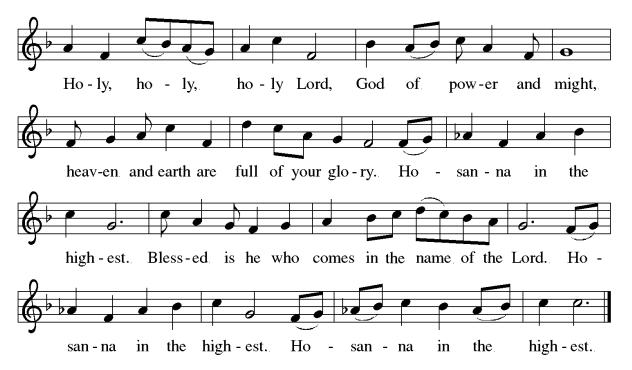
Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



Holy, Holy, Holy

It is indeed right... ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Words of Institution

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

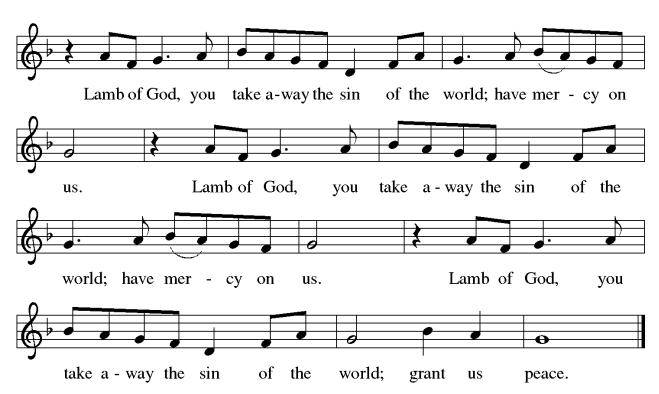
Come and taste the joy of God!

Communion Hymns: "Lamb of God" ELW Setting 2

"In This Feast of Love" ACS #962

"O God of Mercy, God of Light" ELW #714

Lamb of God



In This Feast of Love



Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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O God of Mercy, God of Light



- 5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care, may we each other's burdens share; may we, where help is needed, there give help as though to you.
- 6 And may your Holy Spirit move all those who live to live in love, till you receive in heav'n above all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt. Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayer After Communion

Holy One, 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.**

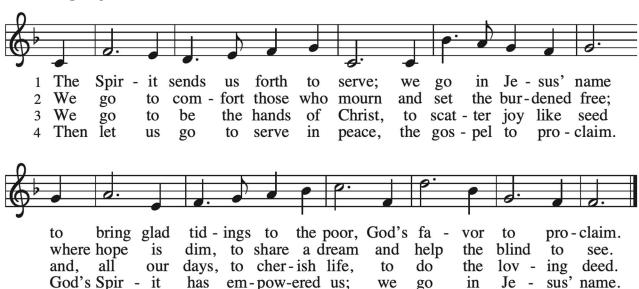
Announcements

Blessing

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

Amen.

Sending Hymn: "The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve" ACS #988



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: SANTA MONICA, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Voluntary XI" - George Frederick Handel

Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Prayers for Betty Runge and family following the death of her husband, Leo Runge
Prayers for Judy and Kip Farthing following the death of their son, Wade Farthing
Prayers for Susan Radke and family following the death of her husband, Jerry Radke

Prayers for Betty Davis, Dan Bappe, and Shari Dobson following the death of their brother Larry Bappe

Prayers for the family of Rev. Don Rothweiler following his death

Prayers for Teresa Krebs and family and friends following the death of Teresa's husband, Kim Krebs

John Bass son-in-law of Ron & Gloria Jacobson

Denise Rehor

Carol Vincent

Cassie Harrell

Jean Smith

Ken Borwick

Maddie Dunham

Judy Johnson

Annette Dalthorp

Ellie Lynch

Ernie Ruhde

Sierra Parr cousin of Kim Stieler

Janet Jacques

Easton Farrington

Janice Hartz

Jim Dalthorp

Connie Krupp

Randy Matthews friend of Mike Coverdale

Jackie Byers

daughter of Shellie Black

Donna See

Katie Brockmeier granddaughter-in-law of Ruth

Brockmeier

Norma Dannan friend of Betty Runge

Michael Neal

Jami Tharp

Fred Samuelson

Larry Christian

Jaylee Bartleson

Sheila Collingwood mother of Lyndsey

De Vos

Judy Coverdale

Family and friends of

+James Stephens

George Forsyth

Janeen Driscoll

Lynn Harris

Julie Sutherland

Jan Cook

Announcements

See page 19 for a full list of "Save the Dates"

Memorial is Going Snow Tubing!

Join us for a fun night of snow tubing at Seven Oaks Recreation in Boone on Friday, February 24th! Please sign up no later than Thursday, February 9th in order to take advantage of our group rate. Sign up via SignUpGenius



What: Snow tubing and fellowship at Seven Oaks Recreation in Boone. Snacks, drinks and tables games will be available in the lodge.

When: Friday, February 24th; Reservation deadline is Thursday, February 9th. Reservations available in 2-hour time slots between 5:00 and 9:00 PM.

Who: Family and friends of Memorial. Must be 4 years or older to snow tube. Any age may spectate; reservations needed for snow tubers only.

Cost: \$5 per person for those who are snow tubing. Please pay the church office or use Tithe.ly/give and select "2023 Snow Tubing".

using the QR code or by calling the church office.

Faith Time Valentine's Day Party

Celebrate Valentine's Day with us during Faith Time on Wednesday, February 8th. We'll have pizza, hot cocoa, games, and other fun activities!

What: Faith Time Valentine's Day Party: pizza, cocoa, and fun!

When: Wednesday, February 8th; Pizza available at 6:00 PM, followed by activities

MLC Camping Committee Looking for Members

Memorial campers / planners: we need you! As we gear up for Memorial's 2nd annual camping outing this Spring, we are forming a "Camping Committee" to plan activities and logistics. Our first meeting will be Monday, February 13th at 7:00 PM in the Lounge.

Meals for the Lotz Family

There are still a couple of slots left to provide meals for the Lotzs during Pr. Kathleen's maternity leave. Sign up online here: https://bit.ly/3vWeGWi or call the church office. Meals may be brought to the Lotz's at 728 9th St., Nevada between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM on the day of your sign-up. Thank you so much!

Now Accepting Lawn Care Proposals

It's hard to imagine, but Spring will be here before we know it and Memorial is now accepting lawn care proposals from companies and individuals. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact the church office.

Donations Needed for HUGS Project at St. Patrick's

St. Patrick's is collecting hats, underwear, gloves, and socks to be donated to Harmony Clothing Closet. If you would like to donate, please bring your items to Memorial by January 31st and we'll make sure they get to St. Patrick's / Harmony. Thank you!

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using http://tithe.ly/give or by scanning the QR code.



Save the Date

Beer & Theology

Join us for fun and fellowship at our monthly outing to Old Chicago!

When: Thursday, February 2nd, 6:30pm

Where: Old Chicago (Ames)

Faith Time Valentine's Day Party

Celebrate Valentine's Day with pizza, hot cocoa, games, and other fun activities!

When: Wednesday, February 8th; Pizza available at 6:00 PM, followed by activities

Snow Tubing with Memorial

Join us for a fun night of snow tubing at Seven Oaks Recreation in Boone

When: Friday, February 24th; Reservation deadline is Thursday, February 9th. Reservations available in 2-hour time slots between 5:00 and 9:00 PM. Use the QR code to sign up or call the church office.



Who: Family and friends of Memorial. Must be 4 years or older to snow tube. Any age may spectate; reservations needed for snow tubers only.

Cost: \$5 per person for those who are snow tubing. Please pay the church office or use Tithe.ly/give and select "2023 Snow Tubing".

Church Potluck

Gather in the Fellowship Hall for a mid-morning potluck—bring your favorite dish to share! Donations will benefit ELCA World Hunger.

When: Sunday, February 26th following worship

Bowling with Memorial

Have time to spare? Come bowling with us!

When: Sunday, March 5th, time TBD

Celebration for Ewan Peter Lotz

We will be celebrating the arrival of Ewan Peter Lotz (born January 5th) in the near future. Please stay tuned as we finalize details!

Memorial Lutheran Church

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@memluthnevada

■ Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement Mike Coverdale, Custodian

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