

Christ the Rock Lutheran Church

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FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 31, 2021

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*

C: **Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

Gracious Father, keep your family, the Church, always faithful to you, that we may lean on the hope of your promises and be strong in the power of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:18-25

18 “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

20 The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen,

21 the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

22 “Yet you have not called on me, Jacob, you have not wearied yourselves for me, Israel.

23 You have not brought me sheep for burnt offerings, nor honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with grain offerings nor wearied you with demands for incense.

24 You have not bought any fragrant calamus for me, or lavished on me the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened me with your sins and wearied me with your offenses.

25 “I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 1:18-22

18 But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not “Yes” and “No.”

19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me and Silas and Timothy—was not “Yes” and “No,” but in him it has always been “Yes.”

20 For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God.

21 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us,

22 set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 6:36

Alleluia. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 2:1-12

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

1 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home.

2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.

3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.

4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.

5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

6 Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,

7 “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

8 Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things?”

9 Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?

10 But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man,

11 “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.”

12 He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

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

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Christ Is the World’s Light”

Christian Worship #343



1 Christ is the world’s light, Christ and none oth - er;
2 Christ is the world’s peace, Christ and none oth - er;
3 Christ is the world’s life, Christ and none oth - er;
4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none oth - er;



Born in our dark - ness, he be - came our broth - er.
No one can serve him and de - spise an - oth - er.
Sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our broth - er.
Give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and Fa - ther;



If we have seen him, we have seen the
Who else u - nites us, one with God the
He who re - deemed us reigns with God the
Give God the glo - ry, God with us, my



Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther? Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
broth - er: Glo - ry to God on high!

SERMON

Mark 2:1-12

MIRACLES TESTIFY THAT JESUS IS GOD

- I. EVIDENCE OF JESUS’ DIVINITY IN HIS HOME IN CAPERNAUM
- II. CONFIRMATION OF JESUS’ POWER TO FORGIVE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Holy Trinity, You are God of gods and Lord of lords. Truly, there is no God but You alone. From You and from Your Son, Jesus Christ, are all things. Reveal the saving knowledge of Christ's truth to us and all the world, that loving You and one another, together we may be known by God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: O Lord, our God, whose voice was heard at Sinai and whose authority was made manifest in Christ, the Prophet greater than Moses. Send faithful preachers into Your harvest who will be diligent to listen to Your Word and speak it faithfully in Your name. We ask that you would guide Pastor Brad Krause as he deliberates the call to become our new pastor and lead him to the decision that is in the best interests of your Kingdom. Preserve us from false prophets who would lead us away from Your truth, and give us ears to hear gladly the saving words of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Heavenly Father, guard our families and homes, and build them up in love. Support parents in their task of instructing their children, strengthen those whose faith is weak, and make us bold to forego convenience and security to attest the truths of our most holy faith with heart and action. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Almighty God, give health and success to our president and governor, our legislators and judges, and all who serve for our governance and protection. Make them high in purpose, wise in counsel and unwavering in duty. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son cast out unclean spirits and taught with authority. He is the Great Physician of body and soul. Have mercy on those who are sick, distressed, in danger or facing any need, especially the family of Delfin Ulibarri. Sustain them with patience, trusting in Your merciful care, and graciously relieve them. At this time of worldwide pandemic we plead with you, Lord, to bring this troublesome time to an end. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: Dear Lord, look with favor on all who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood, that in their eating and drinking they may receive the benefits of forgiveness of sins and renewal of life, and so receive a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

M: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Christian Worship #402



1 My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of
2 May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a -
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold,



Cal - va - ry, Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me
faint - ing heart; My zeal in - spire! As thou hast
round me spread, Be thou my guide. Bid dark - ness
sul - len stream Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior,



while I pray; Take all my guilt a - way;
died for me, Oh, may my love to thee
turn to day, Wipe sor - row's tears a - way,
then, in love, Fear and dis - trust re - move;



Oh, let me from this day Be whol - ly thine!
Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
Nor let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.
Oh, bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!