

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**  
**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, FERNDALE**  
**10:30 AM, JANUARY 28, 2024**

**Prelude**

“Come Into God’s Courts with Praise”

Bell Choir

**Welcome & Announcements**

**The Box**

Juniors Explore leave following  
(children ages 4-5 through middle school)

**Processional Hymn**

“Let My Spirit Always Sing”

(ACS 1020)

1 Let my spir - it al - ways sing, though my heart be  
2 Though my bod - y be con - fined, let your word en -  
3 Let your wis - dom grace my years, choose my words and  
4 Let my spir - it al - ways sing, to your Spir - it  
win - ter - ing, though the sea - son of de - spair  
gaze my mind, let the in - ner eye dis - cern  
chase my fears, give me wit to wel - come change,  
an - swer - ing, through the si - lence, through the pain  
give no sign that you are there, God to whom my  
how much more there is to learn, see a world be -  
to ac - cept, and not es - trange, let my joy be  
know my hope is not in vain, like a feath - er  
days be - long, let there al - ways be a song.  
com - ing whole through the win - dow of the soul.  
full and deep in the knowl - edge that I keep.  
on your breath trust your love, through life and death.

## Opening Litany

Pastor: Blessed be the Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Amen

Assistant: Arise, shine, for your light has come!

**The glory of God has risen upon us.**

Lift up your eyes and look around:

**all gather together to proclaim the praise of God.**

Your sun will never set again.

**The God of hope is our light and our salvation!**

Your moon will wane no more.

**The God of peace is our light and our salvation!**

Your days of sorrow will end.

**The God of love is our light and our salvation!**

Whom shall we fear?

**Whom shall we fear? God is the strength  
of our life; of whom shall we be afraid?**

## Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of God be with you all. **And also with you!**

*At Zion we share the ASL/universal sign for peace, or other non-physical contact to greet one another.*

## Hymn of Praise

“Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!”

(TFF 148)

1 Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! since I laid my  
2 I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter, since I laid my  
3 Feel like shout - ing, “Hal - le - lu - jah!” since I laid my  
4 I am climb - ing Ja - cob’s lad - der, since I laid my  
5 Ev - ’ry round goes higher and high - er, since I laid my

bur - den down. Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le -  
bur - den down. I feel bet - ter, so much  
bur - den down. Feel like shout - ing, “Hal - le -  
bur - den down. I am climb - ing Ja - cob’s  
bur - den down. Ev - ’ry round goes higher and

lu - jah! since I laid my bur - den down.  
bet - ter, since I laid my bur - den down.  
lu - jah!” since I laid my bur - den down.  
lad - der, since I laid my bur - den down.  
high - er, since I laid my bur - den down.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Assistant: 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. Amen.**

## **Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

<sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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.” <sup>17</sup> The Lord said to me: “What they say is good. <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. <sup>20</sup> 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.”

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalms 111**

<sup>1</sup> Praise God.

I will extol God with all my heart  
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

<sup>2</sup> **Great are the works of God;  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup> Glorious and majestic are God’s deeds,  
and God’s righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> **God has caused his wonders to be remembered;  
God is gracious and compassionate.**

<sup>5</sup> God provides food for those who fear God;  
and remembers the covenant forever.

<sup>6</sup> **God has shown the people the power of God’s works,  
giving them the lands of other nations.**

<sup>7</sup> The works of God’s hands are faithful and just;  
all God’s precepts are trustworthy.

<sup>8</sup> **They are established for ever and ever,  
enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.**

<sup>9</sup> God provided redemption for the people;  
God ordained the covenant forever—  
holy and awesome is God’s name.

<sup>10</sup> **The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who follow God’s precepts have good understanding.  
To God belongs eternal praise.**

## **1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. <sup>2</sup> Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. <sup>3</sup> But whoever loves God is known by God. <sup>4</sup> 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.” <sup>5</sup> For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”), <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. <sup>9</sup> Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup> 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? <sup>11</sup> So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. <sup>12</sup> When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> 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.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

(TFF 26)

The musical score is written for two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with the lyrics written below the notes.

## **Mark 1:21-28**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O God.**

<sup>21</sup> They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. <sup>22</sup> The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had

authority, not as the teachers of the law. <sup>23</sup> Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, <sup>24</sup> “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!” <sup>25</sup> “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” <sup>26</sup> The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. <sup>27</sup> 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.” <sup>28</sup> News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

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

### Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

(TFF 26)

### Special Music

“Allelu, Sing Praises”

Chancel Choir

### Sermon

Pastor Matthew Bode

### Hymn

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

ELW (red) 614

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,  
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,  
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

*Refrain*

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.  
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."  
 and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Assistant: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

#### *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

(ELW 751)

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with the lyrics written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes in the bass line.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.  
or The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.  
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

#### *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer, especially those we bring to you now... God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

### ***O Lord, Hear My Prayer***

Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives (especially Thomas Aquinas whom we commemorate today). We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

### ***O Lord, Hear My Prayer***

Pastor: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **Offertory:**

“To God Our Thanks We Give” 2x

ELW 682

Re - a - mo le - bo - ga, re - a - mo le - bo - ga,  
To God our thanks we give, to God our thanks we give,

re - a - mo le - bo - ga mo - di - mo wa ro - na.  
to God our thanks we give, our thanks to God we give.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "To God Our Thanks We Give". It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the next two lines. The lyrics are written below the notes. There are two measures of music in each line, with a double bar line at the end of the second measure. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Re - a - mo le - bo - ga, re - a - mo le - bo - ga, To God our thanks we give, to God our thanks we give," and "re - a - mo le - bo - ga mo - di - mo wa ro - na. to God our thanks we give, our thanks to God we give."

### **Offertory Prayer:**

Pastor: Let us pray, **Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

*Update from The Finance Team on 2023 Giving*

*If you missed the update at church on 1/14/24, Zion had a RECORD giving month in December! Thank you, Zion! We had announced at the beginning of December we were \$30k down in budget giving and you rallied and made up all but \$5k of that! Looking into 2024 we will propose a new budget that will require us to give 5% more this year and I know we can do it!*

*Giving is happening through Venmo (@ZionFerndale, confirmation code 7498), our website (zionlutheranmi.org), the Vanco mobile app (code VHLXGH), or by sending to the church mailing address. The offering plate is also located in the middle of the center aisle for those giving in person.*

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

Pastor: God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We come before you in all humility and joy, praising your name and joining in the unending hymn of your blessed creation....

(ELW 193)





Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Savior Christ 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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

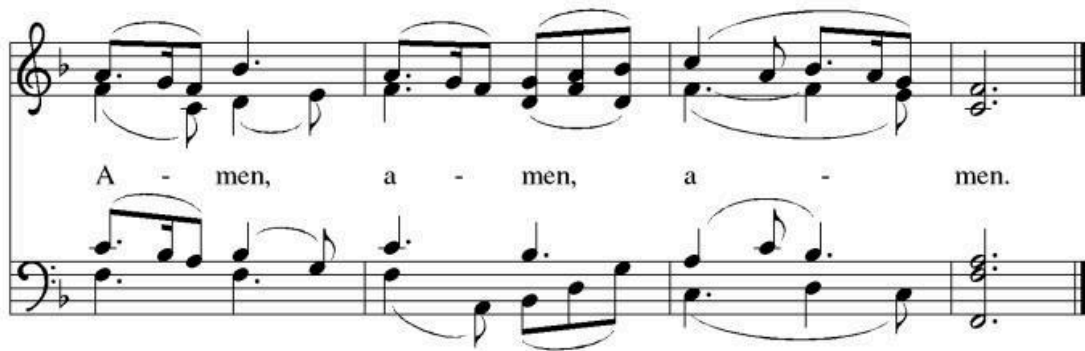
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, O Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.




Holy One, remember us in your reign and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

*Refrain*



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your  
 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is  
 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,  
 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

*Refrain*



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.  
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.  
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.  
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Pastor: God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**

### Recessional Hymn

### "We Are Marching in the Light of God"

ELW 866

We are marching in the light of God... We are dancing... We are praying... We are singing...

### Benediction

Pastor: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### Dismissal

Assistant: Go in peace in hope and love.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

### Postlude

Scott Schroeder