

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET
STEPHENS CITY, VA

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9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG
JANUARY 31, 2021 EPIPHANY 4

PRELUDE

Adagio George Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

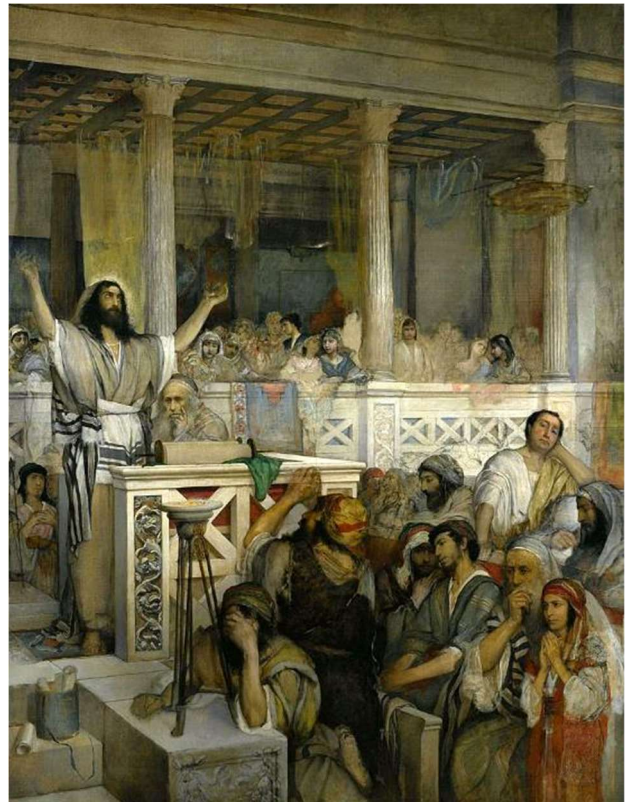
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.


God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Christ Preaching at
Capernaum
Maurycy Gottlieb
National Museum,
Warsaw, Poland



GATHERING SONG *v. 1, 4*

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing

friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,

speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den

doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

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Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Darla Wolf

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own

people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet 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.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

The gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “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.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor JMe Lowden

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 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

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all God's works in creation and for those tasked with protecting our natural resources and all that exists, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials, and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: those who are sick and hospitalized, those struggling with mental illness, those who are hungry or homeless, and all in any need especially Ricky, Theresa, Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Carroll, Edwin, Ruby; for caregivers, hospice workers, and home health aides, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the efforts of teachers, healthcare professionals, first responders and all those who find themselves in harm's way, especially, John, Stacy, Mike, Liz, Dixie, David, Evan, Bill and James let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

VIRTUAL OFFERING

If you have not already prepared your offering to mail to the church, please take a moment now to do so.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *v. 1, 4*

Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710

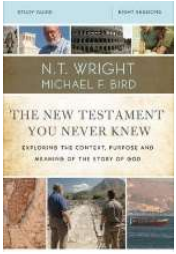
DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

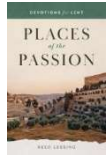
POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

TRENDING @ TRINITY



Pastor JMe will be offering a Lenten Study entitled “The New Testament You Never Knew” (change of name from last week). This will cover things you never knew about Jesus' baptism and journey into the wilderness, the meaning behind his parables and miracles, the significance of his death and resurrection and how the mission of Jesus can still turn the world upside down today. The study will take place Sundays at 1PM. Participants may choose to come to the church parish hall or via Zoom. Please contact the church office by February 8 if you plan to participate so we can send you the Zoom link and keep count of those planning to be in person. There is a book for those interested in reading along, Pastor is asking for \$10 to help cover the cost.



Trinity has available “Places of the Passion” Devotions for Lent. These short daily devotions follow the entire Gospel of Matthew with an eye toward the places where Jesus suffered, died, and rose again. Please contact the church office if you would like a copy.

Trinity is seeking monetary donations to pay for a meal to be provided for WATT'S (Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter) on February 23rd. Since we have had no special monthly offerings, funds are needed for the purchase of sandwiches to go with soup Trinity is providing. With COVID, churches are merely providing the food, and WATT'S volunteers are serving it. Make checks payable to Trinity with “WATT'S donation” in the memo.

Items being requested from area food banks are: soups, any kind of prepackaged food contains meat, powdered milk, boxed milk, cereal, ramen noodles.

Here is the link for the children's Sunday School lesson for today from the Northern Valley Conference: <https://youtu.be/z6TIboqg6hA> The link for last week's lesson on Simeon and Anna is here <https://youtu.be/ffF4lGuTM3g>

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM

NEW YEAR NEW LINK. to 9:30am worship.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89308405981?pwd=TDY0SkxiUWgvNHpUZDBHdGk0aWRqZz09>

Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981

Passcode: 321080

Dial +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
at the prompt, enter the Meeting ID number and Password listed above.

Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

Call to Worship, Every Sunday 11AM Phone # 1-712-832-8330 Participant PIN 3504615

Videos of the service are uploaded each week to Trinity's YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIYPLbYZ1RE_IZGJ9GDakIw