

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln Ave O'Fallon, IL
(618) 632-0126
www.mybslc.org
Worship –9:30 am.

Rev. Tony Troup, Rev. Perry Schefelker Vacancy Pastors
Lector: Pastor Akoh Daniel Kofi
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 am

4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING (Adapted, p. 260 in LSB)

OPENING HYMN NO. 819

“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”

Sing praise to God, the highest good,
The author of creation,
The God of love who understood
Our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty pow'r has made,
In mercy He is keeping.
By morning glow or evening shade
His eye is never sleeping.
Within the kingdom of His might
All things are just and good and right:
To God all praise and glory!

We sought the Lord in our distress;
O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness
And came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord,
Who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!

He never shall forsake His flock,
His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock,
Their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand,
He leads His own, His chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

**All who confess Christ's holy name,
Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,
For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!**

OPENING VERSICLES

P This is the day which the Lord has made;

C **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked**

P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

C **Teach me Your paths.**

P Sanctify us in Your truth.

C **Your Word is truth**

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

ALL **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 forever. Amen**

SHARING OF THE PEACE (Please rise and share God's peace; then, be seated.)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 18:15-20

*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* 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.* And the Lord said to me, *They are right in what they have spoken. 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. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.*

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Concerning food offered to idols: we know that *all of us possess knowledge.* This *knowledge* puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

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.* For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth*as indeed there are many *gods* and many *lords** 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. 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. Food will not commend us to God.

We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. 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? And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:21-28 (Please rise for the Gospel Reading.)

They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and was teaching. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And 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.* But Jesus rebuked him, saying, *Be silent, and come out of him!*

And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. 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.* And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

CATECHISM - APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Holy Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen**

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.
(Please be seated.)

SERMON

"Amazing!" Mark 1:21-28

Rev. David Pelsue

SERMON HYMN No. 527 "O Savior, Precious Savior"

**O Savior, precious Savior,
Whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor,
All other names above:
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our Holy Lord and King.**

O bringer of salvation,
Who wondrously hast wrought,
Thyself the revelation
Of love beyond our thought:
We worship Thee; we bless thee;
To Thee, O Christ we sing;
We praise Thee, we confess Thee,
Our gracious Lord and King.

In Thee all fullness dwelleth,
All grace and pow'r divine;
Thy glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is Thine,
We worship Thee; we bless Thee;
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our glorious Lord and King.

Oh, grant the consummation
Of this our song above
In endless adoration
And everlasting love;
Then shall we praise and bless Thee
Where perfect praises ring
And evermore confess Thee,
Our Savior and our King!

OFFERING

PRAYER

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick of our congregation...and others whom we name in our hearts as well as for those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P (Prayers for members with birthdays and anniversaries, for our congregation during the vacancy... Additional prayers.)

C Lord, have mercy.

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ALL: Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of many dangers

That in our frailty we cannot stand upright.

Give us strength and protection to support us in all dangers

And carry us through all temptations;

Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,

Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE WORD

P. Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. May we so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and always hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You, For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen

BLESSING

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN No. 394

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” (Please rise.)

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise;
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem
In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest
In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Present in Thy holy Word;
Grace to imitate Thee now
And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee
At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

SENDING

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

DISMISSAL The pastor and congregation leave the sanctuary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WELCOME PASTOR DAVID PELSUE! We thank you for taking time from your retirement and family to lead our worship this morning. May God richly bless us all in this service!

Pastor Pelsue's Family

Graduate of Concordia St Louis in 1981. Retired after 42 years of parish ministry. Serving congregations in New Orleans, LA, Pittsburgh, PA, and Affton, MO. Married to my dear wife, Jill for 44 years. Blessed with 4 children and 8 grandchildren.

JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTER SERVICE