



Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

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www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

11 a.m. Sunday, January 31, 2021

Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Three

Please stand when the minister approaches the center aisle.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☛ Amen

☞ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☛ Amen

☞ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand. Silence for reflection and self-examination.

☞ Most merciful God,

☛ we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your

Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

The minister stands and addresses the congregation.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

The Entrance Rite

HYMN WOV 716 *Word of God, Come Down on Earth* LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. God, you know that we cannot withstand the dangers which surround us. Strengthen us in body and spirit so that, with your help, we may be able to overcome the weakness that our sin has brought upon us; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

C Amen

Sit

The Liturgy of the Word of God

FIRST LESSON Deuteronomy 18:15-20, NRSV

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the Promised Land. Here Moses assures the people that the LORD will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

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."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111 (*To be read responsively*)

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are the deeds of the LORD!

They are studied by all who delight in them.

³His work is full of majesty and splendor,
and his righteousness endures forever.

**⁴He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵He gives food to those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**⁶He has shown his people the power of his works
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;
all his commandments are sure.

**⁸They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant forever;
holy and awesome is his name.

**¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
those who act accordingly have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.**

SECOND LESSON..... 1 Corinthians 8:1-13, RSV

Saint Paul is concerned about how some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to eat food that has been sacrificed to idols. He argues that that kind of freedom sets a damaging example to other, impressionable, believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause a sister or brother to sin.

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.

⁸Food 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.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE, by Cantor

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPELMark 1:21-28, RSV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the First Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

And they went into Capernaum; and immediately on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³And immediately 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. ²⁷And 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." ²⁸And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Following the sermon, silence for reflection.

HYMN WOV 737

There Is a Balm in Gilead

BALM IN GILEAD

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 into hell. 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.

INTERCESSIONS

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Let us offer a sign of peace to our neighbors: "Peace be with you."

Sit

THE OFFERING

Donate now: [Donate](#)

Here are some other options for giving: [Ways to Give](#)

A Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Preface for Epiphany

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer I

☐ Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

☑ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

☐ Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

☑ **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

☐ Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

☑ **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

☐ Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

☑ **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

The 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.

The Fraction (The Bread is broken)

Agnus Dei

**☩ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

✦ If you are home during this pandemic, worshiping online with us, here is a possible "Prayer for Spiritual Communion" lifted up in a recent *Forum Letter* (May 2020). *Forum Letter* is a respected Lutheran newsletter published by the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion Anthem

Ave Verum

Mozart (1756-1791)

The Immanuel Choir (Juli Borst)

Ave, verum corpus natum
de Maria Virgine:
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine:
cuius latus perforatum
fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum,
in mortis examine. Amen.

Hail the true body,
born of the Virgin Mary:
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed
on the cross for the sake of man.
From whose pierced flank
flowed water and blood
Be a foretaste for us
In the trial of death. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Silence for reflection.

The Sending

BENEDICTION (*Spoken*)

HYMN LBW 364

Son of God, Eternal Savior

IN BABILONE

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Parish Announcements

- ✦ COPYRIGHTS: Parts of the liturgy and scripture introductions come from or are based on those from *Sundays and Seasons, Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress*. Readings of Holy Scripture are downloaded from Bible Gateway — <https://www.biblegateway.com/>. Copyright information for the various translations is included on the Bible Gateway website.
- ✦ NEW TO PRAYER LIST: Ashley Colombini (relative of Ester Figueroa-Neubacher), Melissa Alke (friend of Kathy Jolowicz), Julia Rudat, The Romano Family (John, Jeanne, Emma and Lucy), Marion Molno, Emma Kaefer, Bruce Harbour (Robin's father), Robert Mallery (son-in-law of David Kiehl's sister), Wolfgang Hahn, Yoleidy Perez (Tamares's brother), Obdulia Mundo (friend of Maggie Schreiber), Olga Beloded (John Imhof's wife), Mary Ann Grant (Deirdre's mother)

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HOLY COMMUNION	11 AM Sundays
MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION	6:30 PM Wednesdays
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Via Zoom these days
MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM Mondays, via Zoom these days
INTERIM OFFICE MANAGER.....	Melissa Phillips
SEXTON	Gerry Britton
PARISH BOOKKEEPER.....	Charles Derderian
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Dr. Gwendolyn Toth
PASTOR.....	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
SENIOR PASTOR.....	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer

Some Parish Ministry Opportunities:

CHOIR

Director of Music Dr. Gwendolyn Toth (212) 289-8128

We extend to you a cordial welcome and hope that you will return. If you are a visitor, please fill out one of the cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor Carol Fryer. If you are interested in membership here at Immanuel, please contact the church office for an appointment with Pastor Carol. Or you can email her at ceafryer@gmail.com.

- ✦ HOLY COMMUNION is offered to all baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Church's faith, who confess it with us (as in the Creeds), and who may in good conscience receive the Sacrament in keeping with the understanding with which it is celebrated here: namely, that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and are distributed to and received by all who commune.
- ✦ HOLY BAPTISM is celebrated and MARRIAGES solemnized only after consultation with the pastor well in advance. If you or someone you know is ill, hospitalized, homebound, or otherwise in need of the ministry of the Church, let us know. Call the church office during the week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ✦ We mean for PRIVATE CONFESSION to be available as often as you need. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or ceafryer@gmail.com.
- ✦ LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING WITH OIL FOR THE SICK is available. Again, simply contact Pastor Fryer.
- ✦ FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: There is a long line of Christians, both rich and poor, who have disciplined themselves to budget a portion of their income, put it into an offering envelope first thing, and give it to the church. Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer live by that tradition and commend it to you. Online giving is also available through our website, or by following this QR code with your phone camera:

