

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
January 28, 2018  
8:30 A.M.**

**WELCOME TO GRACE**

**Prelude**

**Word of Welcome**

**Temple Talk**

Mark Balkman

*Stand as you are able*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

**C Amen**

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P Loving God,

**C we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.**

**Forgive us for the times**

**we have spoken or acted too quickly;**

**we have not spoken or acted at all;**

**we have hurt those closest to us;**

**we have hurt those we have yet to know;**

**we have thought more about ourselves than others;**

**we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.**

**Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,**

**So that we can live again as your children.**

**Amen**

P Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of † Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen**

**Gathering Hym** 'Rise, Shine, You People' **665**

**Greeting** p. 147

*Please be seated*

**Opening Sentences** (*Psalm 111*)

A With my whole heart I praise the Lord among the just.

**C Great are God's works, a delight to explore.**

A In splendor, in majesty, God's justice will stand.

**C The Lord redeems the faithful, decrees a lasting covenant.**

A Fear of the Lord is wisdom's crown, wise are those who live by it.

**C Praise the Lord forever!**

**Prayer of the Day**

P 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.

**C Amen**

## Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This 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." <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I 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. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But 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."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Reading

I Corinthians 8:1-13

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

<sup>4</sup>Hence, 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." <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>It 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. <sup>8</sup>“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. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For 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? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand as you are able*

**Gospel Acclamation**

‘Alleluia’

p. 151

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **Holy Gospel**

Mark 1:21-28

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.<sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They 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." <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

Tom Jensen

## **Hymn of the Day**

'Songs of Thankfulness and Praise'

**310**

*Stand as you are able*

**Apostles' Creed**

p. 105

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Petitions end:*

**A** let us pray.

**C** **Have mercy, O God.**

**P** Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of

the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

**Peace**

*The people greet one another saying: 'Peace be with you'.*

*Please be seated*

**Offering**

*Stand as you are able*

**Offertory**

'As with Gladness Men of Old' vs 3 **302**

**Offering Prayer**

A Merciful God,

**C receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Great Thanksgiving** pp. 152-153

**Lord's Prayer** p. 154

*Please be seated*

**Distribution of Holy Communion**

*Come to the communion rail by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. You may kneel or stand. Wine is in the common cup and tray of individual cups. If you prefer grape juice, ask the server. Children are invited for a blessing. All are welcome who believe Christ is present in this meal for the forgiveness of sins.*

**Hymns at the Distribution**

'Lamb of God' p. 154

'Word of God, Come Down on Earth'  
'There Is a Balm in Gilead'

**510**  
**614**

*Stand as you are able*

## **Table Blessing**

### **Prayer after Communion**

A O Morning Star, fair and bright,

**C you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now – today, tomorrow, every day – that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. Amen**

### **Benediction**

P The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**C Amen**

### **Closing Hymn**

'Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing'

**886**

### **Dismissal**

A Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

#### **Epiphany Temple Talk**

This morning Mark Balkman shares Epiphany light with us as he shares some thoughts about stewardship. Did you know that our actions and behaviors as stewards of what God entrusts to us is part of our ministry? It is! The light of Christ shines through our actions and behaviors and brings God's grace and love to others.

**Worship Assistants: January 28**

**Greeters:** Mason – Verla Koerner/Sue Anderson  
East – Mary Boldt

**Assisting Minister:** Tom Jensen

**Lector:** Mary Jensen

**Communion 8:30:** Marty Grow

**Communion 10:30:** Judy Cross

**Ushers:** Dennis Pringnitz, Gary Schroeder, Joyce  
Learman

**Organist:** Diane Bailey

**Presider:** Rev Jen Wrege

**Attendance 01/21:** 8:30 am–50 & 10:30 am–23

**H.S. Grilled Cheese Lunch:01/18** No Lunch-Finals

**Grace Lutheran Church**

900 N. Mason, Appleton, WI 54914

920-733-9135

[Grace54914@gmail.com](mailto:Grace54914@gmail.com) &

[www.gracelutheranappleton.org](http://www.gracelutheranappleton.org)

**Pastor Dan Luett**

920.594.2015

[pastordanluett@gmail.com](mailto:pastordanluett@gmail.com)

**Church Secretary:** Carey Mackesy

***Welcome to Grace***

*Whether you are a member or visiting for the first time, may God's grace surround you today.*

*There is a guest book to sign in the gathering area.*

*If you are looking for a church home,  
you are welcome here.*

## ***In Prayer this Week***

***For members on the Care List*** especially Gladys Prah and Ruby Niemuth.

***For Healing*** Tom Jensen; Mardie Paalman, Cookie Regal's sister; Winston Augustus Smith, Cheryl Muggenthaler's nephew; Mary Langdon, Cheryl Muggenthaler's sister-in-law; Rev. Jennie Johnson Wrege; Valerie Sieg; Marvin Wrege; Sharon Meier; Margaret Congdon; Jerry Wilharms; Mike VerKuilen; Ruby Niemuth; Raylene Houterman; Tim Conn

***For those with cancer*** especially Ellie; Mark Catlin; Roger Schmidt; Marian Breitenfeldt; Enid Andrews.

**“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.”** Romans 12:12



*If you have a Prayer Chain request, please contact Mary Hubers (731-1428) or Susan Pringnitz (733-7591). Call the church office with requests for prayer to be put in the bulletin and/or to ask for a prayer to be relayed to the Prayer Chain.*

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## **Announcements**

**It is time for snow** There is a sign up sheet on the desk in the narthex. We are asking for volunteers to keep the sidewalks clean of snow on a weekly basis. The parking lot is taken care of however please consider helping with the other areas. Thank you!

**Apartments for Rent:** 1 & 2 BR apartments available immediately at Linwood Place. Call Becky (734-7225), John (419-5754), Brian (840-3578) to arrange a tour. Plan for the future also! Get on our waiting list if you're thinking of a move in the future.

**Fox Valley Lutheran Homes:** Needs people to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors and on the Mission & Ministry Committee. Call Becky (734-7725) for information

**Adult Forum** will return on February 4 at 9:40 am. We will be looking at "Living the Toughest Teachings of Jesus."

The **Annual meeting of the Appleton Conference** is Saturday, February 10 at Trinity Lutheran Church, New London from 9:30 – 11:30. 2018 grant requests will be voted on which includes the Grace request for the "Cheesers" lunch. Grace is entitled to two delegates. If you can serve as a Grace delegate, please see Cheryl Muggenthaler for further details.

Check it out!!!!

**Grace Web Site** [www.gracelutheranappleton.org](http://www.gracelutheranappleton.org) for new pictures of our Sunday School Students in action. We also have a new feature – Daily Devotions. Every day a new devotion is on our website. Check them out!

**Giving Statements for 2017** are on the table in the narthex. Please pick them up TODAY!! If you could take one to a homebound individual, that would be great.

### **ELCA INFORMATION**

**Sign up to receive ELCA Hunger information.**

<http://www.elca.org/hunger>

**Sign up to receive ELCA Advocacy alerts.**

<http://www.elca.org/advocacy>

**Sign up for LOPPW - Lutheran Office of Public Policy in Wisconsin**

<http://www.loppw.org/about-us/current-priorities/>

**Attend Synod "Following Christ in this World" 1/27 or 2/3**

<http://ecsw.org/event/following-christ-in-this-world/>

There are **Daily Prayers for a Time of Prayer to End Human Trafficking** January 11 through Super Bowl Weekend 2018 available on the table in the narthex.

**The Lenten Season** starts with **Ash Wednesday** on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have a midweek Lenten Service starting at 6:30 pm. Thank you to Pastor Brian Bankert from Trinity who will be leading the services.

Please don't forget to **sign the cards** each week on the table in the Narthex that are mailed out to the homebound members.

## **GRACE FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, Jan. 28**..... 8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:25 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**Monday, Jan. 29**..... 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting  
6:30 p.m. FVC Board Meeting

**Tuesday, Jan. 30**..... 8:30 a.m. Quilting  
6:30 p.m. FV Chorus  
6:30 p.m. Seeds Meeting

**Wednesday, Jan. 31**..... 9:00 a.m. Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Worship  
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting

**Thursday, Feb 1** .....10:00 a.m. Grilled Cheese Lunch

**Friday, Feb 2** ..... 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

**Saturday, Feb 3**..... 9:00 a.m. Hmong Service  
Little Dresses for Africa- Lyons

**Sunday, Feb 4**..... 8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:25 a.m. Sunday School  
9:40 Adult Forum  
10:30 a.m. Worship