

# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany January 29, 2017

*Order of Worship 8:30 A.M.*

## WELCOME TO GRACE

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

*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 Hymn 'Rise Up, O Saints of God!' 669**

### **Greeting**

P The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy  
Spirit, be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

*Be seated.*

### **Opening Liturgy**

A Come, journey in the light, set your footsteps  
toward the cross.

**C Lord, be with us on this journey.**

A Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine  
through the darkness.  
Show us the way.

**C Lord, be with us on this journey.**

A Gather us in the Spirit and fit us to follow the  
Star of our salvation.

**C Lord, fix our eyes on the cross. Give us  
courage for the journey.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P** Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen**

## **First Reading**

Micah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,

what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

<sup>6</sup>With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God**

### **Second Reading**

I Corinthians 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might

boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

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

**Holy Gospel**

Matthew 5:1-12

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P The Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Be seated.*

### **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day**

*'O God of Mercy, God of Light'*

**714**

*Stand as you are able.*

### **Apostles' Creed**

p. 105

### **Prayer of Intercession**

*Petitions end:*

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen**

### **Peace**

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

*Be seated.*

### **Offering**

*Stand as you are able. An offering is gathered.*

### **Offertory**

*'As with Gladness Men of Old' vs 1 & 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

*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

'Let Justice Flow like Streams' **717**

'Jesus, the Very Thought of You' **754**

'What Feast of Love' **487**

*Stand as you are able.*

## Table Blessing

## Post Communion Prayer

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**

*'The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve'*

**551**

### **Dismissal**

**A** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

### **Prayer Huddle**

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## **Worship Assistants: January 29**

**Greeters:** Mason – Sharon & Bob Meier  
East – Mandy Klauer

**Assisting Minister:** Tom Jensen

**Lector:** Tom Jensen

**Communion:** Gene Krull

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

**Organist:** Diane Bailey

**Hospitality:** Sharon Meier

**Attendance 1/22:** 8:30 a.m. 53  
10:30 a.m. 19

### ***Welcome to Grace***

*Whether you are a member or visiting for the first time, may God's grace surround you today. Fill out one of the cards in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate to share your contact information and any needs. There is also a guest book to sign in the gathering area. If you are looking for a church home, you are welcome here.*

### **Grace Lutheran Church**

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920-733-9135

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

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

### **Pastor Vicki Fink**

920-450-7796

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

**Office Manager:** Sarah Bultman

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

***For members on the Care List*** especially Selma Torbeck and Rose Zinck.

***For those in Hospice Care*** especially Earl Breitenfeldt.

***For Healing*** for 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; Val Sieg.

***For those with cancer*** especially Melissa Heins, Gene and Karen Krull's daughter; Mark Catlin; Robyn Messenger, Deb Baumbach's sister; and Roger Schmidt.

***In Thanksgiving*** for the power of the cross.

**“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.*

## **Announcements**

There will be an **Informational Meeting, Thursday, February 9 at 6:30pm** in the PAC to learn about **Seeds for Growth** which is a program for redevelopment. Trinity is hosting the meeting at Grace for members of all Conference congregations. Members of Grace are encouraged to attend.

**The Appleton Conference Annual Meeting** will be held Saturday, February 4, 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Menasha. Each congregation is entitled to two delegates from their congregation to attend, one male and one female and vote on grants that will be distributed from the dues that each congregation donates. In 2017, \$18,000 will be distributed for various local mission projects at the meeting. Are you willing to serve as a delegate for Grace? Contact Cheryl Muggenthaler

**Hospitality Volunteers** are needed. Please sign up on the table in the gathering area if you are willing to provide treats between services.

**Fox Valley Lutheran Homes** is hosting a two-part program dedicated to understanding Dementia on Monday, February 13 at 10:30 a.m. and Monday, March 13 at 10:30 a.m. Please call to register at 734-7225.

**The C-O-N-N-E-C-T dining group** will meet **tonight between 5:30-6:30 P.M.** at Macs, W3192 County Road KK, in Appleton (in Darboy, next to Kohls in the strip mall). This macaroni and cheese shop features a skillet of noodles with any toppings (meat or salad) you prefer. Seating is not reserved, but we'll meet and eat, and enjoy the time.

## **GRACE FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, Jan. 29**.....8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:30 a.m. Christian Education  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
12:30 p.m. Appleton Pentecostal Assembly (APA)

**Monday, Jan. 30**.....2:00-4:30 p.m. Office Hours  
3:30 p.m. AWHs Dance Team  
6:00 p.m. Board of Ed at Good Company  
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

**Tuesday, Jan. 31**.....8:30 a.m. Quilters  
2:00-4:30 p.m. Office Hours  
3:30 p.m. AWHs Dance Team  
6:00 p.m. Confirmation  
6:30 p.m. Fox Valley Chorus

**Wed., Feb. 1**.....9:00 a.m. TLC Bible Study  
2:00-4:30 p.m. Office Hours  
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting  
7:00 p.m. TLC Worship  
7:00 p.m. APA Bible Study

**Thur., Feb. 2**.....10:00 a.m. H.S. Grilled Cheese Lunch  
2:00-4:30 p.m. Office Hours  
3:30 p.m. AWHs Dance Team  
6:30 p.m. Trinity Singers

**Friday, Feb. 3**.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study  
*Crafters Weekend in PAC*

**Saturday, Feb. 4**.....9:00 a.m. Hmong Service  
*Crafters Weekend in PAC*

**Sunday, Feb. 5**.....8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:30 a.m. Christian Education  
9:30 a.m. Grace Visitors Meeting  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
12:30 p.m. Appleton Pentecostal Assembly (APA)