

# Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



January 28, 2024 ~ Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are located by the kitchen, in the nursery or at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary.

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## We Gather as God's People

### PRELUDE

*You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.*

### ↑ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge: **We pour out our hearts before you. We have known you, but have not always loved you. We have wounded one-another and sinned against you. We have neglected the Holy Spirit within us, and failed to recognize it in others. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us and restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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. **Amen.**

### ↑ HYMN

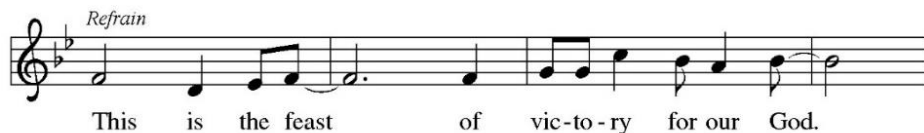
“Immortal, Invisible”

RED HYMNAL #834

### ↑ APOSTOLIC 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.**

# ↑ THIS IS THE FEAST





Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## ↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.**

## We Hear God's Word

### **FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[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."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 111**

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

<sup>2</sup>**Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**You cause your wonders to be remembered;  
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

<sup>6</sup>**You have shown your people the power of your works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.  
<sup>8</sup>**They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**  
<sup>9</sup>You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is your name.  
<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding.  
God's praise endures forever.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup>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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Composed by D.D. Dillard

Voice

Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia glo-ry to God! A - le - u - ia

5 u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Glo-ry to God A - le God! For the *rit.*

10 Lord Most High is *rit.*wor-thy of glo-ry and praise Al - le u - ia Al-le - *a tempo*

15 u - ia Al-le - u - ia glo ry to - God! A - le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le -

20 u - ia Glo - ry to God!

↑ GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

# CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SERMON

### ↑ HYMN

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

RED HYMNAL #886

### ↑ APOSTLES' 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 into hell. 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

Giving thanks for Christ's being revealed to all people, let us pray for the Church, the world and all of creation.

Loving God, we pray for your Church around the world. Raise up prophets and preachers to speak your Word with boldness, clarity and charity. Give all people hearts that listen to you with faith, obedience, and gladness. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, we pray for creation. Grant that waterways flow clean and clear, fields and woodlands thrive, and all creatures know your goodness. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Liberating God, we pray for those in government and civic leadership. May they lead with honor and be upright in their ways, that your freedom, justice and peace might be known in this and all nations. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need. Be with those who feel rejected, those who suffer long-term illness or chronic pain, and those in any trouble of body, mind or spirit. We pray especially for Amanda, Annalise, Anya, Brian, Carolyn, Christine, Clara, Dale, Danielle, Dallas, Elizabeth, Erica, Grace, Jack, Kenneth, Kimberly, Marilyn, Mercedes, Patrick, Richard, Sarah, and those we name with our lips or in our hearts...*silence* God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, we pray for Tree of Life. May we reach out to those who do not yet know you, and embrace those new in the faith, so that we might never be a cause for another's stumbling. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church and its pastor Anne. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal God, we remember Mark Cilento and all who now rest in your everlasting glory. Comfort all who grieve, as we await our eternal reunion with all the saints. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting in your grace, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

↑ **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **We Share God's Holy Meal**

**OFFERING**

↑ **OFFERTORY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

↑ **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together: **Almighty Lord, all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**



## ↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a single melodic line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.", "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.", "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.", and "It is right to give our thanks and praise."

*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:*

## ↑ SANCTUS

*Composed by D.D. Dillard*

Voice

HO - LY HO - LY HO - LY LORD GOD OF POWR AND  
MIGHT HEA - VEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLO - RY HO -  
SA - NA IN - THE HIGH - EST BLESS - ED IS HE - WHO

The musical score for 'Sanctus' is written for voice in G minor (three flats) and 8/8 time. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: "HO - LY HO - LY HO - LY LORD GOD OF POWR AND", "MIGHT HEA - VEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLO - RY HO -", and "SA - NA IN - THE HIGH - EST BLESS - ED IS HE - WHO".

10  
COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD HO - SA NA IN THE

13  
HIGH - - - - EST

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

↑ 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.


↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come to the holy feast.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

# COMMUNION


Composed by D.D. Dillard



LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD \_\_\_\_\_ HAVE



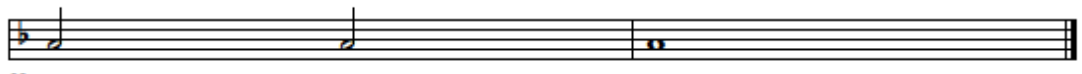
5 MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU



10 TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD \_\_\_\_\_ HAVE MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US



15 MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD



20 GRANT US PEACE

## HYMNS

“One Bread, One Body”  
“Bread of Life From Heaven”

RED HYMNAL #496  
RED HYMNAL #474

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Giver of every gift, Christ’s body is our food, and we are Christ’s body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

# God Sends Us in Mission

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ↑ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### ↑ HYMN

**“Soon and Very Soon”**

**RED HYMNAL #439**

### ↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

### ↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.*

*Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.*

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