

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY February 2, 2025 at 8:45am & 11:15am

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

FOUNTAIN REVERIE

Percy E. Fletcher (1879 –1932)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ♣ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine."

In ♣ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 705-GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY



Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969 Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932 Tune: CWM RHONDDA

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.



Text: John W. Arthur, b. 1922 Music: J. Bert Carlson, b. 1937

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING JEREMIAH 1:4-10

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to makeGod known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

The Word of the Lord.

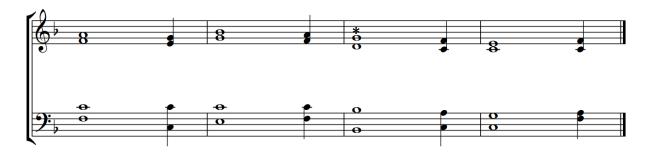
Thanks be to God.

PSALTER PSALM 71:1-6

Chant: Adam Scott Graham



- In you, O Lord, have I taken <u>refuge</u>; let me never be put to <u>shame</u>.
- In your righteousness, deliver me and set me <u>free</u>; incline your ear to me and <u>save me</u>.



- Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me <u>safe;</u> you are my crag and my <u>stronghold</u>.
- Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the <u>wicked</u>, from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.
- ⁵ For you are my hope, O Lord <u>God</u>, my confidence since I was <u>young</u>.
- ⁶ I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have been my <u>strength</u>; my praise shall be always of <u>you</u>.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



All: Alleluia.

Choir: You shall go to all to whom I send you.*

Do not be afraid, for | I am with you.

All: Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING LUKE 4:21-30

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus began to say to all in the synagogue in Nazareth, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is this not Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' "And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

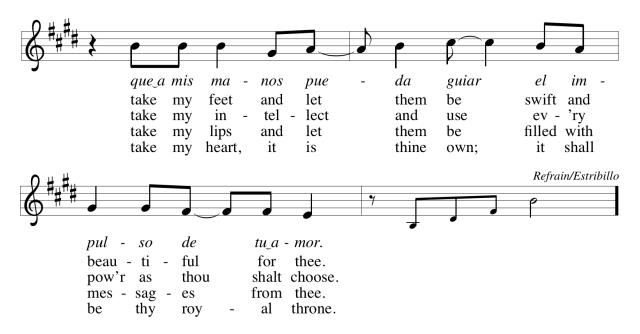
SERMON Pastor Miller

Please stand as you are able.

ELW 583-TAKE MY LIFE THAT I MAY BE



Continued on the next page



- 2 Que mis pies tan sólo en pos de lo santo puedan ir, y que a ti, Señor, mi voz, se complazca en bendecir. Estribillo
- 3 Que mis labios al hablar hablen sólo de tu amor; que mis bienes dedicar yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo
- 4 Que mi tiempo todo esté consagrado a tu loor; que mi mente y su poder sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875–1955

Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Tune: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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 to the dead. 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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

After each portion of the prayers:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All may share a sign of Peace. Please be seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> or place it in the offering plate, or use this QR code with your device to securely give your Christmas Offering.

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

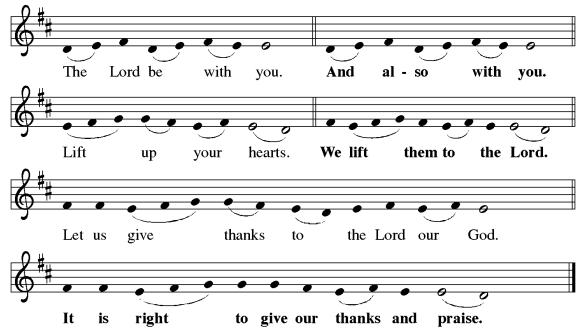
OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

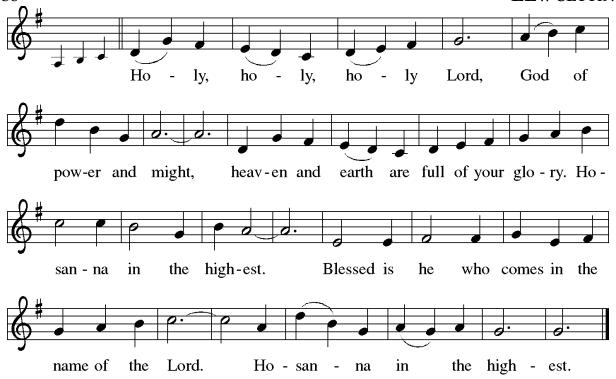
God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ELW SETTING ONE



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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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.

Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga a nosostros tu reino, hagase tu voluntad, asi en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia; perdona nuestras ofensas, como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden; y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion, mas libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria, por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps.

Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.

(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)

Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you. / The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen.



COMMUNION HYMN

TFF 123-LET US BREAK BREAD



Text: African American spiritual

Music: African American spiritual; arr. Contemporary Worship 4, 1972

Tune: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

NUNC DIMMITIS ELW SETTING ONE



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God ▶ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**



Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God!

Schola Cantorum (8:45)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 –1750)

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WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller

Senior Pastor

Ronan Shugert 8:45

Ruth Manchester 11:15

Assisting Ministers

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski

Confirmation Pastor

Adam Scott Graham

Deacon Kyle Warfield

Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries

School Ministries

MIGHT YOU LIKE to serve as a reader of the lessons on Sunday? We give thanks for all who share the word of God. If you can serve as a reader simply email stluke@saintluke.us and also note which service. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS are a wonderful way to give glory to God, beautify the chancel and certainly honor or remember a loved one. If you might like to give altar flowers, go to www.saintluke.us and see the Atar Flower Dedication link in the left hand column. Thank you for considering this way of enhancing worship.

IT IS SAINT LUKE'S CUSTOM each year to celebrate our anniversary by helping another ministry, as we were helped when this congregation was organized. Last Sunday we celebrated 85 years! The Saint Luke Congregation Council has voted that this year's **Anniversary Offering** go to a congregation in the North Carolina Synod, ELCA, which saw much devastation due to hurricanes this past fall. You may give toward this offering at www.saintluke.us and simply then click *Anniversary Offering*. Thank you.

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

One Morning Service

10:00 a.m. and Reception of New Members

followed by a Brief Special Congregation meeting (to elect the voting members attending synod assembly)

THEN approx. 11:00 a.m.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST (eggs, fruit, delicious bread and so much more!)

Time for some fellowship and fun before Ash Wednesday and the Penitential Season of Lent Begins

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



ALL ARE INVITED to a Saint Luke worship service at Riderwood tomorrow, Monday, February 3, 11:00 a.m. Several Saint Lukers live at Riderwood – approximately 24 people, and it is so nice for these people to see others from our community of faith. If you have time, please consider attending. Thank you.

COMMEMORATIONS:

Sunday, February 2 – Presentation of our Lord: Forty days after the birth of Jesus we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the temple in accordance with Jewish law. There they were greeted by Simeon, an aged priest who offered the song "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace," as well as by the prophet Anna, who spoke of the redemption of Israel.

Monday, February 3 – Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, died 865: A monk who helped bring Christianity to Scandinavia, Ansgar returned to Germany where he was named bishop of Hamburg. He is remembered for his love for poor people.

Wednesday, February 5 – The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597: Christianity was brought to Japan in the sixteenth century by Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. The religion was suppressed, however, and in 1597 twenty-six missionaries and converts were crucified. Nevertheless, Christianity survived and later prospered.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

SUNDAY, February 2-Fourth Sunday

after Epiphany

7:30am Tech Rehearsal 8:00am Schola Cantorum

8:45am Worship (Hybrid)

10:00am Up For Discussion (Hybrid)10:00am Confirmation Parents Meeting

10:00am Sunday School

10:30am Affirmation of Baptism Class

11:15am Worship (Hybrid)

5:00pm Worship in Spanish (Hybrid)

6:00pm Reception

MONDAY, February 3

9:00am CDS Classes

11:00am Riderwood Service

1:30pm CDS Aftercare1:30pm CDS Staff Meeting

4:00pm After School Art Program -

Langley Park

7:00pm English class

TUESDAY, February 4

9:00am CDS Classes 1:30pm CDS Aftercare

7:00pm Nominating Committee

7:00pm English Class

7:00pm Reformation Bells

WEDNESDAY, February 5

7:00am Faith Connections (Zoom)

9:00am CDS Classes

10:00am Women in Community

1:30pm CDS Aftercare

3:00pm After School Tutoring

5:00pm RSCM Choristers

7:00pm English Class 7:30pm Schola Cantorum

7:30pm AA

THURSDAY, February 6

9:00am CDS Classes1:3pm CDS Aftercare2:45pm Caring Project

7:30pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)

FRIDAY, February 7

3:30pm After School Music

SATURDAY, February 8

9:30am AA

11:00am Al-Anon

SUNDAY, February 9-Fifth Sunday

after Epiphany

7:30am Tech Rehearsal 8:00am Schola Cantorum 8:00am RSCM Choristers 8:45am Worship (Hybrid)

10:00am New Members Gathering 10:00am Up for Discussion (Hybrid)

10:00am Sunday School

10:00am Affirmation of Baptism Class

11:15am Worship (Hybrid)

1:00pm Girl Scouts

NB: Worship Services are in-person and livestreamed