Fourth Sunday after Epiphany January 30, 2022

8:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



In response to rising case numbers and in an effort to continue being able to worship in person, we strongly request that everyone mask when inside the building regardless of vaccination status.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name. C **Amen.**
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.
- P Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. C Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray ... 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. **C Amen**

First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

- ⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁵"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." ⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷But 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. ⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD."
- ⁹Then 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. ¹⁰See, 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."

L The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 71:1-6 (To be read responsively.)

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

²In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; incline your ear to me and save me.

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; you are my crag and my stronghold.

⁴Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

⁵For you are my hope, O Lord GOD, my confidence since I was young.

⁶I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have been my strength; my praise shall be always of you.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

- ¹If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And 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. ³If 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.
- ⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love 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. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹When 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. ¹²For now we see in a mirror, dimly, 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. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

L The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 4:16-30

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

- ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.
- ²¹Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"²³He 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."²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But 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; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.²⁹They 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. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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

SERMON

Pastor Traci *ELW* # 725



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*CREED

P Let us confess our faith through the words of the 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

*Prayers of the Church

- P The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.
- P Guide your church in the ways of faith, hope, and love. Cultivate ministries and communities of compassion that bear witness to your enduring presence among us. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Teach us to live in humility on the earth. Curb arrogance that leads to destruction of natural resources and disregard for future generations. Inspire the work of scientists who urge us to live in harmony with your creation. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**
- P You are the refuge of all who seek hope and freedom. Accompany immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who cross borders to find safety and opportunity. Embolden leaders to draft compassionate policies on behalf of migrants and those who assist them. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things. Comfort with your love all who are lonely, fearful, or brokenhearted. Sustain the hope of all those who suffer in body or spirit. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Your grace falls upon young and old alike. Bless the gifts of children in this congregation and in this community. Give us humble hearts to follow their leadership. Inspire us with their laughter, their insight, and their curiosity. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**
- P We praise you for those who have gone before us and now see you face to face. Abide with us in this mortal life until we rest in the arms of your neverending love. God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**
- P Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **C Amen.**

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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 our thanks and praise.

- P 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.
- You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
- You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
- We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.
- 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.

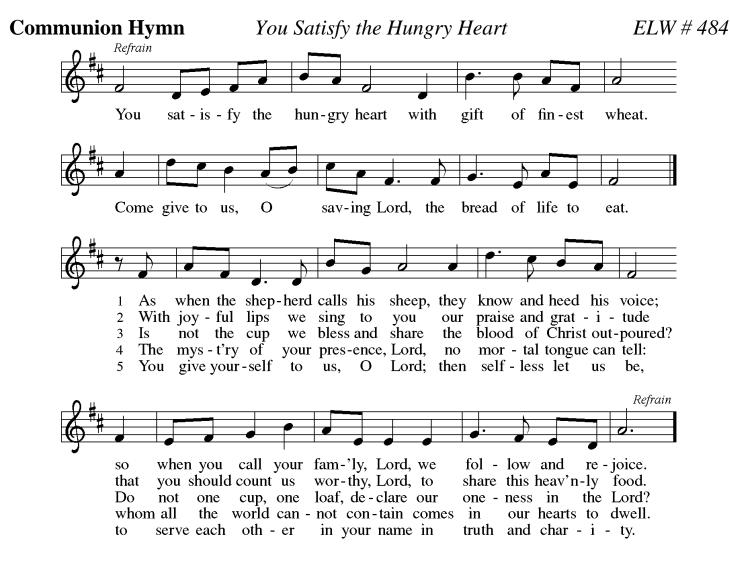
- Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.
- To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **C Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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

P Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.



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Post Communion Prayer

P We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. **C Amen.**

Blessing

P God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, + bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

C Amen.

Everyone Is Invited to Sing The Sending Hymn While Remaining Masked



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Dismissal

P Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

WINTER WEATHER

If we experience severe winter weather on a Sunday morning, please check Facebook and your email to see if in-person worship and Sunday school are canceled. Please always use caution when driving and remember that services are available by livestream and video. If in-person worship is canceled, a brief Service of the Word will be livestreamed on Facebook.

Office Hours This Week:

Pastor Traci – Wednesday 1-4 p.m. Office Hours – Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Lori Tremmel)

This Week Events

Today –	Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
	Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
	Evangelism Meeting 11:30 a.m.
Monday –	Worship & Music Meeting viz Zoom 6:00 p.m.
	Boy Scouts 6:30 p.m. FH
Tuesday	Stewardship Meeting via Zoom 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Yoga 5:00 p.m. FH
Sunday –	Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
	Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

In order to protect our staff and volunteers during this current surge in COVID cases, please visit the office by appointment only at this time.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God by Tina Harclerode in memory of Loved Ones.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott Our Pianist Today – Adam Day Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck Our Sexton – Phil Claar Our Acolyte – Jeffrey Hoenstine Our Lector – Melissa Fetzer Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenberg, Clyde Claycomb, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Audrey Hite, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Cindy Barnes, Randy Barrett, Allan & Karen Bassler, Diane Cappel, Greg Comer, Greg Dick, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Shelby Gerrity, George Gilbert Sr., Dan Hershberger, Joe Hinton, Barrett Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Darren Kreutzer, Mike Lovell, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Murtle Miller, Deb Peters, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Norm Tremmel, Carol Weyandt, Jean White, Pete Williams, Jim & Ginny Zeek, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany)

Church Messenger

The February 2022 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership, and articles are always appreciated.



SNOW CAMP 2022 Friday, February 25th to Saturday, February 26th Camp Sequanota, Jennerstown, PA



Snow Camp is for 6th – 12 Graders Games, Crafts, Food, Sledding, Worship, Learning Accommodations in Sequanota's Winterized Cabins

Join with youth from around the Allegheny Synod As we regroup and rediscover what it means to take part in

HOLY COMMUNITY

Space is limited! Registration will be open from January 15th to February 13th

Register Online at <u>www.sequanota.com</u> See brochure on Narthex bulletin board for more information.

Volunteers Needed

Worship and Music Committee is looking for a volunteer to serve as Head Usher. Responsibilities include scheduling Ushers or worship services; maintain a current list o volunteers for Ushers; and Mentoring Ushers on new procedures, etc. Please contact Jane Fagans at 793-4401 or text at 327-0786 if you would like to fill this vacancy.

Since it has been several years since Ushers were needed for worship, the committee thought perhaps it might be a good time to generate a new list o Usher Volunteers. If you would like to continue to volunteer or you would like to sign up as a new volunteer, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Thank you for your Service as Usher in St. Matthew's ministry.

Worship and Music Committee will soon begin to have one Usher available in the Narthex for the 10:30 a.m. worship services. Primary responsibilities will include greeter, handing out bulletins, and offering assistance with communion elements and name badges when necessary.

PHOTO DIRECTORY

Mike Lamborn and Carlos Lamborn will provide two more sessions for the new Photo Directory on February 20 & February 27 after the 10:30 service.