



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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480 MONTEREY AVE.
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany



WORSHIP BOOKLET

PRELUDE

Ina Davenport

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

Order for 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,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,
**you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

**Renew us with your grace
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.**

Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

GATHERING Great is Thy Faithfulness #733 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever will be.**

REFRAIN

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
REFRAIN**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
REFRAIN**

GREETING

The grace of Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE #157

(red hymnal, rear section)

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For your people here who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, and defend us, O God.
A---men.

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

REFRAIN

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God.
REFRAIN**

**Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ, forever.
REFRAIN**

**For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new.**

REFRAIN

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together... **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. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST LESSON: Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.
Hear, you mountains, the controversy of God,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for God has a controversy with the people,
and will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
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.
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."

"With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before God with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will God 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?"

God has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does God require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?"

[The New Revised Standard Version]

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 15 (the congregation responds with the bold words)

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;

they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

They do not give their money in hope of gain,

nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

[New Revised Standard Version]

Second Reading: **I Corinthians 1:18-31**

[Paul writes:]

For 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.

For it is written,

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

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?

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.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

but we proclaim Christ crucified,
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,

and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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. 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;
God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not,
to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.
God is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God,
and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,
in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in God."

[New Revised Standard Version]

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #174 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 5:1-12

The gospel passage for today is from the book of Matthew, the 5th chapter, beginning with the 1st verse.

Glory be to you, Oh Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain;
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you
and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely
on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

[The New Revised Standard Version]

This is the gospel indeed.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Roadmap to Jesus

Pastor Brian

SERMON HYMN

Blest Are They #728

(red hymnal, rear section)

**Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.**

REFRAIN

**Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God.**

**Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.**

REFRAIN

**Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God.**

REFRAIN

**Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs.**

REFRAIN

**Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.
Rejoice, be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.**

REFRAIN

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 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 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 PEOPLE

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need, especially...

- Ron Forster - recovering from pancreatitis
- Gary & Eileen Orback whose home was damaged in the storm
- Kathie Sperow - recovering from a mild heart attack
- Michon Kelly - that God opens her eyes to the right path
- Betty Johnson - recovering from infection and blood clot while undergoing chemotherapy
- Jennifer Kurrle - recovering from recent hospitalization
- Ina Davenport - Healing of her arm
- Aaron Brochtrup - Concussion from vehicle rollover after job related vehicle pursuit
- Janelle Muff -Healing after surgery and blood clot
- Joanne Kulczyk – recovering from a fall
- Sally Mingo, Jennifer Kurrle's mother - knee injury
- Jean Senter and family - death of her cousin Paul Weggenmann
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas - in on-going home rehabilitation care.
- Linda Luke - to gain weight and strength
- Jim Luke - supporting Linda's recovery
- Rebecca Aparicio, Nancy Padilla's mother-in-law - living in a nursing home
- Becky Padilla- responding well to treatment for cancer
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- Lia, Ina Davenport's friend- recovering well from a broken back
- James Hecker- experiencing new complications following bladder replacement surgery
- Christopher Buckles, Kate Anderson's son
- Katie Brochtrup- recovering from oral surgery
- Marcia and Rick Walt, friends of Cindy Haener
- Darel and Betty Sorenson - Betty remains in nursing care on Hospice
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother

- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting the new COVID-19 omicron variants, and that we might continue to observe mitigation guidelines
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing and protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them.
- For Carol Frasier, Connor Schuldt, Lanaya Schuldt who celebrate their birthdays this week, and Woody & Nancy Koppl who celebrate their wedding anniversary

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Ever-Present God, we also lift up others who are in need of our intercession. We pray for....

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.
 Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.... **Liberating God,**
you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
for all your works of merciful power,
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also 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.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY #191 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it
and gave it to his disciples saying,
“Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
“Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood,
shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.’

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

**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.**

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY #208 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!**

**From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!**

**Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.**

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:
Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.
AMEN.

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light #815 (red hymnal, rear section)

**I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.**

REFRAIN

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

REFRAIN

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

REFRAIN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Ina Davenport

Thank you to:

- **Katie Edson** for assisting in worship.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Ina Davenport** for accompanying worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo** for editing and assembling worship bulletins.
- **Nancy Padilla**, for setting up and welcoming.
- **Gary and Mark Orback**, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo**, for tending to our inside property.
- **Ken Brocks and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.

Events this week:

- Directly after worship, we will hold a brief **special congregational meeting**, to consider the expenditure to **replace the fence around the parsonage**.
- **Today is the monthly Fellowship Luncheon** right after the congregational meeting in the fellowship hall.
- **The Chosen discussion group** will meet tonight to discuss Season 3, Episode 5.
- The **Preaching as a Congregation** group will NOT meet tonight.
- **Bible Study** will take place on Wednesday, February 1st at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall.
- This Sunday we will continue learning a **new liturgy**, with songs primarily written by Marty Haugen, a great musician of the church.

- The **St. Olaf College Choir** will be singing at the Cal Poly Harold Miossi Hall on February 4th. They are one of the premier college choirs in the nation. Check out getting tickets online (\$30-\$50).
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**. (bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

**Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events:
morrobaylutherans.org**