

† FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY †
January 29, 2023

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| Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m. |
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PRELUDE

Liebster Jesu

John Behnke

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB Hymn 904

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us first confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:
God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

(LSB Page 204)

To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth;
goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing –
our thanks for Your great glory, Lord, God our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.

Have mercy on us, Jesus; receive our heartfelt cry,
where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High,
in God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Almighty God, though we live in the midst of many dangers, we are not strong enough to stand upright on our own. Grant us Your strength and protection to withstand all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, 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. ³[The Lord will say,] "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For 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. ⁵O 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." ⁶[Israel will reply,] "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? ⁷Will 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?" ⁸He 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 This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸For 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. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where 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? ²¹For 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. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider 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. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the

strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

JALLELUIA VERSE (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Page 205)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

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

⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(9:00) **CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM**

Blest are They

Haas/Joncas

(*Paraphrase of The Beatitudes*)

(9:00) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB Hymn 848

Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

SERMON

Rev. Mark Budenholzer

(9:00) **THE APOSTLES' CREED** (*Congregation rising*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third
day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at
the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to
judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(10:45) **RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM** (*insert*)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY Schmücke dich, O meine Seele Anne Krentz Organ

OFFERING HYMN (*Congregation rising*) (LSB Hymn 426, v. 4)

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had
mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in
Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the
redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant Your Holy
Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and
receive the blessings of forgiveness and salvation that come to us in His
life-giving body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has
taught us:

**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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

(LSB Page 210, adapted)

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy
How Great Thou Art

LSB **Hymn 774**
LSB **Hymn 801**

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand; then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray and gluten-free bread is available in separate packets. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS *(Congregation rising)*

A Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.

C My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P 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 give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Lift High the Cross (v. 1 and 5-6)

LSB **Hymn 837**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune on "Crucifer"

Janet Linker

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COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Services:

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| | 9:00 | 10:45 |
| Lector/Asst. Minister | Anton DeRosa | Anton DeRosa |
| Altar Care | Anton DeRosa | |
| Usher Team | Volunteers | Ansorge Family |
| Sexton | Stefano Renzo | |
| Refreshments | Nelly Palumbo and Gloria Manigault | |

News and Notes:

Welcome Ryan Christ: The Director of Youth and Family Ministries Call Committee invited candidate Ryan Christ to visit our ministry this weekend. Ryan is a graduate of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, Michigan and lives in Roy, Utah. His degree is in Family Life Ministry with a minor in Youth Ministry. He interned as Family Life Minister in Michigan and served as a Youth Leader in Ogden, Utah. *Ryan has interviewed with the Call Committee, and this visit is a next step in discernment for both him and VLC toward the possibility of a ministry partnership.* Please join us in welcoming him to our area and say hello.

HOLY BAPTISM – We rejoice with the newly baptized and welcome them into the family of faith. Cairo and Chance Mckenzie, children of Kayon and Delroy Mckenzie, are being baptized at the 10:45 service this Sunday, January 29, 2023.

Prayer Conference Call is offered on the last Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. The next date is **January 31**. To join in, simply dial (1) 732-434-3982.

SOUP KITCHEN – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. Please go to our church web site in advance to sign up and indicate what food you will prepare. The next date is **Wednesday, February 15**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. We will have two worship services with Ashes and Holy Communion on **Wednesday, February 22, at 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m.** Midweek Lenten services of Evening Prayer

will continue on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. as we reflect on "Places of the Passion."

1st Holy Communion Instruction classes (for 5th grade and older) will be held on Wednesdays during Lent from 6:00–7:00 p.m., **March 1, 8, 15 and 22**. The special 1st Communion Service will be Sunday, March 26, at 10:45 a.m. The Totally Green St. Patrick's Day First Communion Lock-in will be Friday, March 17 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Cost is \$50 (registration fee). At least one parent or guardian must attend with each child at each Wednesday session.

Wanted: Runners for the New York City Half Marathon - The Chapel School has five guaranteed entries into the NYRR Half Marathon in the spring. "Team Chapel-Arts" runs to raise awareness and funds for the art and drama programs of The Chapel School. Prospective runners should be willing and able to run 13.1 miles on **Sunday, March 19, 2023**, and commit to and guarantee a \$1,750 personal fundraising goal. If you or someone you know would be interested, contact Kim Zwisdak in the Development Office at [914-337-3202](tel:914-337-3202) (1040) or KZwisdak@TheChapelSchool.org.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed! – There are a few open dates in March and April. We will also be looking for many volunteers to bring food and/or assist with our traditional Easter Breakfast on April 9. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the MPR and watch for further updates.

Travel to Turkey - Pastor Rob and Sue Hartwell are leading a group to see Biblical sites in Turkey on July 10-21, 2023. Space is limited to 35 travelers. For more information contact the church office at 914-337-0207 (1003).

Prayer Shawls Available: Thanks to Deacon Janet George and our sisters & brothers in Christ at *Heart and Soul Prayer Ministry* at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Fishkill, VLC has been gifted dozens of beautiful prayer shawls. If you have a family member or loved one that you would like to receive a prayer shawl, contact the church office with their name, address, and prayer request. We will prepare a prayer shawl gift bag that you can pick up and take, or we can mail it to them. Send an email to KRapillo@VLC-NY.ORG or call 914-337-0207 x1003.

Help Wanted at Reception Desk: We have an immediate opening for a PM Receptionist. Year-round position. \$16 per hour. To learn more and apply, go to <https://www.vlc-ny.org/employment-opportunities>.

MUSIC MINISTRY – Rehearsals this week are as follows:

- **High School Choir** rehearse Sunday, Jan. 29, at 10:15 a.m.; Sunday, Feb. 5, at 8:30 a.m.
- **Village Bells** rehearse Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 6:00 p.m.
- **Youth Choir** rehearse Thursday, Feb. 2, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Chancel Choir** rehearse Thursday, Feb. 2, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 5, at 8:40 a.m.

For more information, contact Minister of Music Deb Reiss at 914-337-0207, x1018 or DReiss@VLC-NY.org

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 6:00 p.m. **Lifers** (Grades 7-8) meet on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 6:00 p.m. **Crusaders** (Grades 9-12) meet for Donuts & Discussion on Sunday, Jan. 29.

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. – On February 1, we will complete the introductory section in Romans chapter 1.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: John & Glenn Accocella, Elizabeth Acosta, Bernard Ansorge, Ron Arancio, Tirana Arguedas, Alek Arguedas, Krystle Arguedas, Joan and Don Ashworth, Andy Boron, Laura Bunn, Bob Burriesci, Glen Carabuena, Steven Carabuena, Frank Clark Sr., Solly Clark, Sadie Culler, Ron DeGeorge, Terri DiPaolo, Joseph DiSalvo, Gail Eckstein, Robert Eckstein, Faith Gonzalez, Nancy Green, Annabella Hansen, Judith Harrison, LaDelle Hayes, Doris Heinrich, Robert Heinrich, Nancy Hylton, Sue Kobylack, Deacon Joe Lamoureux, Merline Leon, Noel Leon, Frank Lyman, Lucille McGeough, Helyne Merwin, Andy Munn, Maeve Nolan, Dennis O’Keeffe, Vincent Palladino, Elizabeth Pedrosa, Jason Psomas, Sylvia Puig, Morena Rodriguez, Astrid Rosendahl, Willi Rosendahl, Marvin Sayer, Jane Triolo

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Rev. Dr. Donald Miesner**, long-time professor at Concordia-New York and former VLC Adjunct Pastor, passed away on January 22, 2023
- † **James Finster**, husband of former VLC member and Chapel School librarian Sharon Peterson Finster, passed away in mid-January 2023 (memorial arrangements are pending)
- † **Willy Armstrong**, friend of Ilse Koerper, passed away on January 11, 2023
- † **Karen Knibbs**, cousin of Patrice Sullivan, passed away on January 10, 2023
- † **Michelle Abadir**, friend of Pablo & Celeste Olay, passed away on January 7, 2023
- † **Rob Bridges**, mentor to the Gleason Family, passed away in December 2022

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School

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