



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>

Interim Pastor Rev. Elizabeth Durant

Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 23, 2022

*“For in the **one Spirit** we were all baptized into **one body...**” - 1 Cor. 12:13*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! Our service is broadcast live on Zoom and Facebook. Only the presenters in worship will be recorded. This morning we gratefully welcome Dick Bemrose, GLC Council Vice President and Synodically Authorized Lay Minister (SALM), who will bring the sermon.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved.
We turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We 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.

Rejoice in this good news:
In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
Each day you rise and can choose again
to follow God in the ways of Love.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN, *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*, ELW 886

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re - deem - er's praise,
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
 4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
 sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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.

KYRIE

Assistant: In peace, in peace, REFRAIN

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

A For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all . . . (Refrain)

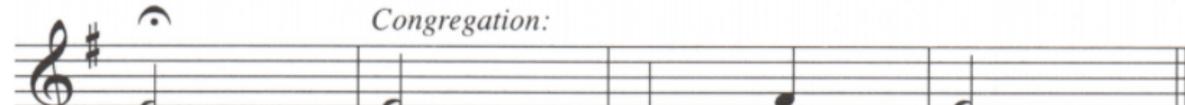
A For your people here who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your Word . . . (Refrain)

Assistant:



Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:



God. A - men.

HYMN of PRAISE

Refrain

Congregation:



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,



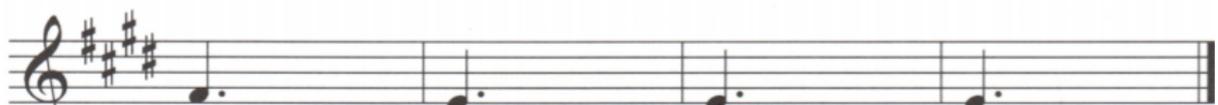
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and



free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -



er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

The children are invited to receive a special message from Pr. Elizabeth.

WORD

FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 8-10

A reading from Nehemiah.

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, their message to the ends of the world,**

where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens, runs to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not dominate me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for

one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

Congregation

Al- le- lu- ia Al- le- lu- ia Lord, to whom shall we
go You have the words of e- ter- nal life

Al- le- lu- ia! *Repeat optional*

GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

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. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The gospel of the Lord.

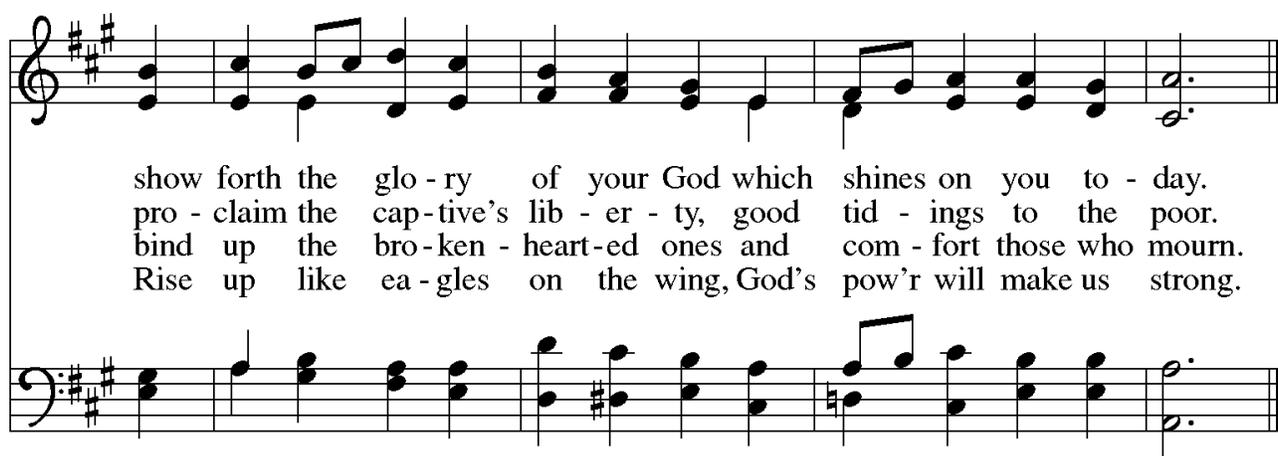
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY, *Arise, Your Light Has Come!*, ELW 314



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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 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

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.

You reveal yourself to us in the reading of scripture. Fulfill your word through the faithful witness of your church. Send us out to bring your liberating good news to all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

All creation proclaims your handiwork. Teach us to love the intricate and beautiful bodies that you have created. Bless tiny insects, enormous whales, and every creature in between. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You desire that there be no dissension among us. Where we are divided in our society, nation, and world by racism, bias and discrimination, empower us to work for justice and peace. Ease conflict, dispel violence, and bring an end to war. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Anoint with your Spirit all who seek your favor. Grant provision and justice for people living in poverty, people living with disability, those living with pain, or any kind of illness, especially those we name now in heart and with voice... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Build up the body of Christ in this place. Bless the variety of ministries in this congregation. Empower us to freely welcome and deeply value each person who enters into worship and ministry among us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving we lift before you the saints for whom the promise of salvation has now been fulfilled. Bring us together in your everlasting glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Pr. Elizabeth leads us in a moment of silent reflection.

THE OFFERING

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may give by mailing or dropping off a check at the church, online at www.glcportland.org/give or with Venmo.

OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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THE OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray in one voice,

Blessed are you, O God, Creator of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All are welcome to celebrate communion! Any bread and wine, water or juice may be used. Please follow along with Pastor Elizabeth in holding up your bread and cup.

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY

Congregation:

The musical score is written on five staves of a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you do not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity, like the Rev. Dr King, Malcolm X, Fred Hampton, bell hooks, and the millions who responded to the cry of George Floyd for his mama:

The cry of the poor and the oppressed has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,
to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to white supremacy and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our friend and protector Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my brown 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 brown blood,
shed for you and 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 his death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, power of Jesus!

And let the church say, Amen

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets, rebels, oddballs, poor, displaced, and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*

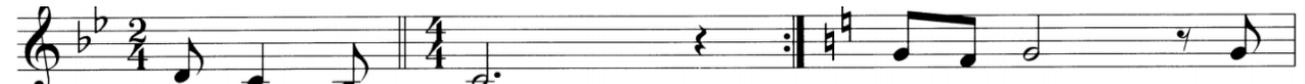


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
* you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world:
fear: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
peace:
love:

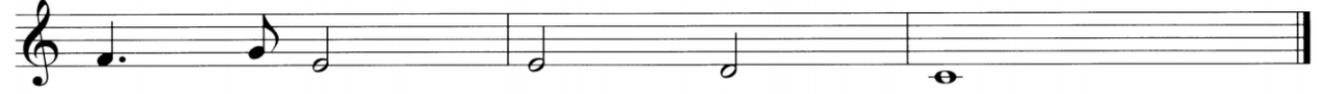


mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thanks Be to You

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of



life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for
 ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray,

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. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

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. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG, *Blessed Assurance*, ELW #638

(see next page)

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

We close our service with music...many thanks to our organist, Brooke Benfield, for continuing to provide music during this pandemic.

SENDING SONG, *Blessed Assurance*, ELW #638

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **We will continue to worship online ONLY through the month of January.** Pr. Elizabeth is presiding from home after testing positive for COVID earlier this week. The GLC COVID Team meets on Monday 1/24 and will review case rates, Oregon Health Authority recommendations and Oregon Synod guidance. **We hope to return to in-person worship on February 6th.**
- Join our Facebook Livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland> or on Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81476436505> To join by phone, call (253) 215 8782 and enter Meeting ID: 814 7643 6505.
- **Join us ONLINE for Bible Study on Tuesday January 25th at 10am** on Zoom. We continue our study of Bathsheba in 1 Kings. If you do not have a computer to use, contact the church office. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87038575330>
- Next Sunday, January 30, (a fifth Sunday) we welcome guest preacher Pr. Melissa Reed, Bishop's Associate for the Oregon Synod.
- Pastor, Transition Team and Council President (Sharon Magnuson, Dick Bemrose, Gloria Kelsay, Roseann Libonati and Ernie Butenschoen) met this week to discuss next steps for our church. **Please look for a letter in the mail next weekend with important information from the team.** If you need to update your mailing address or prefer to receive via email, please contact Anna in the church office.

Thank you for your faithful support of Gethsemane through pledges and gifts of time and service. To give online, go to www.glcportland.org/give or scan our Venmo code:



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