



**Fourth Sunday
after Epiphany
January 29, 2023
9:30 am**

*Prayer is not asking
for what you think you want
but asking to be changed
in ways you can't imagine.*
Kathleen Norris

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

11560 SE Market St, Portland, OR 97216

glcportland.org | (503) 256-1835

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

SALM Mary Karter

Accompanist: Brooke Benfield

Worship: Gloria Kelsay, Brenna Meyer, Jay Rector, Kim Stoffregen

ELW Setting 3

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! For the safety of our community, we ask that you sign in. Our worship service is broadcast live on Zoom and Facebook. We are now serving communion at the altar. If you wish to continue taking it at your seat, pick a kit up in the narthex or see an usher.

*** = Please stand as you are able.**

***GETHSEMANE VISION & MISSION**

We are forgiven and called by God to proclaim the Good News of Christ. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our mission is to serve both the physical and spiritual needs of all people in our changing society. We welcome all races, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.**
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
**For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,**
**that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**
Amen.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare.”

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart, ELW 873**

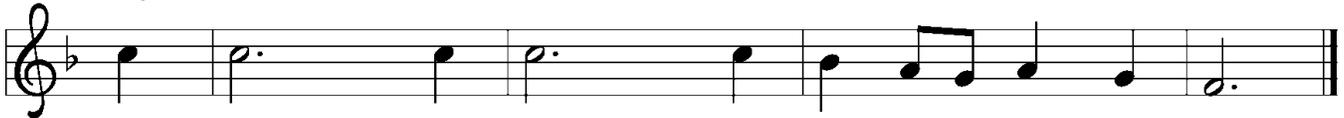


- 1 Re - joi - ce, ye pure in heart! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing;
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing!

- 5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

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***GREETING**

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

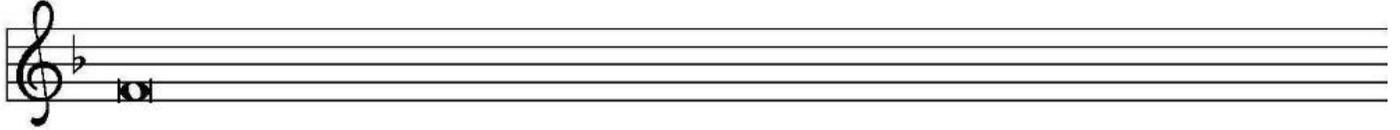
And also with you.

***KYRIE**

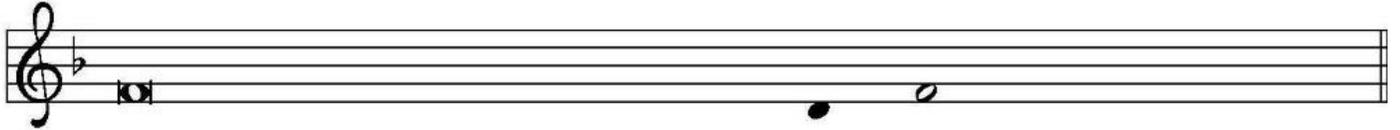
REFRAIN



Lord, have mer - cy.



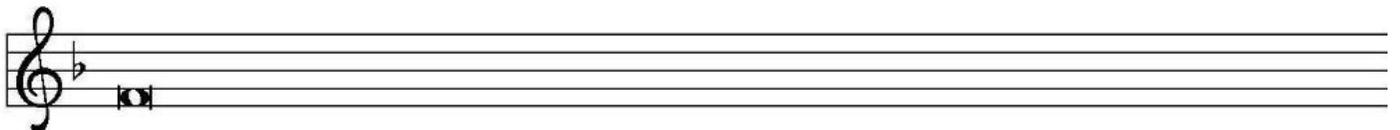
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



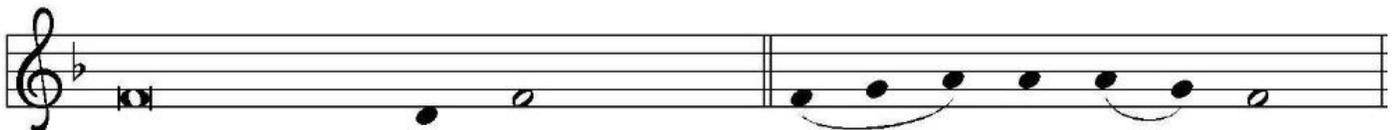
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

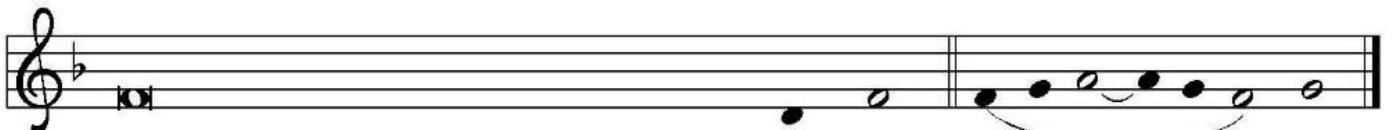


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

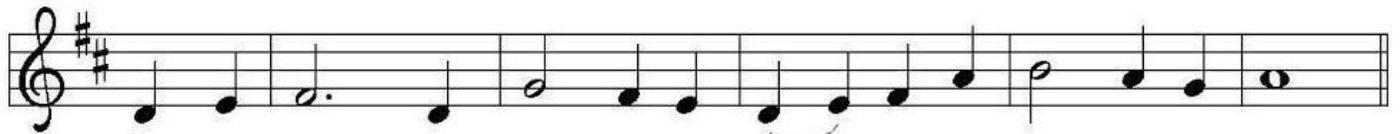
Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

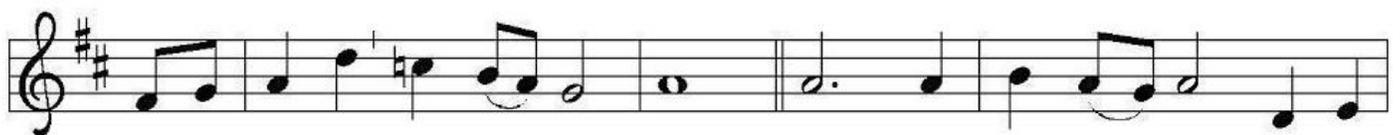


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

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.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Welcome families! We're so glad you are here!

WORD

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

A reading from Micah.

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“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“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?

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

¹Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart; R**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**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.

⁵They 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. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

A reading from Corinthians.

¹⁸The 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.”

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹¹“Blessed 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

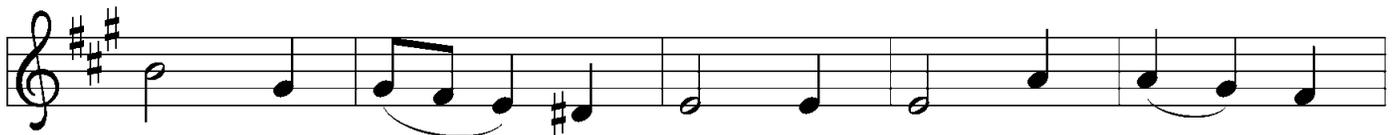
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

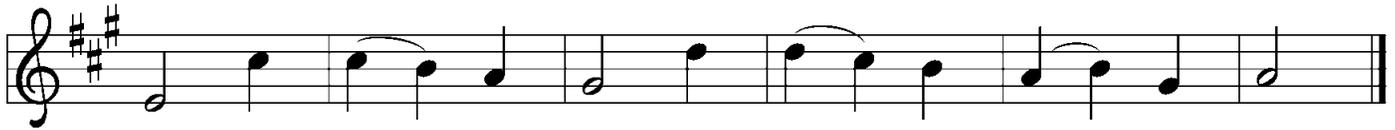
***HYMN OF THE DAY: *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*, ELW 719**



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 among these restless throngs abide;
 oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
 and follow where your feet have trod;
 till glorious from your heav'n above
 shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.

Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

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***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**

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

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 those we name now in our hearts and on our lips. 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.**

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.

Share a sign of peace with a wave or a fist bump.

OFFERING

Please be seated for a quiet moment of reflection.

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may place your offering in the offering plate by the baptismal font, give online at www.glcportland.org/give or with Venmo.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

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.

***THE 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.

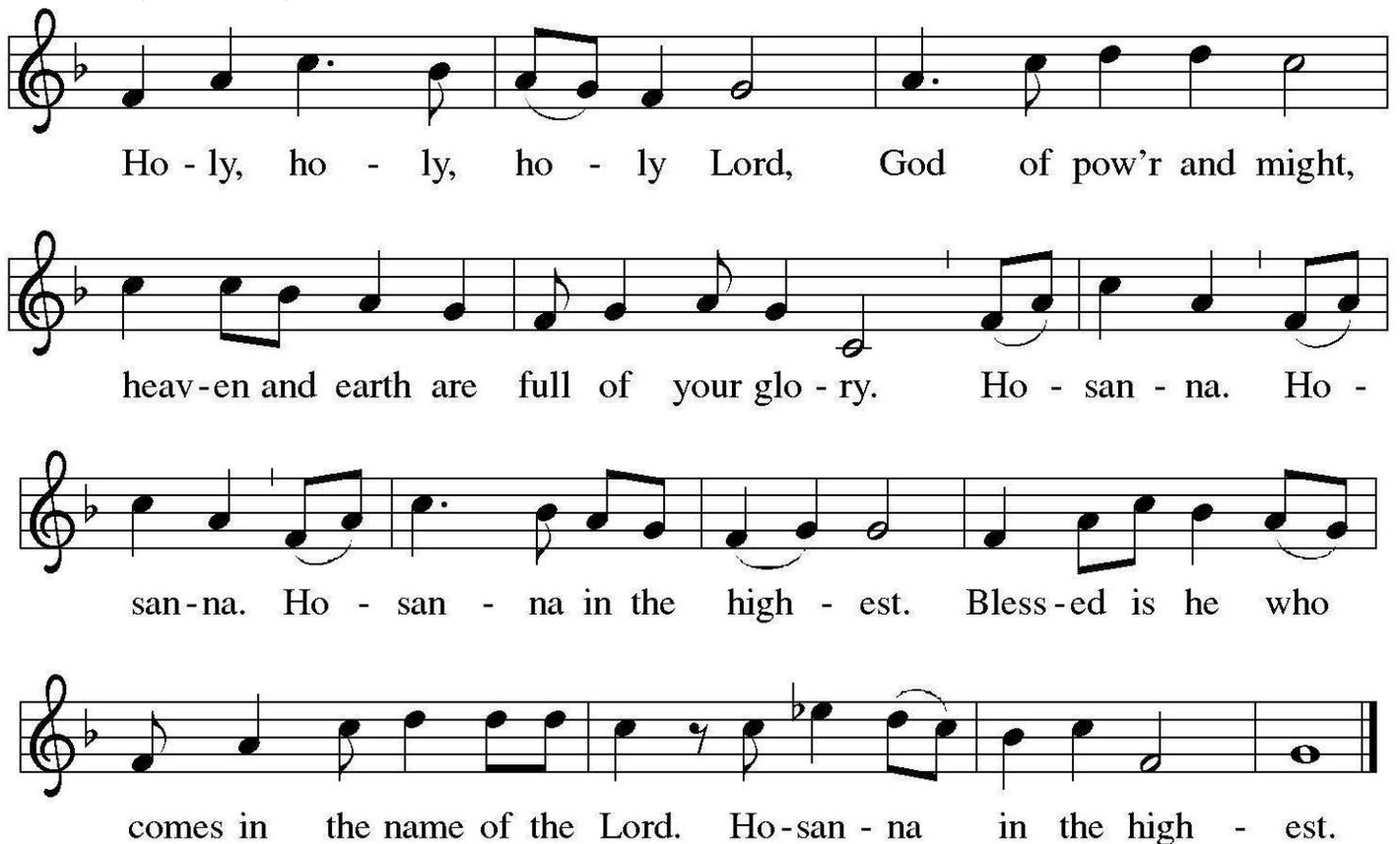
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

All are welcome to celebrate communion as part of our worship this morning! If you are joining us via livestream, any bread and wine, water or juice may be used. Please hold up the bread and the cup as SALM Mary Karter reminds us of the Words of Institution used by the pastor when the elements of Holy Communion are consecrated:

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.
In times of bitterness you did 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.
The cry of the poor 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 prejudice and sin.

We join that table to eat and drink the meal he serves us
and that has been blessed for us.
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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as 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,
for ever and ever.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG: *O Master, Let Me Walk With You*, ELW 818



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

*COMMUNION BLESSING

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

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
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.**

SENDING

***COMMUNITY COVENANT**

In recognition of God's greatest commandment, we will love God with all our heart, mind, and soul, and love our neighbor as ourselves. In that same spirit, we make this covenant:

- **We will welcome all people with our hearts, actions, and words.**
- **We will talk *with* each other, not *at* each other.**
- **We will listen to each other, not for fault but for understanding.**
- **We will express our concerns and issues directly with those involved, rather than with others.**
- **We will support our pastor and staff and honor their efforts among us.**
- **We will seek to discover what is best for our Church as a whole, not what may be best for us individually or as a small group.**
- **We will pray with each other and for each other.**

***BLESSING**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod

✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

***SENDING SONG: *To Be Your Presence*, ELW 546**



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please leave the sanctuary quietly so that those who wish may remain to listen without interruption. Thank you!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A **Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, February 12th after church. The agenda will be to hold a final vote on the revised Constitution and to line up the Nominating Committee and voting members for the Synod Assembly (online via Zoom, May 20th). The Constitution is posted on the website, and paper copies are available in the office.
- Gethsemane will again be having a **work group going to SnowCap Community Charities**, 17805 SE Stark St., on the second Wednesday of the month from 4-6pm **beginning on February 8th**. We are usually packaging fruits, vegetables or diapers into plastic bags for distribution or any other projects that they need help with. If you have not been part of the existing group and are interested in participating in this service, please contact Diane Liefeld, 503-860-3397. We do need to know who is coming each month as SnowCap plans the activities for the day based on how many are coming. Besides getting lots of work done, we have a good time!
- Don't forget to check out the **Star Words** at the bulletin board in the entryway. Be open to how the Spirit might guide you with that word through the new year!
- **Start watching the sales for bath towels!** We are beginning to collect bath towels for the Personal Care Kits distributed through Lutheran World Relief. Dark colored towels are preferred. Personal Care Kits will be assembled in April. Please watch for the list of needed items (in addition to towels) in February's Olive Press. There is a collection bin for Lutheran World Relief supplies in the narthex. Thank you for your support! ~Karla Hills
- **Please sign up for worship assistants** for January and beyond!



- **Church financials** are posted on our website at glcportland.org/finances. If you don't know the password, please contact Anna in the office.
- The **Change For Good** jar is designated for our Open Hands fund for community assistance with utilities and small incidental expenses.
- **Worship with us** on Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81476436505>. To join by phone, call (253) 215 8782 and enter Meeting ID: 814 7643 6505. Or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>.
- **Quarterback Sundays** - Each Sunday in January will be a "Quarterback Sunday". If you bring the youth \$1 (or \$5 or \$10 bills), we will give you a "quarter back". These donations will supplement our donation to SnowCap for Souperbowl Sunday.
- **SouperBowl Sunday** - February 12th is Super Bowl Sunday. Please join us in participating in SouperBowl Sunday and beating Trinity and Resurrection Lutheran in donations to SnowCap this year. Donations may be brought in anytime in January, and through February 12th.
- Join us for **Bible Study! Tuesdays at 10:00 am** on Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83076176257> Meeting ID: 830 7617 6257, and in the conference room. The topic right now is discernment; we are studying the book, *Listening for God*.

Worship Assistants

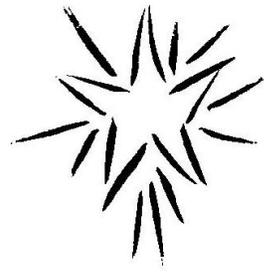
Worship Assistants are always needed!

To sign up, go to <https://signup.com/go/bDYAHDh>. Questions? Call Gloria Kelsay.

Date	Cantor	Reader	Usher/s	Communion Assistant	Altar Guild
Jan. 29	Ernie Butenschoen	Kim Stoffregen	Nona Paxton	Kim Stoffregen	Kim Stoffregen

Kids Celebrate

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

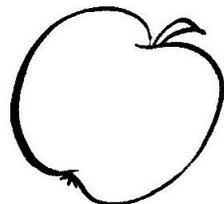
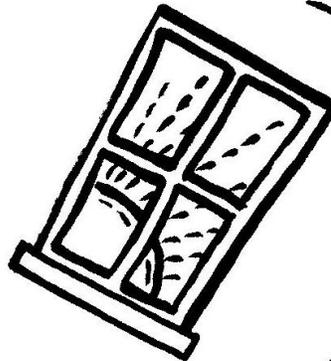
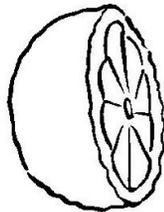
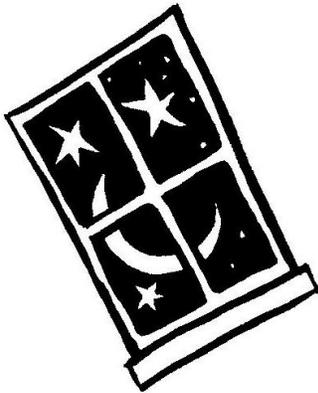


gather

Welcome to worship.

God surprises us with things we don't expect. Jesus came to us as a baby, not as a powerful king. Jesus talks to all people, not just the important leaders. He tells them the opposite of what they expect to hear.

Draw lines connecting the opposites.

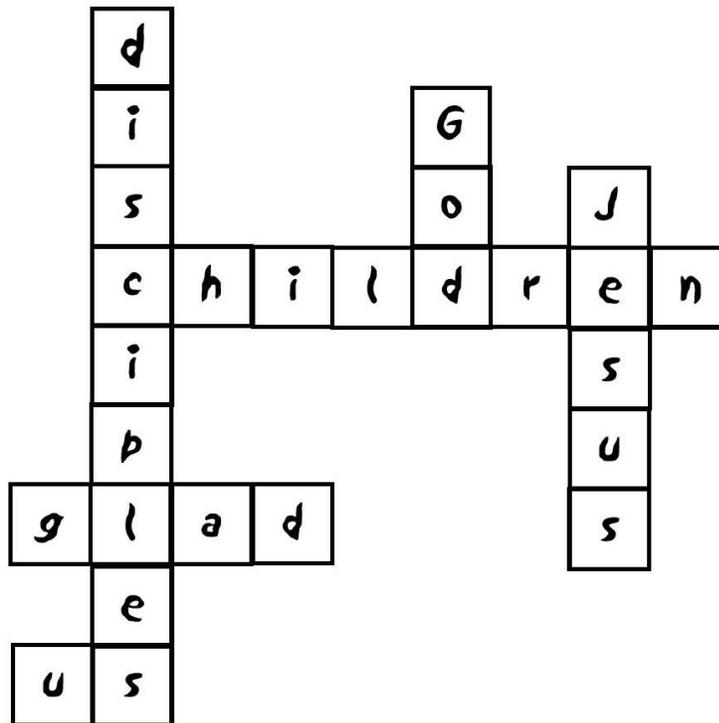


Inside out

Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus turned many rules inside out.

This inside out puzzle is already finished. Use the puzzle to fill in the blanks below.



_____ taught the

_____:

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see

_____. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will

be called _____ of God.

Rejoice and be _____. God blesses _____.



Be with us, Jesus, as we serve others. Amen

Serving others

The pastor gives a blessing from God at the end of worship called the *benediction*. God blesses us. We pass the blessing on by serving others.



What is wrong with this restaurant? Who is serving? Who is being served? Circle people who are out of place.

This week

Thank people who serve you: mail carriers, school staff, family, and friends.