

Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sunday, January 31, 2021

Welcome

Greeting

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

Call to Worship

God comes into a world filled with uncertainties and darkness.

God seeks out the voids of belief and conviction.

God embraces the wounded and broken.

God knocks down the walls of division and strife.

God is the candle shining in the darkness of our days.

God is the light of our lives.

God is the one who makes all things new.

Praise be to God, now and forevermore!

Song – Jesus Shall Reign¹

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run,
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King,
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

Prayer of the Day

The Readings

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet

shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.’ The Word of the Lord

Psalm 111

Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures for ever.
He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
He has shown his people the power of his works,

in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

They are established for ever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for ever.

Holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

all those who practise it have a good understanding. His praise endures for ever.

The Word of the Lord

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the Sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, ‘What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.’ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, ‘Be silent, and come out of him!’ And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, ‘What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.’ At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. The Gospel of the Lord

Reflection

Song: There is a Balm in Gilead²

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. [*Refrain*]

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all." [*Refrain*]

Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge, he'll ne'er refuse to lend. [*Refrain*]

Prayers of the People: We pray: *Let us pray...* and respond: *Have mercy, O God.*

Holy Communion (Zoom Only)

The Lord's Prayer

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us;

C: 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, and 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.

Benediction

Song – Son of God, Eternal Saviour³

Son of God, eternal Saviour, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,
you, our Head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead,
fill us with your love and pity; heal our wrongs, and help our need.

As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted, freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver, yours the wealth of land and sea,
we but stewards of your bounty, held in solemn trust will be.

Son of God, eternal Saviour, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,
by your praying, by your willing that your people should be one,
grant, O grant our hope's fruition: here on earth your will be done.

Dismissal L: Go in peace. Christ is with you. *C: Thanks be to God*

¹ ELW hymn #434, vs. 1, 2 & 5. In the Public Domain

² ELW hymn #614. In the Public Domain

³ ELW hymn #655, vs. 1, 2, & 4. In the Public Domain