



THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE  
EPIPHANY  
FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF  
OUR LORD & THE PURIFICATION  
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN  
(FEBRUARY 2)

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**WELCOME TO ALL!** We are pleased you are here!

**GUESTS** – if you are participating in the live stream during this time, welcome to our Divine Service! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

† In the Name of Jesus †

Prayer before Worship: Lord God, heavenly Father, in Your divine wisdom and fatherly goodness You cause Your children to bear the cross, and send many afflictions upon us to subdue our sinful flesh, and to enliven our hearts to faith, hope, and unceasing prayer: We beseech You to have mercy upon us, and graciously deliver us out of our trials and afflictions, so that we may perceive Your grace and fatherly help, and with all the saints forever praise and worship You; through Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*The Divine Service: Rite Two*  
*Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary: p. 60*

The Office of the Preparation  
(Confession & Absolution)

JANUARY 30, 2022 † 9:00 A. M.

Hymn of Invocation: *1, Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word*

**C: Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word We are gathered all to hear Thee;  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear Thee,  
By Thy teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love Thee solely.**

**All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
Till Thy Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded.  
Thou alone to God canst win us; Thou must work all good within us.**

**Glorious Lord, Thyself impart, Light of Light, from God proceeding;  
Open Thou our ears and heart, Help us by Thy Spirit's pleading.  
Hear the cry Thy people raises, Hear and bless our prayers and praises.**

**Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Praise to Thee and adoration!  
Grant that we Thy Word may trust, And obtain true consolation  
While we here below must wander, Till we sing Thy praises yonder.**

*At the Invocation and Absolution all **may** make the sign of the †  
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

Invocation

**P:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Confession of Sin (form II)

**P:** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseech Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P:** Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

**P:** I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;

**C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**P:** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.**

**C: Grant this unto us, O Lord. Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

Introit

Tone 1



Antiphon (**Pastor**) Worship Him, all `you His angels:/ Zion hears `and is *glad*.

And the daughters of `Judah rejoice:/ Because of Your `judgments, O Lord.

Psalm (**All**) **The Lord reigns; let `the earth rejoice:/ Let the multitude `of isles be glad!**

**He preserves the `souls of His saints:/ He delivers them out of the hand `of the wicked.**

**Light is sown `for the righteous:/ And gladness for the `upright in heart.**

**Rejoice in the `Lord, you righteous:/ And give thanks at the remembrance of `His holy name.**

Gloria Patri (**All**) **Glory be to the Father `and to the Son:/ and to `the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the be`ginning, is now:/ and ever shall be, forever`more. Amen.**

Antiphon (**All**) **Worship Him, all `you His angels:/ Zion hears `and is *glad*.**

**And the daughters of `Judah rejoice:/ Because of Your `judgments, O Lord.**

Kyrie

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Gloria in Excelsis

**P:** Glory be to God on high:

**C:** **And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise You, we bless You, we worship You,  
we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory.**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King,**

**God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.**

**You are seated at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy  
upon us.**

**For You only are holy. You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the  
Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## Salutation

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And with your spirit.**

## Collect for the Day

**P:** Almighty God, You know that we are set in the midst of so many and great dangers, and that because of the weakness of our mortal nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in 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 true God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Collect for the Presentation of Our Lord & the Purification of Mary (February 2)

**P:** Almighty and ever-living God, we humbly beseech Your Majesty that, as Your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto You with pure and clean hearts; by the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Old Testament: *Jonah 1:1-17*

**P:** *In those days* the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me." But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa,

and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. But the Lord sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up. Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, and lain down, and was fast asleep. So the captain came to him, and said to him, “What do you mean, sleeper? Arise, call on your God; perhaps your God will consider us, so that we may not perish.” And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this trouble has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell to Jonah. Then they said to him, “Please tell us! For whose cause is this trouble upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” So he said to them, “I am a Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, Who made the sea and the dry land.” Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, “Why have you done this?” For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them. Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?” – for the sea was growing more tempestuous. And he said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest is because of me.” Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to the land, but they could not, for the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them. Therefore they cried out to the Lord and said, “We pray, O Lord, please do not let us perish for this man’s life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for You, O Lord, have done as it pleased You.” So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the Lord and took vows. Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (All)

Tone 1



**The nations shall fear the `name of the Lord:/ And all the kings of the `earth Your glory.  
For the Lord shall `build up Zion:/ He shall appear `in His glory.**

Epistle: *Romans 13:8-10*

**P:** *Brethren:* Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has

fulfilled the law. For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia Verse (Pastor)**

Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice: Let the multitude of isles be glad, Alleluia!

**C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Holy Gospel: *St. Matthew 8:23-27***

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to † St. Matthew, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter:

**C: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

**P:** *At that time* when [Jesus] got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!” But He said to them, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?” Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. So the men marveled, saying, “Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?”

**P:** This is the † Holy Gospel.

**C: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

**Apostles’ Creed: pp. 68-69**

**C: 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 heavenly  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From there He shall 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.**

*Chief Hymn: 207, Seek Where Ye May to Find a Way*

**C: Seek where ye may To find a way That leads to your salvation.  
My heart is stilled; On Christ I build, He is the one Foundation.  
His Word is sure; His works endure. He doth o'erthrown My ev'ry foe;  
Through Him I more than conquer.**

**Seek whom ye may To be your stay; None can redeem his brother.  
All helpers failed; This Man prevailed, The God-Man, and none other.  
Our Servant Lord Did help afford; We're justified, For He hath died,  
The guiltless for the guilty.**

**Seek Him alone, Who did atone, Who did your souls deliver;  
Yea, seek Him first, All ye who thirst For grace that faileth never.  
In ev'ry need Seek Him indeed; To ev'ry heart He will impart  
His blessings without measure.**

**My heart's Delight, My Crown most bright, Thou, Jesus, art forever.  
Nor wealth nor pride Nor aught beside Our bonds of love shall sever.  
Thou art my Lord; Thy precious Word Shall be my guide Whate'er betide.  
O teach me, Lord, to trust Thee!**

**Hide not from me, I ask of Thee, Thy gracious face and favor.  
Though floods of woe Should o'er me flow, My faith shall never waver.  
From pain and grief Grant sweet relief; For tears I weep, Lord, let me reap  
Thy heav'nly joy and glory.**

## Sermon

Pulpit Hymn (throughout Epiphany): 583, *God's Word Is Our Great Heritage*

**C: God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever;  
To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor.  
Through life it guides our way, In death it is our stay.  
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure.  
Throughout all generations.**

The Intercessions: *each petition concludes:* Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: 207, *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

**C: If thou but trust in God to guide thee And hope in Him through all thy ways,  
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee, And bear thee through the evil days;  
Who trusts in God's unchanging love Builds on the rock that naught can move.**

**What can these anxious cares avail thee, These never-ceasing moans and sighs?  
What can it help if thou bewail thee O'er each dark moment as it flies?  
Our cross and trials do but press The heavier for our bitterness.**

**Only be still, and wait His leisure In cheerful hope, with heart content  
To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure And all discerning love have sent;  
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known To Him who chose us for His own.**

**He knows the time for joy, and truly Will sent it when He sees it meet.  
When He has tried and purged thee duly, And finds thee free from all deceit,  
He comes to thee all unaware And makes thee own His loving care.**

**Nor think amid the heat of trial That God hath cast thee off unheard,  
That he whose hopes meet no denial Must surely be of God preferred;  
Time passes and much change doth bring, And sets a bound to everything.**

**All are alike before the Highest; 'Tis easy for our God, we know,  
To raise thee up though low thou liest, To make the rich man poor and low;  
True wonders still by Him are wrought Who setteth up and brings to naught.**

**Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving, So do thine own part faithfully,  
And trust His Word; though undeserving, Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.  
God never yet forsook at need The soul that trusted Him indeed.**

Collect (III): p. 86

**P:** Grant, we beseech You, Almighty God, unto Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes down from above, that Your Word, as becomes it, may not be bound, but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and in the confession of Your name abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction: p. 87

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

**C: Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: *511, Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide*

**Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide, For round us falls the eventide;  
Nor let thy Word that heav'nly light, For us be ever veiled in night.**

**In these last days of sore distress Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness  
That pure we keep, till life is spent, Thy holy Word and Sacrament.**

**Lord, Jesus, help, Thy Church uphold, We are so sluggish, thoughtless, cold,  
O prosper well Thy Word of grace And spread its truth in ev'ry place!**

**O keep us in Thy Word, we pray; The guile and rage of Satan stay!  
O may Thy mercy never cease! Give concord, patience, courage, peace.**

**O God, how sin's dread works abound! Throughout the earth no rest is found,  
And falsehood's spirit wide has spread, And error boldly rears its head.**

**And ever is there something new Devised to change Thy doctrines true;  
Lord Jesus! As Thou still dost reign, Those vain presumptuous minds restrain;**

**And as the cause and glory, Lord, Are Thine, not ours, to us afford  
Thy help and strength and constancy, And keep us ever true to Thee.**

**Thy Word shall fortify us hence, It is Thy Church's sure defense;  
O let us in its pow'r confide, That we may seek on other guide.**

**O grant that in Thy holy Word We here may live and die, dear Lord;  
And when our journey endeth here, Receive us into glory there.**

## ***Our Life Together***

**Bible Studies:** Next Sunday we will look at James chapter 2 following the Service at Bethany. Thursday morning study will resume this week and finish John 15. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend one or both of the bible studies either in person or online via the google hangout link. Much learning and growth in our understanding of the Sacred Scriptures takes place as we study and talk together.

**Bethany's Anniversary Potluck** is scheduled for Sunday, February 13, following the Service. The Mary/Martha Circle has decided to also hold the annual Bunco Game at the same time. Also, since that day is Super Bowl Sunday, everyone is invited to stick around so we can enjoy the game together. Kickoff is 3:30pm. *Everyone from Bethany and Concordia is invited to attend.*

**New Website:** Check out the new parish website: [gorgelutherans.com](http://gorgelutherans.com). Thank you to Debbie Larson for volunteering to manage the site.

**Concordia's Quarterly Meeting** that had been scheduled for January 23 needs to be rescheduled.

**The Center for Apologetics & Worldview** February article is available in hard copy on the literature table in the narthex. This month's article was written by Bethany Professor Emeritus, Alan Quist. The title of this month's article is: *Is It Reasonable to Believe that Miracles Happen?* Take extra copies to pass out to family and friends!

**More Topics, More Guests, More Jesus...Issues, Etc.** is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. *This*

*week's teachings include: A Lutheran Response to Relativism, Luther, Walther & Depression, The Movie "Don't Look Up," Liturgical Living and more. You can listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), or download the free LPR mobile app on your cellphone.*

### **Feasts, Commemorations, and Events this Week**

***The Office of Matins ("Morning Prayer") is live streamed  
Tuesday through Saturday at 8:00am***

**Monday:** Pastor's Day Off

**Tuesday:** Pastor at Bethany

**Wednesday:** FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD AND THE PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY; Pastor at Concordia

**Thursday:** Pastor at Bethany; Bible Study, 10am

**Friday:** Pastor at Concordia

**Saturday:** *Commemoration of Old Testament Patriarch Jacob*; Pastor at Bethany

**Next Sunday:** *Last Sunday After Epiphany (Transfiguration of Our Lord)*

Concordia Holy Communion, 9am

Bethany Holy Communion, 11am; Bible Study 12:30pm

Today's CHIEF HYMN, *Seek Where Ye May to Find a Way* (ELH 207) was written by George Weissel (1590-1635), Lutheran pastor in Koenigsberg, Prussia. The hymn is a beautiful description of the saving work of Christ as the only way of salvation. Its application of the events of today's gospel to the Christian soul is plain. As Christ stilled the storm by the power of His Word, so "My heart is still, on Christ I build ... His Word is sure, His works endure; He doth o'erthrow My every foe; Through Him I more than conquer" (st. 1). The remaining stanzas are full of these kinds of dogmatic assertions that teach and apply Christ calming the storm to our life in Christ: "We're justified, For He hath died, The Guiltless for the guilty" (st. 2); "Seek Him alone, Who did atone, Who did your souls deliver..." (st. 3); "Thou art my Lord; Thy precious Word Shall be my guide, Whate'er betide. Oh, teach me, Lord, to trust Thee!" (st. 4)

The whole creation groans (Romans 8:22) because of sin's brokenness. Every life involves suffering, especially as last days draw near and bodies begin to fail. Still such circumstances have significance—our Lord describes them as the labor of childbirth. Jesus redeems our weaknesses to bear witness of a better life by His power that sustains us in our pain (Romans 8:18). Injuries, infections, and impairments only affect us as far as He permits (Matthew 8:26), and elderly and terminal lives matter eternally!

*Almighty Maker, comfort us with community in You even as our flesh crumbles.  
Amen.*

***Life Thoughts in the Church Year/One Year Lectionary – Lutherans For Life***