



January 28th, 2024
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Virginia, MN
Pastor Liz Cheney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Oh, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW 886

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 creator of darkness and light,
 word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**
 Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant.
Renew your creation.
Restore us,
that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.
 God has spoken:
 The time of grace is now.
 In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
 By the authority of † Jesus Christ,
 your sins are forgiven.
 You are God's beloved. **Amen.**

KYRIE

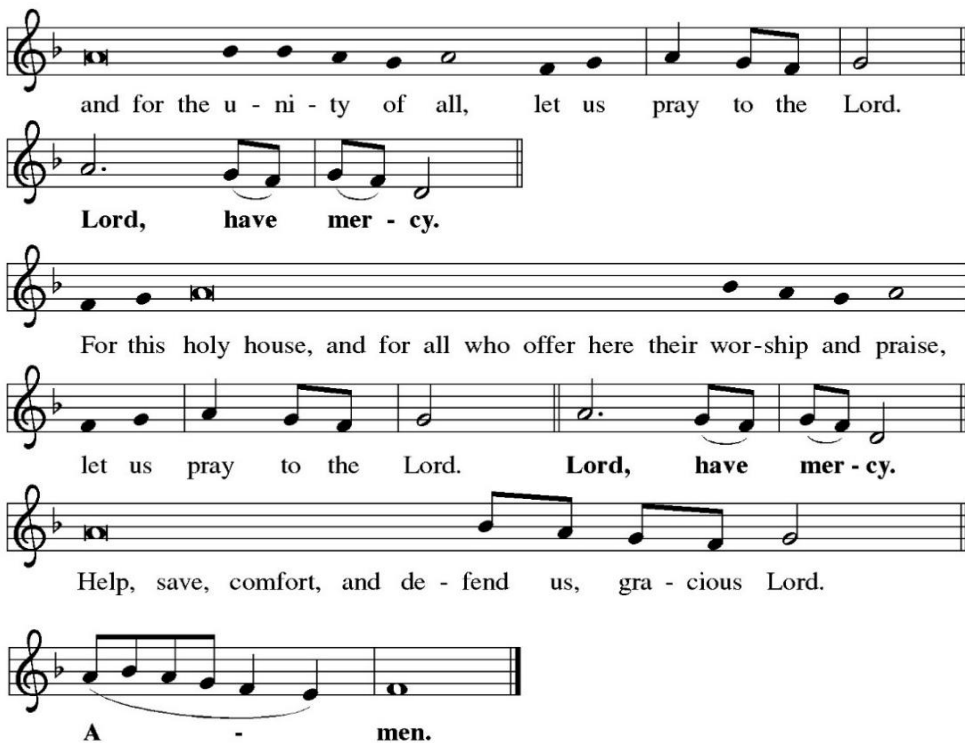
pg. 121

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE **Glory to God**



Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
 1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we
 wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.
Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of

God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are
 seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY Let us pray. **Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This 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." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I 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. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But 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." Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 111

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²**Great are your works, O LORD,
pondered by all who delight in them.**

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴**You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

⁶**You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Mark 1:21-28 The Holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and 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." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They 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." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S TIME - Mystery box

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God of Light

ELW 507

APOSTLES CREED

pg. 105

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.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. *God of grace, receive our prayer.*

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

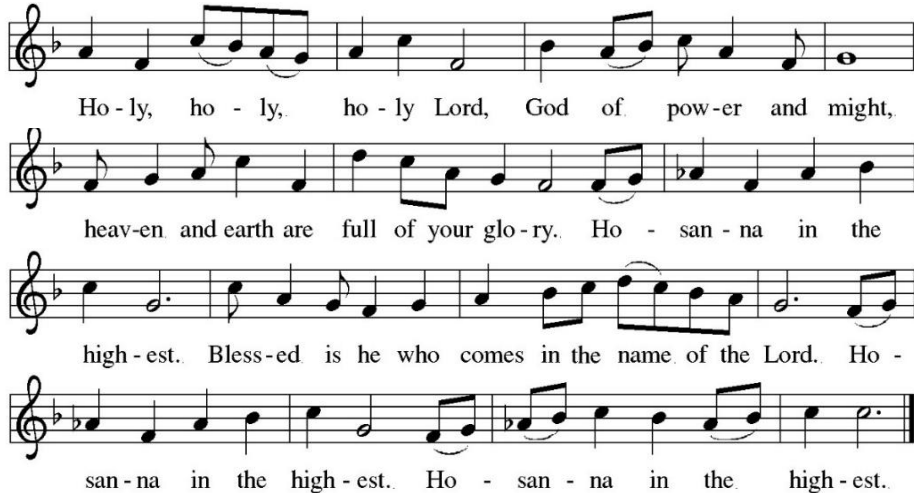
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

pg. 134

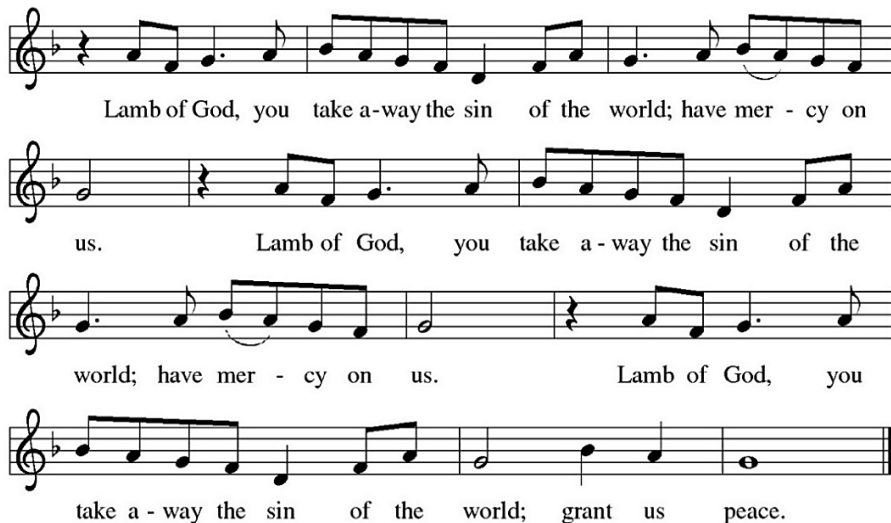
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table. All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD

pg. 135



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 HYMNS

Healer of Our Every Ill
There is a Balm in Gilead

ELW 612

ELW 614

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✚ bless you and remain with you always. Amen.

SENDING SONG

Let the Whole Creation Cry

ELW 876

DISMISSAL Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Mark Ongalo

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Steve, Gary, Jeannie, Dale, Roya, Larry, Mickey (community), Phyllis S., JoAnne, Barbara, Tom, Mark, Jess, Kate, Joe, Matthew, Russ, Carolyn B., Dan, Adeline, Jesse, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Diane, Chuck, Sue, Mike, Kate, Matt, Ken, Ruth T., Hermine, Deb L., Matt, Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas), Brandon, Jessica, Breanna, Jeremy, Richard, Shari, Rodney, Lee, Kathy, Mary, Wally C., Marlene, Victoria.

Call Janet Heglund, prayer leader for this month, at 218-749-6143, for prayer needs.

If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US

OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN 55792

Church Office: 218-741-6207

office@oslcmn.com

www.oslcmn.com

www.facebook.com/oslcmn

YouTube Page ~ Our Savior's Lutheran Church Virginia MN Office

OFFICE HOURS

Office Admin hours are Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Liz will be here Mon. - Thurs., and off Fridays - 218-780-8907
or lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, Ginny Ahrlin



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



ANNOUNCEMENTS JANUARY 28th 2023

CLOTHING SALE The OSLC Annual Clothing Sale this year will be held **Friday, Apr. 19th & Sat., Apr. 20th**. *Times will be posted soon.* You may bring donated clothing and leave them bagged on a back table, left side of the Fellowship Hall. *Thank you! If you can help with the sale, let Marcia Aluni or Gloria Gagnon know!*

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST We'll host this free event **every 2nd Saturday of the month, 9am – 12noon.** **February 10th** is our next Breakfast. Do you know anyone who attends midweek Senior meals, or who goes to Salvation Army? Invite them! This is a community event & we are hoping to reach people with the information who may need, or just wish to enjoy a warm meal on the weekend. *Help us get the word out!*

CHOIR If you are interested in singing in the church Choir, please talk with Mark Ongalo or Pastor Liz.

NEWSLETTER If you have something important for February's Newsletter, please let the office know by email at office@oslcmn.com or call us at 218-741-6207 by noon on Tuesday, Jan.30th!

VLM NEWS If you are a delegate, going to be one, or are just interested in Voyageur's Lutheran Ministry, you may pick up a copy of their Annual Report in the narthex, along with their new brochures for the upcoming camp season. You are free to take one home & share with family or friends who have children that may be interested in camp. *Their Annual Meeting will be **Feb. 10th 11am – 1pm**, at Messiah Lutheran Church in Mt. Iron.*

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS We are in need of people to sign up to help **serve communion, be a lector, usher, greet**, etc...in order for worship on Sunday mornings to run smoothly. The sign-up sheets are located on the kiosk in the narthex. This work belongs to all of us, the ministers of the congregation. We all can take a Sunday to help out in many ways and that makes the work light. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to sign up for one Sunday, a couple Sundays, a whole month to assist in worship in 2024. Not sure how to do something, just ask!

LITTLE PANTRY **Peanut butter & oatmeal** are healthy foods nationally highlighted for the month of January, but both are staples during the winter! There is also a need for boxed meals, pasta & rice, warm breakfast items (oatmeal, malt-o-meal, pancake mix) pouched food (like tuna fish), peanut butter & jelly in plastic bottles for our Little Pantry. Many community members stop by to place food in it, and our church has been faithful in supplying food as well – thank you! Donating even an item or two adds up and provides a meal for someone. *Thinking ahead, February's focus will be heart healthy meals.*

TECH TEAM FORMATION It's exciting to see what we will be able to do in the very near future! Shortly, Our Savior's will have the equipment and ability to live stream our worship services, funerals, weddings, concerts, etc... LIVE! People will be able to tune in at 9:30 on Sunday mornings and watch our worship in the moment on both our FB page & YouTube. This is very exciting! Pastor is looking to put together a

Tech Team that would be able to help on Sunday mornings get mics on, camera on, radio on, easy tasks... Dan Peliska has been our solo Tech Team with help from our secretary Colleen. It's time to expand our team, and with our new equipment, now seems to be a good time. Please talk with Pastor Liz if you are interested in helping out in this way.

RADIO SPONSORSHIP If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday Worship in honor of someone or a special event (wedding anniversary, birth of children, baptism date) or in memory of a loved one who has passed, you may do so in full for \$90 or shared/partial at \$45. Just call the church office, **and/or sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board by the fountain. You can also sponsor to support our new tech and sound equipment.**

EVENTS & MEETINGS:

Quilting, 9am – 2-3pm, Wed., 1/31

Community event (Historical Society meeting) in the Fellowship Hall Friday 3-5pm, 2/2

Adult Forum, after worship, Sunday, 2/4

Free Community Breakfast 9am – 12pm, Sat., 2/10

ASH WEDNESDAY IS EARLY THIS YEAR, THE SERVICE WILL BE AT 6PM, WED., FEB. 14TH

***YOUR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MAILED OUT!**

JOIN US WEDNESDAYS @ 6PM THIS LENTEN SEASON.

FEB. 21ST & 28TH - MAR. 6TH, 13TH & 20TH

WE WILL BEGIN WITH A MEAL TOGETHER, THEN

WORSHIP. THE THEME IS *ALTERED BY THE SPIRIT*

**JOIN US ON THIS JOURNEY OF
REFLECTION & DISCOVERY.**

ALTERED
by the spirit

**E-GIVING TO OSLC
MINISTRIES WITH OUR
QR CODE MAKES IT A
SIMPLE TASK. SCAN IT WITH
WITH YOUR PHONE'S
CAMERA TO LEARN MORE!**



THERE IS A FAMILY IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DONATE, BRING THEM IN TO THE OFFICE AND PASTOR LIZ WILL BRING THEM TO THE FAMILY. **THANK YOU!!**

MEN'S BOXERS sz large

MENS SOCKS sz 13.5-14

MEN'S WINTER CLOTHING sz 2X

WOMEN'S BOOTS sz 11

WOMEN'S SOCKS sz 9

WOMEN'S UNDERWEAR sz MEDIUM

GIRL'S WINTER CLOTHES & UNDERWEAR sz 5T-6

KID'S SOCKS sz 10-13

BOYS WINTER CLOTHES sz 14/16

VARIOUS AGE. GIRLS & BOYS HATS & MITTENS

ROCK RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL & CONCORDIA COLLEGE MOORHEAD BAND NEED OUR HELP!

Are you interested in being a **HOST HOME** for a few college students who will need a place to stay for a night, **Wed., Feb. 7th**, as they work with Rock Ridge Students and perform together Thursday, Feb. 8th? The concert is also open to the public and is sure to be entertaining! Concordia College is bridging their well-known music department's teaching to Rock Ridge students with Master classes etc., for two days and a combined concert - it is a blessing to local students. Maybe a few people can bless them with a meal and a warm place to stay! If you think this sounds possible for you, please contact Daniel Melby, Rock Ridge Band Teacher @ 641-251-4598.