



And with Authority

Grace Lutheran Church

January 31, 2021

Epiphany 4



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GREETING

- L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- L. We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C. Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- L. God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C. Amen..**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- L: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- ♪ **Praise the one who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the one who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;
From this well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**

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**Let us praise the Word incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the one who makes us one.**
(Christian Worship 353)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, you know that we are surrounded by many dangers and that we often stumble and fall. Strengthen us in body and mind, and bring us safely through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The great prophet Moses points us to the one who would be the greater prophet – the One who would proclaim good news and with authority: Jesus.

¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die."

¹⁷The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."



- L. Blessed is the one
C. **who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
²but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.**

*Blessed are we
when we meditate
on God's Word.*

**³That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.**

**⁴Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.**

**⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**

- L. For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**



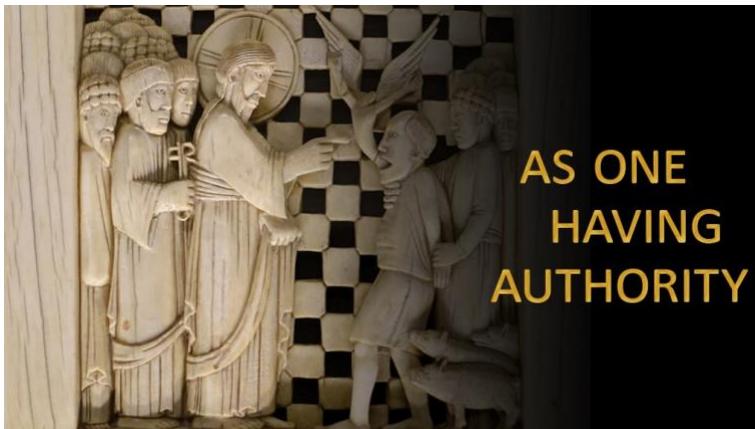
²¹They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²²The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. ²³Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴“What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

²⁵“Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” ²⁶The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

²⁷The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” ²⁸News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Abide O Dearest Jesus (#333)

- 1 Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with your grace
That Satan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.**
- 2 Abide, O dear Redeemer, Among us with your Word
And thus now and hereafter True peace and joy afford.**
- 3 Abide with heav'nly brightness Among us, precious Light;
Your truth direct and keep us From error's gloomy night.**
- 4 Abide with richest blessings Among us, bounteous Lord;
Let us in grace and wisdom Grow daily through your Word.**
- 5 Abide with your protection Among us, Lord, our Strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.**
- 6 Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with your love;
Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.**

PRAYERS

Virginia Hayden – recovering from knee surgery

Wayne Madsen – recovering from pneumonia

Warren Nesbihal and family – his brother-in-laws are both suffering from severe cases of Covid

CALENDAR

Thursday – No Zoom Bible Study this week

FRIDAY – Recording next week's service

SUNDAY – Worship – online or 9:30 AM in the breezeway
Confirmation class



Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace

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