

January 31-Feb 1, 2026
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

5p/9a Worship Service



First Lutheran
discover more : **together**

As We Gather at Your Table



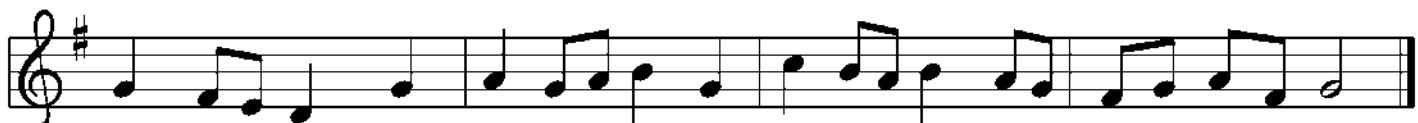
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABELONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710

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Prelude: Two Settings on "Let Streams of Living Justice" - Arr. Farlee, Miller

Welcome

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

All:Amen.

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

(brief silence) Mighty God, lover of justice,

**All: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was
needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to
seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we
may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness
of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you
strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

All: Amen.

Opening Hymn: *ELW* #522

“As We Gather at Your Table”

Greeting

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

All:And also with you.

Hymn of Praise: “This is the Feast” ... pg 101 →

Refrain



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



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

2 Sing . . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and

Bless-ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain



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

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain



gun his reign. Al - - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

All: Amen.

(5p) Special Music by the Junior Choir

"Light of the World" ... Bedford

Children's Message

Sit

Intro to the Reading:

L: In the gospel, Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed by God. In the first reading, the message of the cross does not make sense according to the world's standards of power. Yet God chose to work power through weakness. The message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers. A reading from 1 Corinthians, chapter 1

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 *NRSVue*

L: ²⁶ Consider 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. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Continued →

Gospel Acclamation pg. 102



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

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The Gospel according St. Matthew, the fifth chapter...

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12 NRSVue

P: ¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And 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 the sake of righteousness, 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon ... Pr. Craig Brown

Stand

Let Streams of Living Justice



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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Hymn of the Day: ELW #710
"Let Streams of Living Justice"

Lector: Go to the Ambo for the Prayers

The Apostles' Creed...Page 105

All: 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.**

THE PRAYERS →
L: Hear us, O God.
All: Your mercy is great.

Passing of the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you

P: Let us turn to one another, offering a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering of Gratitude:

(Sit) P: You may be seated.

We give God our thanks and praise in response to God's mercy and abundance.

We invite you to place your gratitude card along with any offering you have in the plate at this time or make an offering electronically.

Would the ushers please come forward.

Lector—Go to Ambo before Prayer; remain up front for communion.

(9a) Special Music: "What Does the Lord Require of You" Hobby
Adult Choir; Thomas Wolle, violin

(9)Offertory Hymn: ACS #976 "Come and See"
(sung twice through)

All: What are you looking for?

Come, see, come and see.

What are you looking for?

Come and see. (Come and see.)

Offertory Prayer:

L: *(5p) Please Stand and*

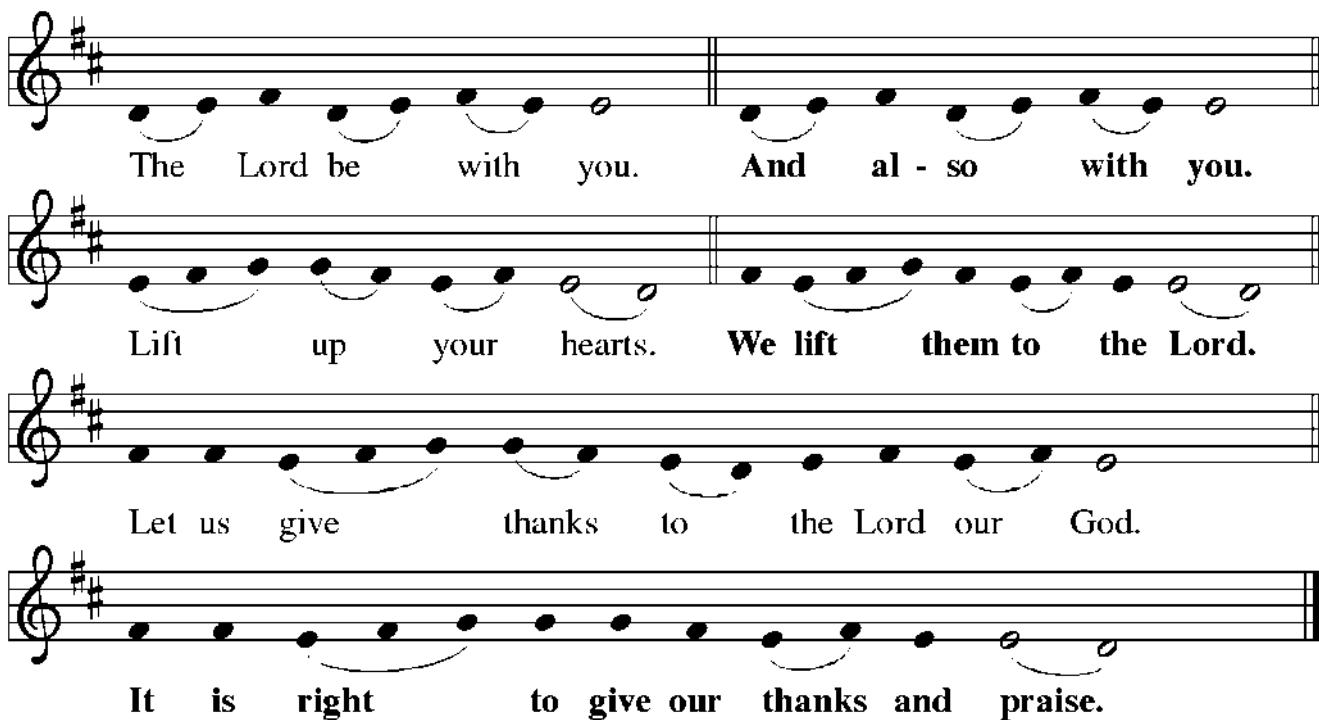
(9a) Let us pray.

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.

Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: ... page 107



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major, common time. The lyrics are as follows:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

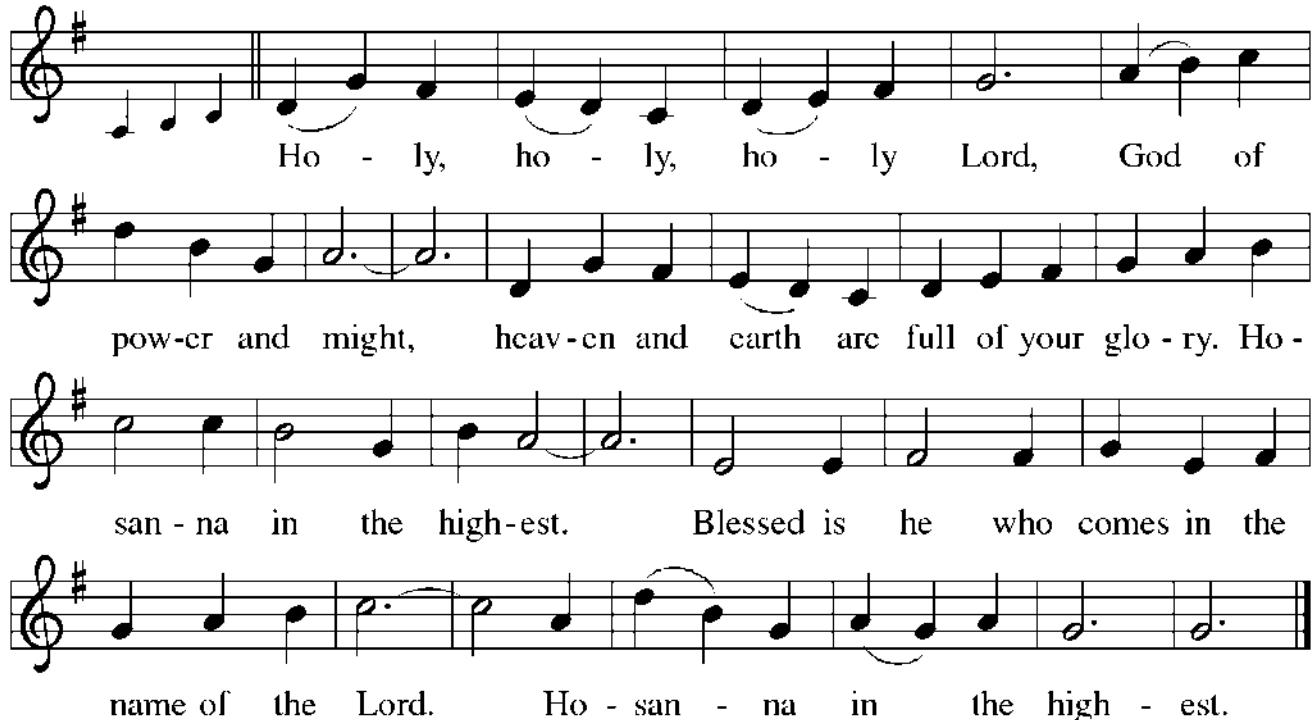
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Epiphany Preface:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus: “Holy, Holy, Holy”... page 108



The musical notation consists of five staves of music in G major, common time. The lyrics are as follows:

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. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

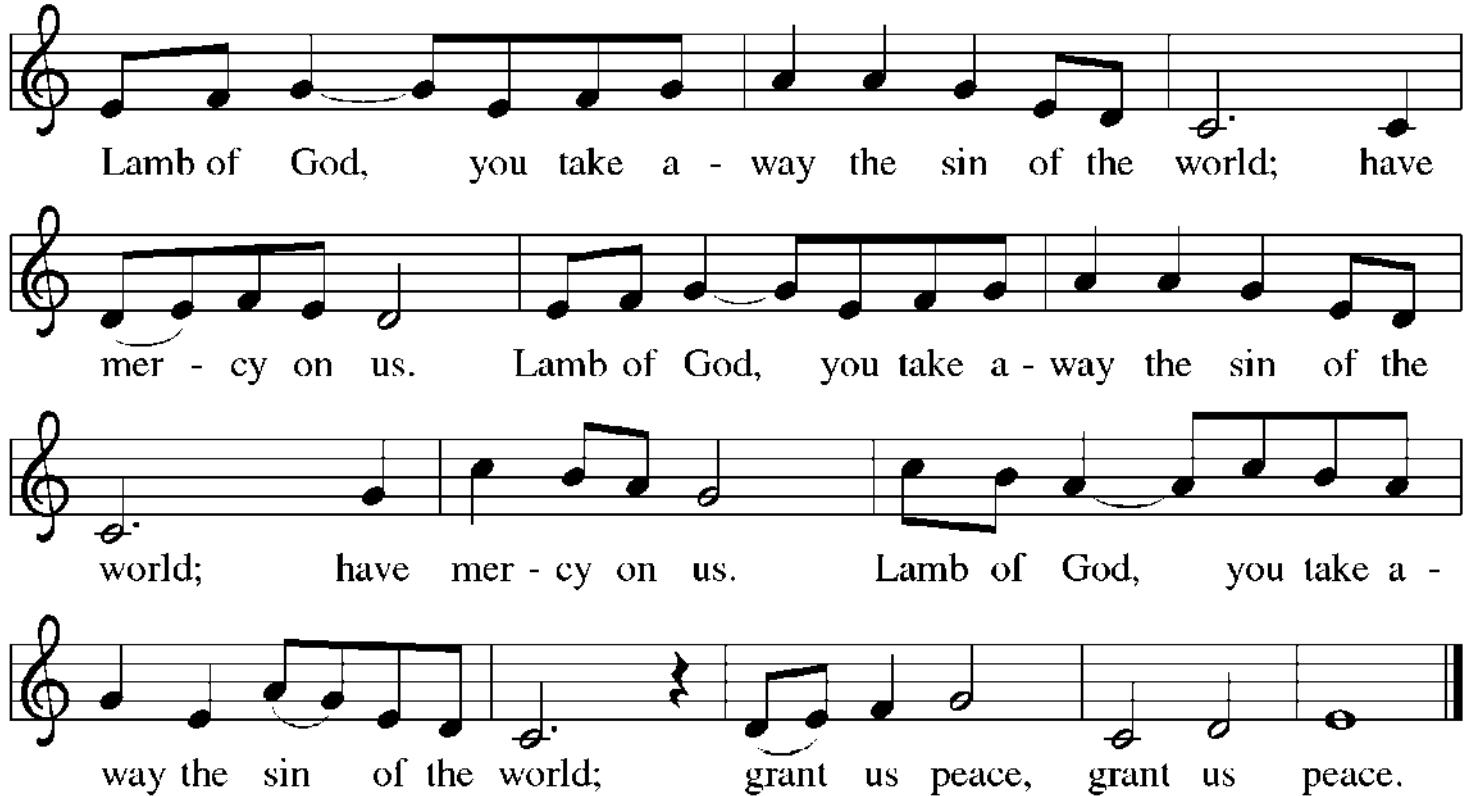
P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: 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.**

P: You may be seated. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward. There is gluten free bread and juice available upon request. The table is set and all are welcome. (optional) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Lamb of God ... page 112



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, grant us peace.

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel-come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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Communion Hymn: ACS #1062 "Build a Longer Table"

Lector—go to the ambo as Pastor covers communion elements.

Stand

The Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,
and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

L: Radiant God,

we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

- Sending -

Benediction:

P: May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise,
bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn: ELW #546 → on the back →
“To Be Your Presence”

Dismissal:

L: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Fanfare and Toccata on "Let Streams of Living Justice"
- Arr. Michael Bedford

To Be Your Presence

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,
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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

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