

**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World
and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church
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***Holy Communion Service
Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 19, 2025***

PRELUDE

played by organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHOIR INTROIT

OPENING HYMN

“All Are Welcome”

ELW # 641

[Printed on Pages 13 and 14]

GREETING

P Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, be upon us all.

C **And also with you.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C **Merciful God, you offer your blessings and compassion upon the world. Forgive us when we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. Forgive us when we ignore the needs of our neighbors; resist your call to oppose injustice; give in to scarcity and fear; or assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness and grace. Restore our hearts, redeem our lives, and repair your world, that we may live always in the light of Christ. Amen.**

- P** God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In † Christ, we are forgiven. In the Spirit, we are free.
Refreshed by the baptismal promises of mercy, let us live anew as beloved children of God.
- C** **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

- C** Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD’S HOLY WORD PROCLAIMED

Introduction

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God’s glory to us as it was made known to the magi, to those on Jordan’s banks, and even at a family wedding. Our compassionate God join us in our sorrow and distress, and also in our joy and celebration, and at times we may be surprised how good God’s blessings and God’s timing can be. Today we, too, are invited to taste and see that the Lord is good.

The First Lesson is from Isaiah chapter 62 verses 1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn
and her salvation like a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your vindication
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³ You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the LORD
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her
and your land Married,
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 36:5-10

We feast upon the abundance of your house, O Lord. (Ps. 36:8)

- ⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ⁶ Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the
great deep;
you save humankind and animals, O LORD.
- ⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
- ⁸ They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.
- ⁹ For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.
- ¹⁰ Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.

The Second Lesson is from 1 Corinthians chapter 12 verses 1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

- ¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. ² You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the

same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

(Congregation stands and sings “Thy Word” before the Gospel.)

The Gospel Lesson is from John chapter 2 verses 1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus’ signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God’s creative power and joyful presence into the world.

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. ⁹ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have

become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

C Praise to you, O Christ



SERMON

The Rev. Murray Finck

“Surprise! Surprise!”

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 word "catholic" in the creed means "universal." It is the original word used as this profession of faith was adopted by the early Christian Church.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L ... God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

Offering Prayer

P God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight, and you have blessed us with bounty. Receive these gifts from your gracious abundance, and help us to join with the choruses of creation to tell of your love. We thank you for this Holy Table as you offer us your greatest gift of grace.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LBW [Green Book] Page 71

Invitation to Communion

P Receive the gift of Jesus. The table is ready and all are welcome
Holy Communion Distribution (The Congregation is invited by the ushers to come forward to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. If you are unable to come to the altar, Holy Communion will be brought to you in the pew. We believe Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice. Those who are baptized and share that belief are always welcome at this table. Please speak to the Pastor if you have any questions. The inside circle of glasses contains white grape juice.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

C Merciful God, we thank you for Christ Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by his goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.

Blessing

P May the God of love, life, and light, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, inundate us with grace, illumine our path, and increase our joy, today and always.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

WOV [Blue Book] # 755

“We All Are One in Mission”

[Printed on Page 15]

Dismissal

P Go in peace. May the Word of God dwell in you fully.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

played by organist

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Interim Pastor: The Rev. Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus

Organist and Choir Director: Sharon Heck

Flowers are given by: *In Honor of the Birth of Anthony Joseph Arroyo.*

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

<i>Presider:</i>	The Rev. Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus
<i>Organist:</i>	Sharon Heck
<i>Holy Communion Assistant:</i>	Sylvia Makus
<i>Acolyte</i>	Sylvia Makus
<i>Reader:</i>	Carol Costello
<i>Prayer Leader:</i>	Nancy Anderson
<i>Financial Team:</i>	Sylvia Makus and Doris Weinert

THIS WEEK

Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. Bible Study
No Office Hours

Next Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service

Redeemer Finance: January Offering through January 12

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$8,250.00
Offering	<u>\$5,166.00</u>
Needed for Budget	\$3,084.00

CHURCH COUNCIL

Wendy Alfageme, Nancy Anderson, Susan Avila, Carol Costello, Sandy Langdale, Carmen Leslie, Betty Lucero, Sylvia Makus, Linda Peters Kay Pushman, and Michael Vanvales, Doris Weinert

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Barry, Jean, Kathy, Beverly, Nancy, Evelyn, Shirlene, Carol, Mickey, Evelyn, Gloria, Christa, Alice, Barbara, Cedric, Lucy, Karen, Kelly, Raymond, Dick, Marilyn, Brian, Carl, Jessica, Carol, Rose, Sandra, Elaine, Carmen, Barbara, Betty, **Nancy**, **Phyllis**, Sylvia, Flo, Eileen, **Erich**, Leslie, Linda, Ronnie, Kay, Violet, Linda, Ron, Collette, **Lisa**, Patty, Barbara, Joan, **Dee**, Susan, Kathy, **Juanita**, Clarence, Debbie, Joan, Doris, Linda, **Bruce**, Alma, Martha, Marianne, Robert, Laura, Jim, Loretta, Ray, Patty, Delrie, Bill, Betty, Lorna, M. Teresa, Joan, Mike, Frankie, Donna, Ernie, Eileen, Darleen, Sharon, Danuta, Lynne, Ethan, Kurt, Brinly, McCall, Kathy, Nayleen, Nicole, Donald, Maria, Andy, Owen, Tom, Anastasia, Claire, Fran, Chris, Kyle, Michele, Wes, Sam, Kolt, Brigid, Joanna, Dale, Karla, **Sands**, Gloria, Tom, Rosalia, Elaine, Rachel, Mike, **Richard**, **Kelsey**, Ginny, Christina, Margaret, Steven, Dian, EK Song, **Vicky**, **Fran**, and **Patti**. Please contact the church to add people to the prayer list.

Please pray for those affected by the wildfires, fire personnel, and first responders during these devastating wildfires.

Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, (ELCA) and Bishop John Taylor (ECUSA), the victims of the Ukrainian/Russian, Israel/Hamas conflicts, the civil strife in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.

Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

- † Welcome to everyone this morning, and especially to our guests and visitors.
- † Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Visitors, especially, are invited to fill out a card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!
- † Everyone is invited downstairs to the Fellowship Hall for coffee, treats, and fellowship (we have tea, too!). You are encouraged to continue to wear your name tags at fellowship so we can greet one another by name. The basket will be available downstairs so your name tag can be collected and ready to wear next week.
- † The Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, January 22 at noon in the Fellowship Hall when we plan to finish our study of the Ten Commandments with watching the movie **The Ten Commandments**.
- † As the new year begins, we are looking over our Prayer List and are concerned that while we are all in need of prayers, the list has become very long. Please listen carefully to the names read during the Prayers of the People (bolded in the prayer list) and read over the Prayer List in the bulletin. If you have added names, please let us know when we can remove them. The prayer list is meant for additional prayers when someone is going through a special need for more prayer. Examples: surgeries, cancer, heart concerns, falls, broken bones, hospital stays, accidents, hospice, and such immediate conditions in need of extra prayers.
- † If you wish to donate to the people affected by the wildfires, you may make a check to Lutheran Disaster Response and note the funds are for the L A Wildfires or donate cash in an envelope and put it in the collection plate. Please note on the envelope that it is for Lutheran Disaster Response. You may also donate online at: <https://www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response>

- † Forms for the Memorial Cross Wall are in the Narthex if you wish to honor a friend or family member in this way.
- † Please let us know if you are having medical issues, so we can offer pastoral care and our prayers during your difficult times. Speak to a member of the Church Council or call the office number: (562) 598-8697.
- † The elevator is working. Please see Kay Pushman, Wendy Alfageme, or Sylvia Makus to use the elevator, even if you have used it before.
- † Call for the Leisure World On-Call Bus Service up to three days in advance if you are having issues with it in regard to getting to Church on Sundays. (562) 472-1367 is the dedicated line.
- † If you are having a little problem with hearing on Sundays, please remember that there are speakers in the ceiling light fixtures so sitting closer to one of those may help. We are looking into improving the sound system for the Church Sanctuary.
- † The NEW 2025 Flower Chart is available for sign-ups in the entryway. One bouquet is \$15.00. Both are \$30.00. Please include any dedication for your flower request when signing up or include a note beforehand if there is a dedication. If you take the flowers in the plastic holders, please return the holders. We try to reuse them and are currently out of them.
- † Printed copies of our current newsletter are available in the entryway. It is online on our website at: www.redeemersealbeach.com. It is sent out via email, if we have your email address. If you are not receiving the newsletter by email, or the midweek communiqué from the pastor, please put your email address on the attendance sheet in the pew pocket and put it in the collection plate, so we can add you or correct the address we have.