

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church



February 12, 2023

GATHER

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the eternal voice from heaven,
the anointed and beloved one,
the Spirit moving over the waters.

Amen.

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God who searches us and knows us,
**you have shown us what is good,
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.
We have not been just in our dealings with others.
We have chosen revenge over mercy.
We have promoted ourselves
instead of walking humbly with you.
With what shall we come before you?
Forgive us our sin,
and show us your salvation
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved of God,
you have not received the spirit of the world,
but the Spirit that is from God,
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.
Receive the promise of baptism:
You are God's child; † your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.
Amen.



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
 2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
 no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890

Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *The English Hymnal*, outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

Apostolic Greeting

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

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Christ Be Our Light

1. Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2. Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

Prayer of the Day

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Time

WORD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The Lord sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the

Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

Psalm: Psalm 119

Hap - py are those who fol - low in the
law of the Lord. Hap - py are those who
fol - low in the law of the Lord.

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Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

Alleluia Verse

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

Music: Bob Moore © Augsburg Fortress

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37 **Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother

or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

Praise to You, O Christ

Sermon

Pastor Richard Rollefson

Song of the Day

Break Dividing Walls

**There is a place of commanded blessing
Where brethren in unity dwell
A place where anointing oil is flowing
Where we live as one.**

**You have called us to be a body
You have called us as friends
Joined together in the bond
Of the Spirit unto the end**

**Father we join with the prayer of Jesus
As You are so let us be one
Joined together in unity and purpose
All for the love of Your Son**

**There is a place of commanded blessing
Where brethren in unity dwell
A place where anointing oil is flowing
Where we live as one**

**You have called us to be a body
You have called us as friends
Joined together in the bond
Of the Spirit unto the end**

**Father we join with the prayer of Jesus
As You are so let us be one**

Joined together in unity and purpose

All for the love of Your Son

We will break dividing walls

We will break dividing walls

We will break dividing walls

In the name of Your Son

We will break dividing walls

We will break dividing walls

And we will be one. (Repeat)

Affirmation of Faith

God is our eternal light shining grace and love upon us.

In the mystery and wonder of creation,

God's glory is made manifest.

In Jesus Christ, God's own face is disclosed

and God's will is revealed

in compassion and forgiveness.

By the indwelling of Holy Spirit

God's truth enlightens and guides our way

with faith and hope.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer requests: Sid & Beryl Bennett; Elsa Brody; Steve & JoAnn Bennett; Dave Lonsway & Family; Matthew Moersdorf; Family of Ed Dresp; Family of Marilyn Brown; Janis Sexton's family; Dorothy McCoid

Prayers for our church family: Janis & John Sexton; Megan, Matt, Calvin & Fletcher Thomas; Burke & Kathy Towle

The Peace & Announcements

MEAL

Offering Prayer

God of wonder,

you formed us in our mother's womb,

and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine.

We place them on your table,

together with our lives and all that you have made.

Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit.

We wait for your mercy;

we long for your peace;

we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ,

our banquet of life.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

The 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.

Communion Song

All To Jesus I Surrender

All to Jesus I surrender
All to Him I freely give
I will ever love and trust Him
In His presence daily live
I surrender all
I surrender all
All to thee, my blessed Savior
I surrender all

All to Jesus I surrender
Make me Savior wholly Thine
Let me feel the Holy Spirit
Truly know that Thou art mine
I surrender all
I surrender all
All to thee, my blessed Savior
I surrender all

All to Jesus I surrender
Lord, I give myself to Thee
Fill me with Thy Love and power
Let Thy blessing fall on me
I surrender all
I surrender all
All to thee, my blessed Savior
I surrender all

All to Jesus I surrender
Now I feel the sacred flame
O the joy of full salvation
Glory, Glory to His name
I surrender all
I surrender all
All to thee, my blessed Savior
I surrender all
All to thee, my blessed Savior
I surrender all

(CCLI-5393374)

Prayer after Communion

God of wonder,
in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near.
As you have come among us now,
send us out in joy, hastening to share
the good news of your love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

The Light of Christ surrounds us, the love of Christ enfolds us,
the power of Christ protects us, the presence of Christ watches over us,
forever and ever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

Let the Praises Ring

O Lord my God in you I put my trust
O Lord my God in you I put my hope (repeat)

Chorus:

In you, in you I find my peace
In you, in you I find my strength
In you I live and move and breathe
Let everything I say and do be founded in my faith in you
I lift up holy hands and sing, Let the praises ring,
Let the praises ring

O Lord my God, to you I give my hands
O Lord my God, to you I give my feet
O Lord my God, to you I give my everything
O Lord my God, to you I give my life.

Chorus (Repeat 3X)

Dismissal

Go in peace. Let your light shine.
Thanks be to God.

Thanks to:

Greeter:

Usher: Carol Grosse

Lector: Diane Mansell

Communion Servers: Diane Mansell / Karen Petersen

Coffee Server: Karen Petersen

Altar Guild: Jeanie Schultz

Musicians, Singers: Paul Woodring / Dave Becker / Joan Pedersen / Richard Rollefson / Matt
Schultze / Ryan Reck / Phil Strauss / Talia Ortega / Janis Sexton / Carlyn Hinds

Flowers are sponsored by JoAnn & Steve Bennett.

Arrangement prepared by Cal Poly Plant Shop.