

Events This Week - January 31 - February 7, 2021

Sunday 1/31 Epiphany 4

10:15 am - On-Line Worship Only

Monday 2/1

9:00 am—11:30 am - Food Pantry
7:00 pm - AA Meeting - Social Hall

Tuesday 2/2

9:00 am—11:30 am - Food Pantry

Wednesday 2/3

9:00—11:30 am - Food Pantry
7:00 pm—NA Meeting - Social Hall

Thursday 2/4

Friday 2/5

10:30 am - Grace Stitches

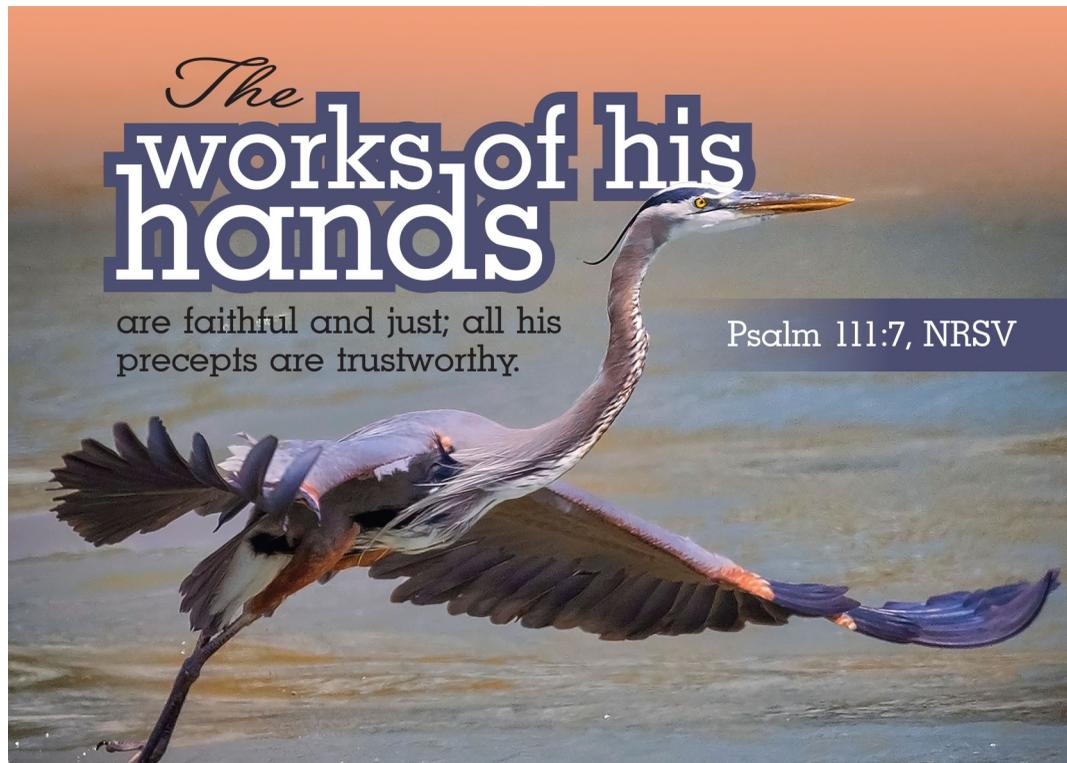
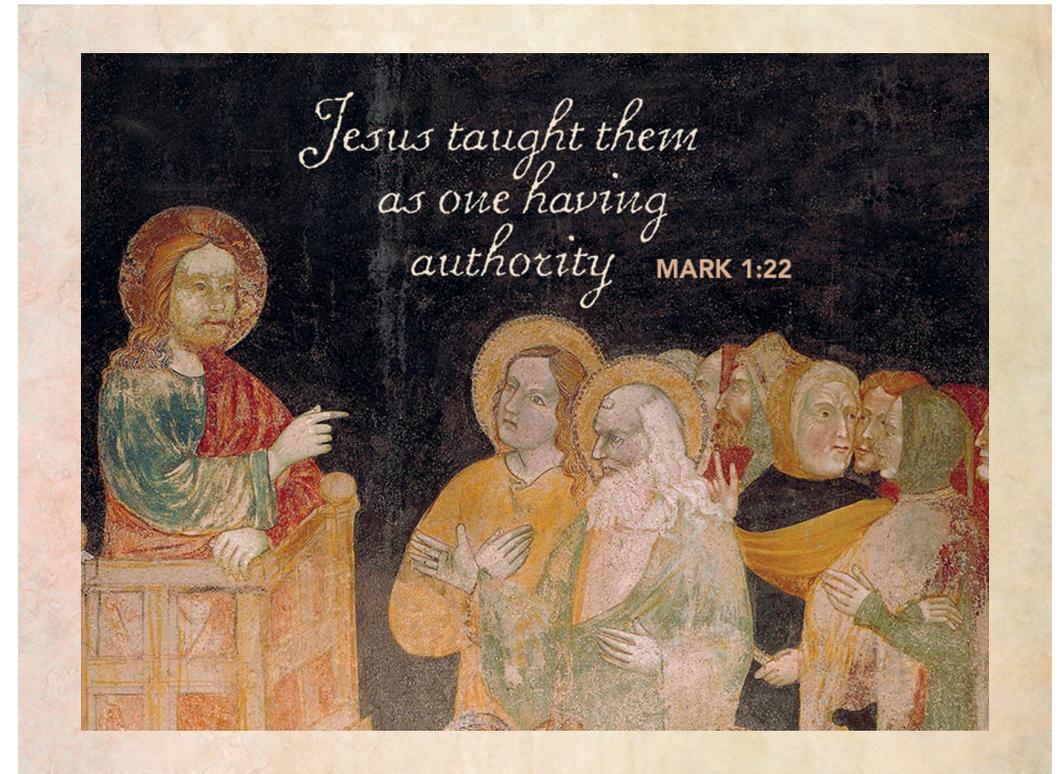
Saturday 2/6

Sunday 2/7 Epiphany 5

10:15 am - On-Line Worship Only

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 2021



Grace Lutheran Church

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave, Somers Point, NJ 08244

Office: 609-927-3082 † Fax: 609-927-6672 † Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

Alternate web address: www.gracelutheran.xyz
Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Music Director: Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretary: Diana McArdle

Sexton: Andrew McCarrick

Liturgical Worship Service

Welcome to worship at Grace Lutheran Church. Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in the bulletin.

Mission Statement

Through God’s Word and Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church will be...

- Inviting all people to **belong** to the church of Jesus Christ,
- Equipping those who **believe** as faithful disciples of Jesus, and
- Sending members to **become** caring servants of God in the world.

Serving in Worship Today—

Worship Assistant: Piskun Family
Altar Guild:

Brenda Traa, Ruth Traa

Sound Technician:

Jim Foreman /Larry Rusiecki

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Servicemen and Servicewomen Serving Our Country: Members & Friends of Grace: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Sgt. Joshua McArdle, USMC; Sara Myers, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

Hospitalized - or in need of healing: Ruth, David, & Ric Alburger, Mary Ellen Bartholomew, June Becker, Shirley Blankenship, Carol Campbell, Dr. Robert Carlson, Ed Carpenter, Christine Carter, Peg Cwienk, Roy Cole, Deb Connelly, Emile DeLong, Tad Dildilian, Kimberly Frawley, Ed Gannon, Jeanne Gehring, Chris Hinnant, Bob & Dona-Lee Hughes, Pat Johnson, Darryl Kashey, Terry Kearney, Carol Traa Keates, Nancy Keirse, Jim Kohl, Darrell Kopp, Ruth Kruger, Judith & Roger Landis, Bob Loper, Susan Marich, Quinn Meldrum, Anne Moore, Tom Ostrander, Tommy Parker, Renee Pugliese, LouAnn Rest, Indigo Rose, Alan Sisson, Dana Sisson, Judy Toth, Bob Traa, Grace DiGenni Traa, Carol-Ann Tracy, Skip Uhrmann, George Walters, Joann Wehrhan, Joan Wisdom, & Lucy Dildilian Yannis

At Home - Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, & Skip Uhrmann

Shores@Wesley Manor: Dot Crawshaw, Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Rehab@Shores of Wesley Manor: Lois Rahme

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

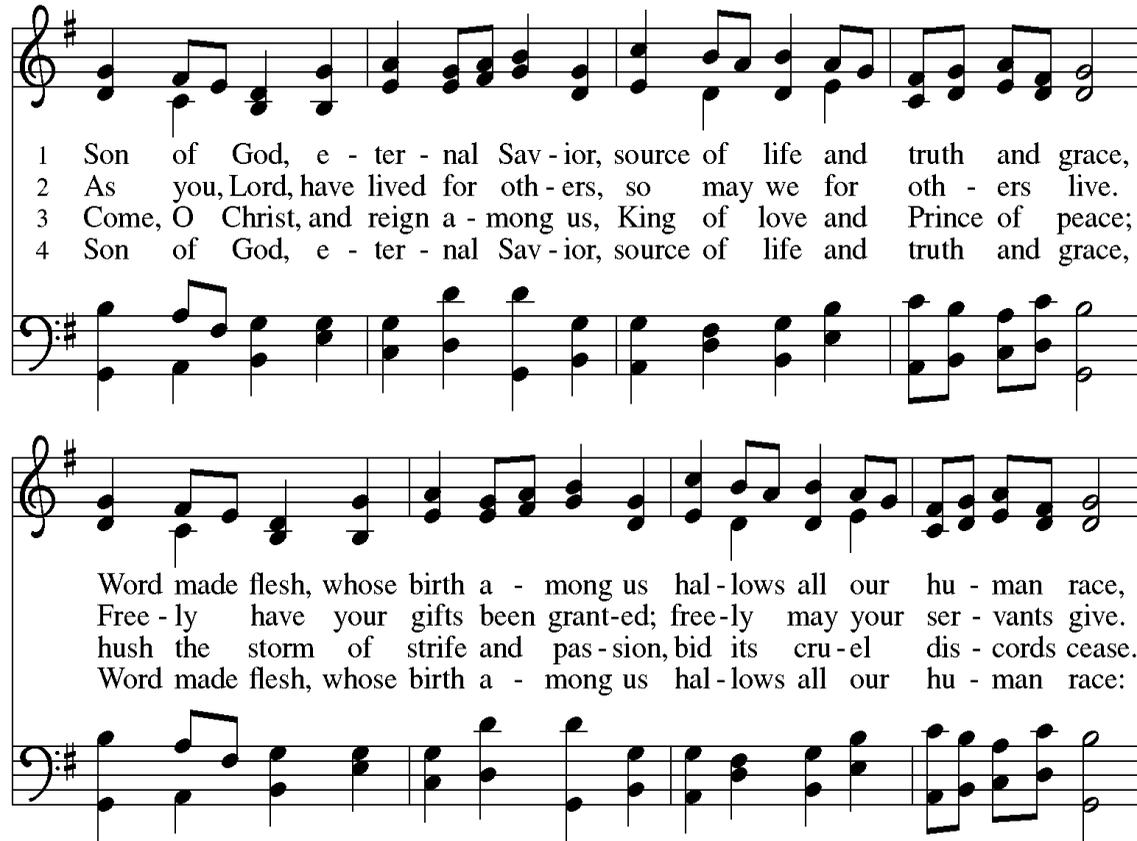
fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

SENDING HYMN

Son of God Eternal Savior

ELW # 655



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Please stand as you are able— Congregation responses in bold print.

Gathering

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

One Bread, One Body

Setting by Ron Schmoltze

Please stand as you are able.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us come together to worship the Messiah, our God and King!

We come to worship the Savior of the world. We come to worship the Messiah.
 Jesus promised to be wherever two or more are gathered. Christ is with us now.
 God calls us to turn back his love and mercy for us.

**We turn to God, our merciful Redeemer. We are thankful for Jesus, Emmanuel,
 who comes to change the world.**
 Let us worship together as we meet with Jesus in this place. **Amen.**

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, you know us inside and out. You are always with us and you never leave us or forsake us. We cannot escape your love. You formed us and you know us before we were born. You watch over us and always hear our prayers. We come before you now wanting to hear your voice. Forgive us for the times we have turned away from you and bring us closer to your Spirit once again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of Love, **We confess that we have turned away from you. We have trouble trusting your promises for us. We let worry and fear overwhelm us. We do not always treat our neighbors with the love that you call us to give. For the sake of your Son, have mercy on us. Forgive us for our shortcomings, refresh us in this new year, and lead us in the way of Christ, so that we may glorify your holy name in all that we say and do. Amen.**

God so loved the world that he sent, Christ to save us and redeem our sinful ways.

As a minister of the church of Christ, I declare to you that through Christ, God forgives you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. God loves us beyond all understanding. Come back to God's loving arms, with joyful hearts, ready to accept God's gift of grace. **Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW # 665

- 1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.
 Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003
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Sending**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Dear God, in this time of holy worship you have refreshed us. Guide our lives with your holy Word. Bring joy back into our journey with you. Send us forth now as witnesses of the Good News of your birth, that we also may be light for the world, in the name of Jesus, the Messiah. **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

May God bless you and keep you. Know that God is always by your side.
 May Jesus' love guide and inspire you in all you do. May the Holy Spirit shine in you and bring others closer to God's love and ✠ give you joy! **Amen**

***SENDING HYMN**

Son of God, Eternal Savior

ELW # 655

Music is located on the next page

POSTLUDE*Wojtkiewicz*

by David Cherwien

***DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace and serve our Messiah with love for others!

Thanks be to God!

All joys, concerns, and prayer requests to share on our video recording must be in by Wednesday of each week while we are apart. *Pastor Althea*

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*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty God, **You bless us with all that we have. You have blessed our lives forever with the love of your Son and your gift of grace. Empower us to change the lives of others with your Good News. Bless our congregation, this community, and all the offerings we give back to you for your holy work, through Jesus Christ, our Messiah. Amen.**

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

Leader: For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: prophets, teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; for the church and its ministries, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Leader: For all God's works in creation: plants and animals, water and soil, forests and farms; and for those tasked with protecting our natural resources and all that exists, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Leader: For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Pastor: For those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: those who are sick and hospitalized, those living with chronic disease, those struggling with mental illness, those who are hungry or homeless, and all in any need (*especially*); for caregivers, hospice workers, and home health aides, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Leader: For the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries; for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Leader: For the covenant God made with us in the waters of baptism, in thanksgiving for the baptized who have died in the Lord, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Pastor: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

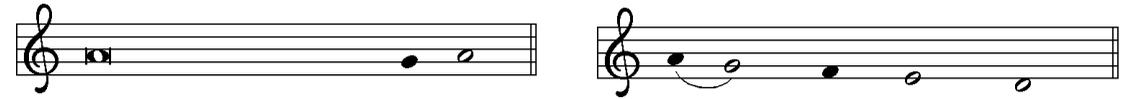
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

*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.**

KYRIE

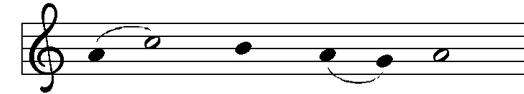


In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



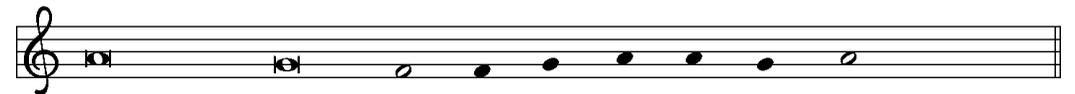
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



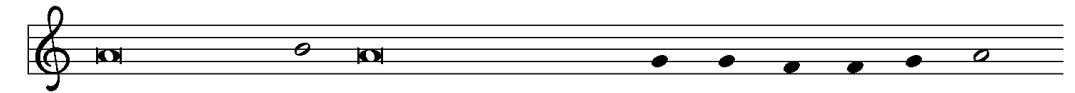
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity 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,



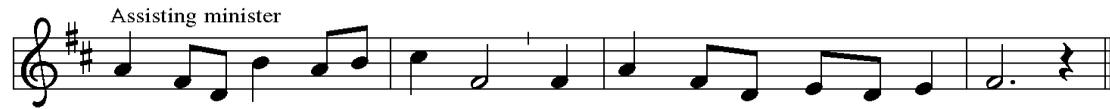
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.



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



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.



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.



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.

*APOSTLES' CREED

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

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please place your offering in the offering plates,
located at the entrances to the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY

Who is the One We Love the Most

by Carl Schalk

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Create in Me a Clean Heart



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right



spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and



take not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store un-to me the



joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Refrain



We eat the bread of teach-ing, drink wine of wis-dom, are



giv-en here a taste of the king-dom. To-geth-er



joined, the great-est and the least, we all are



one at Wis-dom's ho-ly feast.



1 Wis-dom calls through-out the cit-y, knows our
 2 Sim-ple ones whose hearts are yearn-ing, come and
 3 En-ter with de-light and sing-ing, for her



hun-ger, and in pit-y gives her lov-ing in-vi-gain
 gain from Wis-dom's learn-ing; bread and wine she is pre-rich-ness
 rich-ness now is bring-ing us this joy-ous cel-e-



Refrain

ta-tion to the ban-quet of sal-va-tion.
 par-ing, know her lov-ing in the shar-ing.
 bra-tion; eat and drink in ju-bi-la-tion.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together.... **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.**

Please be seated

Word**FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

[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."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm: Psalm 111

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

²Great are your | works, O LORD, / pondered by all who de- | light in them.

³Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds, / and your righteousness en- | dures 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 forev- | er 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 faithful- | ness and justice; / all of your pre- | cepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forev- | er and ever, / because they are done in | truth and equity.**

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant forever;
holy and awesome | is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- | dures forever.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The holy gospel according to St. Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

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.**

SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

Please be seated

