



## Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

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<https://www.youtube.com/@LutheranChurchofOurRedeemer>



### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday January 28, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

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## Welcome and Call to Worship

Today we remember our mission.

**We are making God known through word & deed.**

Come to the light that God has sent into our world.

**Let light flood our hearts and lives.**

The light is meant for all the world.

**We receive the light that we might share it with others.**

Let us worship the God who has so graciously blessed us.

**We praise and adore our God of light.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

God, our rock and refuge,

**we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.**

**Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

**Amen.**

## Opening Song

“Blessed Be Your Name”

Blessed be Your name In the land that is plentiful

Where Your streams of abundance flow Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name When I'm found in the desert place

Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be Your name

(Pre-Chorus) Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll Turn back to praise

When the darkness closes in Lord Still I will say

(Chorus) Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me

When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name On the road marked with suffering

Though there's pain in the offering Blessed be Your name (Pre-Chorus & Chorus)

You give and take away You give and take away My heart will choose to say Lord blessed be Your name

You give and take away You give and take away My heart will choose to say Lord blessed be Your name

(Chorus)

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## 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.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **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.**

## First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people;

you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This 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.” <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I 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. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words

that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But 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.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him. <sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. <sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

“Awesome God”

Our God is an awesome God He reigns from heaven above

With wisdom pow'r and love Our God is an awesome God (repeat from beginning)

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The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Gospel Reading

Mark 1:21-28

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and 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.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They 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.” <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

“Love Builds Up”

Pastor Laura Overbo

## Special Music

“Let There Be Peace on Earth” arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

Handbell Choir; Directed by: Bev Splinter

## Apostles’ Creed

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.

## Prayer Song

“Lord Be Glorified”

In my life Lord Be glorified be glorified In my life Lord Be glorified today

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## Prayers of the Church

Hospitalized/ill: *Roberta Hagen, Ashlea West, Mark Mandery, Carroll Moe,*

*Gretchen Morrow Bray- Daughter of Darline Morrow & Sister of Ann (Greg) DeSpiegler,*

*Matt Schlaht-Friend of Rachel & Jesse Hauck,*

Death: *Cynthia Emery- Sister of Renae (Ken) Madison*

## Prayer Song

“Lord Be Glorified”

In Your church Lord Be glorified be glorified In Your church Lord Be glorified today

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## Offering

*Text to Give: 605-250-6765 or Scan the QR code located in the pew*

*Noisy Can Offering (for all ages) Mission of the Month:*

***Nicaragua Partner Ministry & Nicaragua Youth Retreat***



## Offertory Response

“Create In Me A Clean Heart”

#107

## Offering Prayer

Heavenly Father, though we are weakened by sin,

**Still, you provide us with every good thing.**

Even more, you strengthen us to stand in your presence-

**To offer you these gifts.**

Use them to build up your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

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

**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.**

## Announcements

### Annual Meeting Liturgy

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

**And also with you.**

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

**Amen.**

**Call to Service**

Stay in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Serving This Morning**

**Preaching:** Pastor Laura Overbo; **Sound & Projection:** Zach Stanton, Rogger Whittle; **Worship Team;**

**Ushers:** Darren Likness, Gary Grewing; **Welcome Center:** Tammy Rohde, Gail Helland;

**Lector:** Dawson Meidinger;

*Altar Flowers: Given to the Glory of God*



We are to be content  
with what we have.

“Keep your lives free from  
the love of money,  
and be content with what  
you have; for he has said,  
‘I will never leave you or  
forsake you’.”

Heb. 13:5



**JANUARY 28, 2024**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

**WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Think or talk about a time you felt your life was out of control.
- Do you turn to God when life feels out of control? Explain.

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Mark 1:21-28.

It is revealing that in this reading in Mark, the first act of Jesus beyond teaching is an exorcism. What is doubly revealing is that in the Gospel of John, there are no exorcisms. For Mark, this act of Jesus is critical. A man with an unclean spirit was helpless in the face of powers he could not control. Sin, the human condition of brokenness and alienation from God, is the fundamental power that we cannot control. Whatever form it takes, an unclean spirit taps into a life that needs redemption. The unclean spirits of murder, adultery, false witness, racism, and more are examples of our readiness to thoughts and actions that destroy instead of give life. Jesus came to redeem us so that we may live lives of praise to God and love for all others. It is quite fitting that Jesus' first act is an exorcism. Jesus will do battle with myriad forms of human brokenness and win. This is Mark's way of describing the *"beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God"* (Mark 1:1).

*Discuss:* How would you describe the good news of Jesus for us?

*Pray:* **Almighty and merciful God, we give you praise for your power that conquers evil for the sake of all that you have created through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who feels powerless over a specific situation?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



February 2 is the Church festival day for the "Presentation of the Lord." The festival recalls that forty days after his birth, Jesus was presented at the temple in Jerusalem. This festival is also known as "Candlemas" because of the tradition of blessing candles for use throughout the coming year. This is associated with Simeon's words about Jesus being *"a light to reveal God to the nations."* (Luke 2:32) Light a new candle to use this year as part of your devotions and pray:

**Lord God, thank you for giving us Jesus as a bright light in our lives. Bless us as we gather around this candle. May it remind us that Jesus is with us. Amen.**

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)



**THE WEEKLY WORD- ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SALVATION ARMY DONATIONS**



**Cream Soup & Canned Tuna**

As you go grocery shopping, please consider picking up a couple extras to donate. Drop these items off at LCOOR and we will deliver them to the Salvation Army. Thanks in advance for your generosity!



ZIMBABWE

**AFRICA**

**MISSION TRIP**

2024

Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in more information!



**WHY OLD MEN WEEP IN THE MORNING**  
BY GARY WESTGARD

Available for purchase for \$20 at the Welcome Center. Pastor Gary was a member of LCOOR and visitation pastor here. Gary passed away in 2022, but decades of Gary's preaching and writings from every day events to the most profound have inspired and strengthened many. Thank you to his wife, Vivian, for making this book available to us.

FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL

**GREECE & TURKEY**

**PILGRIMAGE**

2025

Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are interested in more information!



*Sewing Day*

**JANUARY 30 | 9:00AM**

We will be sewing hospice gowns and diapers. Please bring your sewing machine & white/grey thread. Non-sewers are welcome to help iron & assemble kits.



**JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Nicaragua Partner Ministry & Nicaragua Youth Retreat

Mission of the Month dollars are above and beyond your regular giving. Please clearly mark your offering with Mission of the Month. Thank you!



**We are collecting baby care kits in January.**

Instructions can be found at the Welcome Center or in the church office.



**Sunday Nights at 6pm**

See your January newsletter for more information!



**Monday-Thursday**

We will fill the morning class first and if there's an interest, we will open an afternoon class. You can find an enrollment form at the Welcome Center, the Preschool classroom, or online.

\*Must be 4 by September 1, 2024. Open to all, not just LCOOR members.



**VACCINATION EVENT**

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer  
February 6 | 9:30am

**Vaccines Available:**  
RSV, Shingles, Influenza & COVID

Pick up a form at the Welcome Center and return the form to the church office by January 31st.



# January 28-February 4

Print too small? Large print bulletins are available at all worship services.

## Sunday January 28

8:30 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry  
 8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Dan  
 8:30 a.m. Church School  
 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship  
 10:30 a.m. Annual Congregation Meeting  
 6:00 p.m. Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade)  
 7:00 p.m. Youth Music Team Practice

## Monday January 29

8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry  
 6:45 p.m. Al-Anon

## Tuesday January 30

9:00 a.m. Sewing Ministry Group  
 11:00 a.m. Text Study  
 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

## Wednesday January 31

8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry  
 12:15 p.m. Men's Lunch  
 4:45 p.m. Community Meal- Goulash  
 5:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Dan  
 5:30 p.m. Church School  
 6:30 p.m. Worship  
 7:15 p.m. 7th/8th Grade Confirmation  
 7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal  
 7:30 p.m. Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday February 1

9:00 a.m. Quilting  
 1:15 p.m. Chair Yoga  
 5:15 p.m. Al-Anon

## Friday February 2

*Church Office Closes at Noon*

8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry

## Saturday February 3

5:30 p.m. Traditional Worship w/ Holy Communion  
 6:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Meal

## Sunday February 4

8:30 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry  
 8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Dan  
 8:30 a.m. Church School  
 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship w/ Holy Communion  
 6:00 p.m. Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade)  
 7:00 p.m. Youth Music Team Practice

## Attendance & Offering

January 14 Live Stream- 174  
 Saturday, January 20 - 37  
 Sunday, January 21- 235  
 Wednesday, January 24- 158  
Offering (1/21):  
 General Fund: \$29,294;  
 Debt Reduction: \$5  
 Mission of the Month: \$30.22;  
 Church School: \$41.05; Other: \$27.70  
Simply Giving Offering (1/15-1/19):  
 General Fund: \$10,546.43;  
 Debt Reduction: \$110; Other: \$275;  
 Mission of the Month: \$70;

## Staff

**Senior Pastor**  
 Dan Overbo  
**Associate Pastor**  
 Laura Overbo  
**Welcoming & Caring Ministries**  
 Twila Schmitt  
**Director of Faith Formation**  
 Philip Lickei  
**Business Manager**  
 Jodi Spilde  
**Business Administrative Assistant**  
 Megan Thyen  
**Preschool**  
 Nikki Landmark, Director/Teacher  
 Wendy Kruger, Paraprofessional  
**Sound & Technology**  
 Zach Stanton  
**Custodian**  
 Roman Gainor

# JANUARY 28, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*Jesus shows his power over evil.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 1:21-28</b>	<b>Jesus teaches in the synagogue</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 18:15-20</b>	<b>A new prophet like Moses</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 8:1-13</b>	<b>Love builds up others</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Acts 10:34-43</b>	<b>Gentiles hear the good news</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Luke 4:31-37</b>	<b>The man with the unclean spirit</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Matthew 4:1-11</b>	<b>The temptation of Jesus</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 111</b>	<b>Praise for God's wonderful works</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 1:29-39</b>	<b>Jesus heals many people</b>

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*They [worshippers] 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."*

**Mark 1:27 (NRSV)**

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

God of power and might, we thank you for being with us in the challenges of life; help us to live lives of praise to you through Jesus Christ, the Holy One of God. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, in your grace and mercy you remember us and feed us. We thank you for this meal and your faithfulness to all. In Jesus' name, amen. (Psalm 111:4-7)

### A Blessing to Give:

May the power of God protect you through Jesus.



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