

THE SERVANT OF THE LORD IS CALLED

To Confess Christ



THE SERVANT OF THE LORD IS CALLED 3) TO CONFESS CHRIST

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
9:00 & 11:15am January 31, 2021*



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reaching Out in Rim Country with Rock-Solid Hope in Jesus

Welcome! May the message you hear today will fill your heart with the peace and joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

Our Mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our Message centers around the forgiveness, freedom, and fellowship we have in Jesus.

Large Print service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.

Social Distancing is encouraged out of respect for all worshipping today. Volunteers are sanitizing touch points between services.

Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.

Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.

We Support the world-wide gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.



Song Service

Each fifth Sunday of the month we have a special song service.

Hymn

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Christian Worship 353:1-2

♪ Praise the one who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the one who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands
With the Father's word of peace.

2. Praise the one who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the one who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession of Sin

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:
God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness,
we lie and do not live by the truth.

If we claim to be without sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. *1 John 1:5-8*

Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of your Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.

- Silence for personal examination and confession

Absolution

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. *1 John 1:9*

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response of Praise

Come, Let Us Worship And Bow Down

♪ **Come let us worship and bow down,
Let us kneel before the Lord, Our God and Maker.
Come let us worship and bow down,
Let us kneel before the Lord, Our God and Maker.**

**For he is our God, And we are the people of his pasture,
And the sheep of his hand, Just the sheep of his hand.**

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, you know that we are surrounded by many dangers and that we often stumble and fall. Strengthen us in body and mind, and bring us safely through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

We confess Jesus as the great prophet who Moses said would come after him.

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brother Israelites. Listen to him.

¹⁶That is exactly what you asked from the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly. You said, "Do not let me hear the voice of the LORD my God anymore, and do not let me see this great fire again, or I will die."

¹⁷Then the LORD said to me, "They have done well by saying what they said. ¹⁸I will raise up a prophet for them from among their brothers, like you, and I will put my words in his mouth, and he will speak to them everything that I command him.

¹⁹Anyone who will not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. ²⁰Any prophet who presumes to speak something in my name that I have not commanded him to speak or who speaks something in the name of other gods—that prophet shall die."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 1

Christian Worship page 64

Refrain



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Psalm tone



**Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked
or stand in the way of sinners.**

**But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.**

**He is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither.
Whatever he does prosper. *Refrain***

**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**

**For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain***

Second Lesson

Hebrews 3:1-6

We confess Jesus as our great high priest.

Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, focus your attention on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. ²He was faithful to the one who appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in God's whole house. ³In fact, Jesus is worthy of greater glory than Moses, in the same way that the builder of a house has more honor than the house. ⁴For every house is built by someone, and God is the one who built everything.

⁵Moses was faithful as a servant within God's whole house by testifying to the things that would be spoken. ⁶But Christ is faithful as a Son over God's house. We are his house, if we hold on firmly to our confidence and the hope about which we boast until the end.

Verse of the Day

(Luke 4:18) Jesus is King

♪ **Jesus is king and I will extol him,
Give him the glory, and honor his name.
He reigns on high, enthroned in the heavens,
Word of the Father, exalted for us.**

Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus our great King came with authority over all evil.

On the next Sabbath day, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach.

²²They were amazed at his teaching, because he was teaching them as one who has authority and not as the experts in the law. ²³Just then there was a man with an unclean spirit in their synagogue. It cried out, ²⁴"What do we have to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

²⁵Jesus rebuked the spirit, saying, "Be quiet! Come out of him!"

²⁶The unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions, and after crying out with a loud voice, it came out of him. ²⁷Everyone was so amazed that they began to discuss this with each other. They said, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He even commands the unclean spirits, and they obey him!" ²⁸News about him spread quickly through all the region of Galilee.

Hymn of the Day

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

Christian Worship 358:1-5

♪ **In How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, And drives away all fear.**

**2. It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the heart's unrest;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul And to the weary, rest.**

**3. Dear name! The rock on which I build, My shield and hiding place,
My never-failing treasury filled With boundless stores of grace.**

**4. By you my prayers acceptance gain Although with sin defiled;
Satan accuses me in vain For God calls me his child.**

**5. O Jesus, Shepherd, Guardian, Friend. My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, Accept the praise I bring.**

Sermon

Hebrews 3:1-6

The Servant of the Lord is Called

Jan. 10 ...to Bring Salvation	<i>(Isaiah 49:1-6)</i>
Jan. 17 ...to Hold to Scripture	<i>(2 Thess.2:13-17)</i>
Jan. 24 ...to Restore Peace	<i>(2 Cor. 5:14-21)</i>
Jan. 31 ... to Confess Christ	<i>(Heb 3:1-6)</i>
Feb. 07...to Endure Hardships	<i>(1 Peter 5:6-11)</i>
Feb. 14...To Shine in Darkness	<i>(2 Cor 4:3-6)</i>

Series for the Epiphany Season



Hymn of Response

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds
Christian Worship 358:6-7

**♪ I praise in weakness from afar --How cold my warmest thought!
But when I see you as you are, I'll praise you as I ought.**

**7. Till then I would your love proclaim With ev'ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of your name Refresh my soul in death.**

We Praise You, O God

Te Deum Laudamus

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you, Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in
endless praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full of
your glory.**

Sung by 4 For Christ: ♪ Christ be my leader by night as by day,
Safe through the darkness, for he is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future his care;
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white robed army of martyrs praise you.

**Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father of majesty
unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit,
advocate and guide.**

♪ **Christ be my teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for he is the truth.
Grant me to trust him, though shifting as sand.
Doubt cannot daunt me -- in Jesus I stand!**

You, Christ, are the King of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a
virgin.

**You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all
believers.**

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

♪ **Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for he is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation -- with Jesus I reign!**

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Today you may place your offering on the table by the entryway as you enter or exit.

Prayer of the Church

For the Season of Epiphany
Christian Worship page 124

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Māgi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved

ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort to those who mourn:

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. (*Silent prayer*)

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Sung by 4 For Christ

Prayer for Peace

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Christian Worship 353:3

♪ **Let us praise the Word incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the one who makes us one.**

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- Donna Lanphear, thanks to God for a safe surgery and return home; that he provides her with a good result and continued healing.
- Josh, a friend of the congregation; that God provides him with safety and peace in Jesus.
- The friends and family of Inez, a Christian friend of Joan Williams; Inez was called home to be with Jesus after suffering illness with covid-19; that God comfort all who grieve with the sure hope of the resurrection to life.
- Bruce & Diann Dow, and Barbara Miller as they recover from covid-19; that God give healing.
- Michael, brother of Judi Moore, as he begins hospice care; that the peace of Christ be with him and comfort him.
- Irma Mahler; that God provide relief from pain incurred from a back injury this week.
- *Share your prayer requests.*

Received in January \$12,242.82(as of Jan 28th)

Attendance

01/21 Midweek Bible Class: 9
01/24 Sunday Worship: 38
01/24 Sunday Bible Class: 12
01/27 Confirmation Class: 2
01/28 Midweek Bible Class: 9

Acknowledgments

Opening responses & Confession "Meditation on the Keys" from Christian Worship Supplement © 2009 Northwestern Publishing House.

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CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, January 31 Epiphany 4

9:00am 11:15 am Service
10:05am Bible Study
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Wednesday, February 3

9:00am Elders Meeting
5:00pm Outreach Forum

Thursday, February 4

9:00am Midweek Bible Class
10:00am Starting Point Class

Sunday, February 7 Epiphany 5

9:00am Service
10:05am Bible Study
11:15am Service
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Serving This Week

Flowers, Communion Setup: Joan Williams, Marsha Wentz

Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ;

Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel

Ushers: Creig Solomon, Jerry Zuvich



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