



JESUS' PREACHING HAS AN EFFECT

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany of our Lord

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Kearney, Nebraska*

Sunday, January 31, 2016

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, Listening Devices are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A Nursery is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

SERVICE NOTES FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Our human inclination is to listen without faith. This can only lead us to the brow of a cliff and throwing Jesus out of our lives. But the Savior of the Nations comes with his gracious words of redemption and membership in his body. The Word of the Lord is proclaimed through the revelation of his Anointed One. In him faith is rooted, love flourishes, and salvation is known from generation to generation.

In today's Gospel and sermon, we see that the gracious words of the Anointed One win admiration but not hearts of faith. When confronted by their own unbelief and the inclusion of Gentiles in spiritual Israel, "Joseph's son" is driven from the synagogue to be thrown from the cliff. Yet the Savior of the nations passes through the angry mob to continue his mission and reveal himself in Capernaum.



CHILDREN'S DEVOTION TODAY

During today's service, a children's devotion will be offered. The devotion will take place during the singing of the Hymn of the Day. Children ages 3-12 are invited to come forward during the singing of that hymn.

SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Preacher & Presiding Minister.....Pr. Nathanael P. Seelow
KeyboardistMichelle Reinsch
UshersRick and Mannie Reinsch
GreetersMark & Jamie Darby and Family
Sound TechnicianLogan Hansen

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

The liturgy of the church follows the same patterns of worship services used by Christians for millennia. It beautifully unites believers across the ages in celebrating the wondrous mercies of our Lord through the Word and the Sacrament.

OPENING HYMN

Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening | CW 283

INVOCATION

Please stand.

M In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — Kyrie



ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

GLORY BE TO GOD — *Gloria in Excelsis*



Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



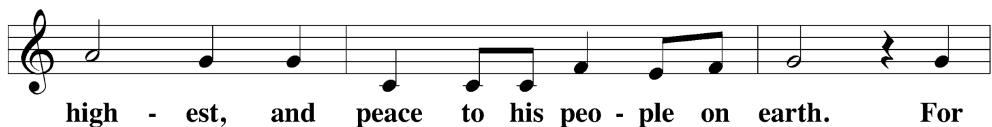
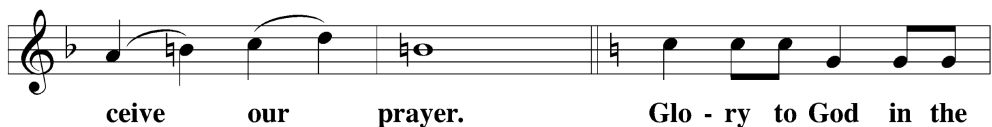
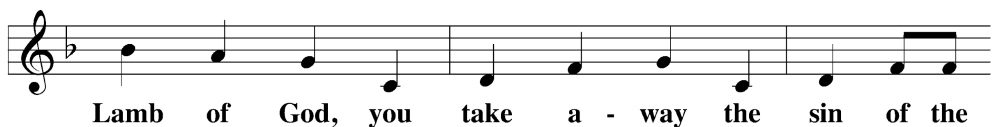
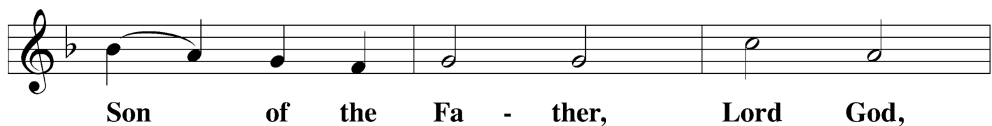
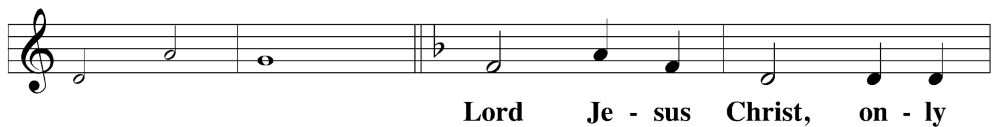
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



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. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

M Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

Be seated.



The Word

Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Child-like Jeremiah is called to wield the powerful Word of the Lord.

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” ⁷ But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’;
for to all to whom I send you, you shall go,
and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
declares the LORD.”

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me,

“Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to break down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”



M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Refrain*Psalm tone**Refrain*

O my people, hear my teaching;^{*}
listen to the words of my mouth.

I will utter things from of old,^{*}
what we have heard and what our fathers have told us.

We will not hide them from our children;^{*}
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD.

Refrain

The LORD decreed statutes for Jacob^{*}
and established the law in Israel,
so the next generation would know them,^{*}
and they in turn would tell their children.

Then they would put their trust in God^{*}
and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

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

Romans 10:18-11:6

The Anointed One was revealed through prophecy in Israel's midst. Yet he was rejected and despised.

¹⁸ But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for

“Their voice has gone out to all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.”

¹⁹ But I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says,

“I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation;
with a foolish nation I will make you angry.”

²⁰ Then Isaiah is so bold as to say,

“I have been found by those who did not seek me;
I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.”

²¹ But of Israel he says, “All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people.”

^{11:1} I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? ³ “Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.” ⁴ But what is God's reply to him? “I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.” ⁵ So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. ⁶ But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 4:18a

M Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is on me; he has anointed me to preach good news.

C Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:20-32

*The gracious words of the Anointed One
win admiration but not hearts of faith.*

Please stand.

M The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter four.



Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." ²⁴ And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵ But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶ and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷ And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away.

³¹ And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, ³² and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rise, Shine, You People | CW 556

During the singing of the second stanza of the hymn, children in the congregation are invited to come forward and sit at the chancel steps for a children's devotion.

SERMON

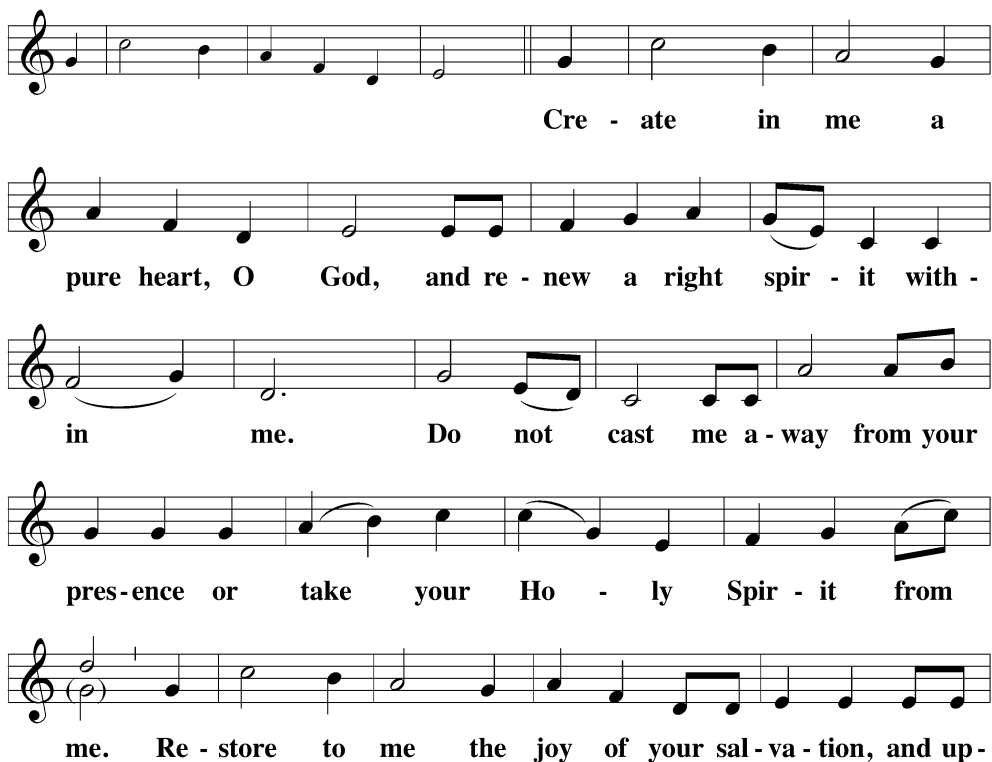
Luke 4:20-32

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CREATE IN ME

Please stand.



The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -".

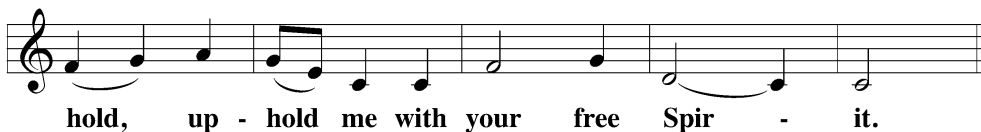
Cre - ate in me a

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in me. Do not cast me a - way from your

pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from

me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -



Be seated.

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

- [M]** Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.
- [C]** **Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.**
- [M]** Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.
- [C]** **Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.**
- [M]** Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.
- [C]** **Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.**
- [M]** Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.
- [C]** **Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.**
- [M]** Hear us, Lord, as we give thanks for personal blessings.

Silent prayer.

[M] Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

[C] Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.

HYMN

God Has Spoken by His Prophets | **CW 281**

PRAYER FOR GRACE

Please stand.

[M] Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C] Amen.

BLESSING

[M] 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.

[C] Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide | **CW 541**





www.goodshepherdkearney.org

This Week's Announcements

BIBLE CLASS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! Sunday School will meet at 10:45 in the church. Bible Class will start at 10:55 in the multi-purpose room. We will be continuing our study of *Romans 1-8*.

NEW! DIVINE SERVICE HELPS Good Shepherd is offering a new e-mail series that intends to help your edification in the Divine Service on Sundays. These e-mails include the three readings and the hymn of the day as well as questions concerning each of those parts of the service. Be on the lookout for this new series!

THE ANNUAL SOUPER-BOWL IS BACK! Good Shepherd will once again be hosting a fellowship gathering **next Sunday, February 7**. Plans for the day include a soup lunch and bowling at Big Apple in the afternoon. If you're interested and plan on attending, a sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the entry way. **Today is the last day to sign up** so that we have an accurate count to be able to reserve lanes at the bowling alley. See you there!

2016 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY This summer, the WELS *Commission on Youth and Family Ministry* is holding their bi-annual International Youth Rally at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. The rally will be held June 28-July 1, 2016. Cost to attend is \$355 plus travel expenses. **The deadline for a decision to go to the rally is March 1**. If you (or you think your child would be) are interested in attending, please speak with Pastor Seelow. The ages for the rally (completing) 8th grade through a 2016 high school graduate.

2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE The 2016 offering envelopes have arrived. They are available in the entry way of the church. If you have not already, please pick them up as soon as possible. If any envelopes remain by February 1, they will be mailed to your home. Please save the church postage by picking them up this week!

DEVOTIONAL OPTIONS ON TELEVISION Can't Make the Service on Sunday? Or, know someone who might need some more devotional resources? A WELS church based out of Milwaukee owns and operates a ministry called *Time of Grace*. This television ministry includes a sermon and short devotional thoughts from a WELS pastor each week on your television. Go to http://www.timeofgrace.org/media/ways_to_watch to find the channel.

FEBRUARY CHURCH CALENDAR The February Church Calendar is available on the table in the entry way or on the church website at www.goodshepherdkearney.org/calendar.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER A copy of the newest “A Congregation at Prayer” is available on the table in the entryway. This packet is not only a good outline for personal and family devotions, but it also includes an up-to-date prayer list for those in (and outside) our congregation.

This Week’s Calendar

- Tuesday, February 2**.....6:30p — Church Council
- Wednesday, February 3**.....AM — Shut-ins/Hospital Calls
4p — Confirmation
7p — *Connecting Sinai to Calvary* Bible Class
- Sunday, February 7**9:30a — Divine Service
- Ushers:** George & Jamie Scott
Greeters: Donna Haas & Bert Mues
Sound Technician: Jamie Scott
- 10:30a — Fellowship
10:45a — Sunday School
10:55a — *Romans 1-8* Bible Class
12p — Souper-Bowl Party

Cleaning (1/31-2/6)*Church*—Darby; *Fellowship*—Haas; *Ed. Bldg.*—Hansen

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