

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Concerning . . . Your Brother
January 28, 2024



The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to Him you shall listen. *Deuteronomy 18:15*

Mount Hope Lutheran Church

Sunday Service - 9:30am

Sunday Bible Study – after Service

Wednesday Bible Study – 10:30am

Rev. Paul Pollatz

(313) 565- 9445

5323 Southfield

Allen Park, MI 48101

(734) 765–3468

Welcome! Members and Guests

We are blessed to have you here today. Please fill out the Guest/Member Attendance Card located in the pew rack in front of you. Guests please include your full address, zip code, and phone number. The cards will be collected by the ushers early in the service. Prayer Requests cards are available in the pew racks and should be handed to the ushers when the attendance cards are collected.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which Jesus' body and blood are given in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-30). When we receive the Holy Communion at a church, we are making a public statement that we agree with the teachings of that church (1 Corinthians 10:14-18). The Bible cautions us against receiving the body and blood of Christ in a manner that is spiritually harmful (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print worship guides are available at the ushers' stand.

Listening Devices

Listening devices are available; our ushers will be glad to assist you in signing one out for today's service.

Pew Cushions

Pew cushions are available; our ushers will be glad to get them for you.

Wheelchair Accessible Seating

Wheelchair seating is located in the fifth row from the front of the church on the left and right side of the center aisle.

Church Nursery

Our Nursery is located in the Parlor, which is the first room next to the stained glass doors. The worship service can be heard in this room. The ushers can direct you to this room.

Our Divine Service, & Bible Studies

Our Divine Service is held on Sundays at 09:30 a.m. Bible Study is held on Sundays after Service and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Our Bible studies are held Sep-May.

Our Vision Statement: Revitalize Within—Reach Out!

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELLS
PREPARATION

Pastor: All throughout the Epiphany season is the shadow of the question: Who is Jesus? We have heard Jesus called the Lamb of God and the light of the world. Now He is proclaimed our Brother who lays aside what is His right to become our servant even to death upon a cross. Within that context, we who are called His brothers claim not right or privilege but the path of service in Christ. Our freedom is not the liberty to do as we please but the responsibility of love for the sake of our weaker brother—just as Christ suffered as the innocent for the guilty. Instead of looking inside of us, we have something better to look at: Christ and our neighbor.

(Please Stand)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us” *LSB 915 vs 1-3*

**Today your mercy calls us
 To wash away our sin.
 However great our trespass,
 Whatever we have been,
 However long from mercy
 Our hearts have turned away,
 Your precious blood can wash us
 And make us clean today.**

Today your gate is open,
 And all who enter in
 Shall find a Father's welcome
 And pardon for their sin.
 The past shall be forgotten,
 A present joy be giv'n,
 A future grace be promised,
 A glorious crown in heav'n.

Today our Father calls us;
 His Holy Spirit waits;
 His blessed angels gather
 Around the heavn'ly gates.
 No question will be asked us,
 How often we have come;
 Although we oft have wandered,
 It is our Father's home.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and
 of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the confession and
 absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 32:1–2*

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgression is
 forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**People: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD
 counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no
 deceit.**

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the
LORD,"

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: O most merciful God who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

(Please stand)

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10*

Pastor: Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

KYRIE (sing) p. 186 in hymnal

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us
Lord, have mercy upon us**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Pastor: Glory be to God on high

People: (sing) and on earth peace, goodwill

toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we rejoice that You have sent to us Your Son to be our Brother and to take our place in suffering that we might be saved. Deliver us from our captivity to sin, the tyranny of self, and the temptation of the world that our hearts may be focused upon Christ and delivered from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Today is the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, in the season of Christ's self-revelation through word and works. Today we hear the promise of a prophet fulfilled in Christ who bears the authority of the Word to us and confronts and casts out unclean spirits. From this we learn to love as He loves, taking care to season our liberty with the privilege of service.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 18:15–20 ESV*

“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers it is to him you shall listen just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“10,000 Reasons”

Sung by Dave & Marie Brown

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 8:1–13* ESV

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords” 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. However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Mark 1:22a*

Pastor: Alleluia. They were astonished at His teaching,
for He taught them as one who had authority.
Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first
chapter.

People: (sing) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:21–28* *ESV*

And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. 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.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

PRAYER REQUESTS & ATTENDANCE CARDS

Please pass your prayer requests and yellow attendance cards to the individual sitting nearest the aisle and the usher will collect them during the singing of the hymn of the day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Beautiful Saviour” *LSB 537*

**Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**

**Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky**

**Beautiful Savior,
 Lord of the nations,
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Glory and honor,
 Praise adoration
 Now and forevermore be Thine!**

++ SERMON ++

Concerning... Your Brother

Text: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 (Epistle)

Theme: Christ Jesus and Him crucified for you – more interesting than everything else.

Goal: That the good news of Jesus' gracious concern for them would free all of us to be concerned for their neighbors and brothers in the faith.

(Please stand)

NICENE CREED

People: I believe in one God, the Father

Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the

Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the Prayers of the Church)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Father of love, You rescued Your fallen people with the sufferings and death of Christ, Your Son, our Brother in flesh. Guide us to know and rejoice in His salvation and to proclaim this Gospel with boldness to our brothers and sisters. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father of mercy, Your compassion has rescued us from the powers of evil and set us free. Guide us to use this liberty to serve others as Christ has served us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father of grace, You have provided us with the new life of Holy Baptism and granted us faith by the power of the Spirit. Keep us in this faith that we may be preserved from evil and delivered from all our enemies to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father of truth, You have given us Your Word that we might know the truth. Provide for us good and honest leaders who will heed the voice of Your Word and protect us from violence so that we may lead peaceful and godly lives without fear. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father of comfort, You have borne in Your Son all our wounds. According to Your will, deliver all who are sick, who suffer, who are troubled in mind, and those near death that they may be preserved in faith in the day of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father of hope, You have ended the reign of death by the resurrection of Your Son. Deliver us from death and grant Your peace to the dying and Your comfort to those who grieve. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father of peace, You have restored us to You and given us a place at the Table of Your Son. Lead us to repentance and strengthen our faith that we who commune at this altar may be of one faith

and receive without hindrance the fruits of His atoning work in this Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father of courage, You have promised to grant us all things needful for this body and life even as You have provided eternal life to us in Christ. Help us always to pray with confidence in Your mercy, knowing that Your every answer is for our eternal good. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things for which we have prayed and all other things we need, we pray You to grant us in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Take My Life and Let It Be” LSB 783 vs 1 & 2

**Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise**

**Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy Love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee**

(Please Stand)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is good, right, our duty and delight, heavenly Father, to bring You thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, for You have given us the revelation of Your love through Him who has become our Brother in flesh and by whom salvation has been won. With astonishing power and mercy, He has set us free from the power of evil that we may love You above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. Now with the company of angels and all the heavenly voices, we praise and glorify You, now and forevermore, singing:

SANCTUS (*sing*) *LSB 195*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth

Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory

Hosanna Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He Blessed is He

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Holy Lord, holy and merciful Father, with patience You bore with us sinners who deserved nothing of Your kindness and brought forth a Savior who is Your Son in our flesh. He lived with obedience we could not and died for sins not His own. In that one, all-sufficient death and mighty resurrection, He ended the reign of sin and delivered to us the victory of everlasting life. Now in this Sacrament of His body and blood, He bestows upon us the fruits of His redeeming work.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My \times body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \times blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: We give You thanks, O Lord, that You have counted us worthy to stand before You and serve You. By Your Holy Spirit, strengthen us in faith and equip us to do the good works that give testimony to that faith and glorify You by serving our neighbors in Christ's name. Grant us grace that what we have received here we may keep in holy lives all our days, until that Day when we shall dwell in Your presence on high forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to call You Father and to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung) LSB 198

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God that takest away the sin of
the world have mercy upon us**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, have mercy upon us**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb” *LSB 740 vs 1 & 2*

**I am Jesus’ little lamb
Ever glad at heart I am
For my Shepherd gently guides me
Knows my need and well provides me
Loves me ev’ry day the same
Even calls me by my name**

**Day by day at home away
Jesus is my staff and stay
When I hunger Jesus feeds me
Into pleasant pastures leads me
When I thirst He bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow**

(Please stand)

THE POST-DISTRIBUTION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus
strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to
life everlasting.

People: (spoken) **Amen**

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (sung) TLH p. 29-30

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face
of all people, a light to lighten the
Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Rejoicing in Your mercy, we pray You to guard and guide us by Your Spirit, that we who have known with joy the blessings of Your mercy in Christ may be kept from all evil and preserved in the righteousness that is ours by faith, until that Day when we no longer must wrestle against principalities and powers. Grant us to live holy, upright, and godly lives in response to all that Your love has accomplished in us and for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord
 make His face shine on you and be gracious to
 you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give
 you peace.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling” *LSB 827 vs 1 & 3*

**Hark, the voice of Jesus calling
 Who will go and work today
 Fields are white and harvest waiting
 Who will bear the sheaves away
 Loud and long the Master calleth
 Rich reward He offers thee
 Who will answer gladly saying
 Here am I send me send me**

**For as rain and snow from heaven
 Water seeds in dusty soil
 Causing them to bud and flower
 Giving bread to those who toil
 So the Lord sends forth His promise
 Words of life and joy and peace
 Never void to Him returning
 Bearing fruit with great increase**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor
 Marie Brown, Organist
 Ken Kosmalski, Elder & Reader
 Jim Bumgarner & Frank Pignanelli, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BINGO!

January 31st

Quilting

Every Thursday from 10am to 2pm

Attendance

Sunday January 21st 9:30 am 31

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact Nancy Dajos at 313-254-2437. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Joyce & Ken Kosmalski – January 30th

Birthdays

Linda Panich – January 30th

Carolyn Kimbrough – February 4th

For the Shut-Ins

Judy Ohannasian, at home
Dorothy MacTavish, at home
Camell Faulk, at home
Phyllis Witte, at rehab
Melvin Kimbrough, at home
Lynn Mayfield, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

Anita Hoelscher, Friend of Ruth Pollatz, Hospitalized
due to septic

Lauri Brooner, Friend of Linda Panich, as she
undergoes bone marrow transplant

Art Warren, Friend of Lori Wilson, for speedy recovery
from kidney surgery at UofM Hospital

Christian Warden, success for cancer surgery

Mike, Nephew of Frank & Laurie Pignanelli, recovery
from injury and surgery

Pat Bates, hospitalized at Heritage Hospital

Bev Kero, Rehab at Heritage

April Assemany – loss of family members

Carlene Shaw, Quilter, death of Husband Patrick

David Bates, Pat Bates son, Deep Depression

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOPE

Sunday January 28	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service
Wednesday January 31	10:30 am Bible Study 6pm BINGO
Thursday February 1	10am Quilting
Friday February 2	Office Closed
Saturday February 3	5pm Service
Sunday February 4	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service



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