

*Pastor Nathan*  
*January 31, 2021*

ASTONISHING

MARK 1:21-28

# Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 31, 2021  
11 am Worship Service

## As We Gather

In today's Gospel from Mark 1, we are reminded of Jesus' divine authority in His teaching to the people and also in His power over evil spirits. This power and authority was foretold by prophets such as Moses, pointing to the One who would fulfill all things as the long-awaited perfect prophet and Savior. In that power and authority, Christ has won our victory through His death and rising, and we are blessed with freedom in that faith to be used to His glory in service to others.

## Welcome and Announcements

### Come, Thou Almighty King

**LSB 905 (vs. 1-3)**

Come, Thou almighty King, Help us Thy name to sing;  
Help us to praise; Father all-glorious,  
O'er all victorious,  
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword;  
Our prayer attend. Come and Thy people bless,  
And give Thy Word success,  
And let Thy righteousness On us descend.

Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour! Thou, who almighty art,  
Now rule in ev'ry heart,  
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

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## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Come, Thou Almighty King**

**LSB 905 (vs. 4)**

To Thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be  
Hence evermore! Thy sov'reign majesty  
May we in glory see,  
And to eternity Love and adore.

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## Service of the Word

**Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Let us pray.

Lord of all, by Your hands all things were made. In Your Word is power over order and chaos, light and darkness, life and death. Grant Your Spirit that we become instruments of Yours by Your grace, humbly serving You through the perfect Prophet and Savior of this world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**First Reading**

***Deuteronomy 18:15-20***

<sup>15</sup>“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— <sup>16</sup>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.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

<sup>20</sup>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.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

## Epistle

## 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

<sup>4</sup>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.” <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed 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>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. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us 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 right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>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? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

## Holy Gospel

## Mark 1:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.  
*Glory to You, O Lord.*

<sup>21</sup>And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching.

<sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“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 out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>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.” <sup>28</sup>And at once

his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*Praise to You, O Christ.*

### **Apostles' Creed**

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence 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  $\times$  everlasting. Amen.

### **Son of God, Eternal Savior**

*LSB 842 (vs. 1&3)*

Son of God, eternal Savior,  
Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
Hallows all our human race,  
You our Head, who, throned in glory,  
For Your own will ever plead:  
Fill us with Your love and pity,  
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us,  
King of love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion,  
Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By Your patient years of toiling,  
By Your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,  
Stem our selfish greed of gain.

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**Message**

***Pastor Nathan McCarty***

**Prayers of the Church**

## Lord's Prayer

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.

## Blessing of God's People (Benediction)

### Go, My Children, with My Blessing *LSB 922 (vs. 1&4)*

Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.  
In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.  
Go, My children, with My blessing— You are My own.

I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:  
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

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Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Birthdays this week

David Thies, Wyatt Briggs, Nitasha Mazzeo, Erica McCarty,  
Logan Hunter, Stephen Smith, Thomas Ford, Janelle Heumann,  
Madilyn Wert

# **Please Keep In Your Prayers**

Don Adkison, AW Arnold, Deborah A. Brewer, Pastor David Brockhoff,  
Charlotte & Kelly Cobb, Sue Eischen, Denise Ewing,  
Lisa Parnaby Isaacs, Kim M. Johnston, Jeanne Mackert,  
Joan & Norm Mattmuller, Karen Matteson, Brenda Murray, Bea Pearson,  
Karen Ratchford, Dennis Rickert, Jeannie & Roger Roman,  
Sylvia Spiering, Kevin Wilson  
Family of Marilyn Szpara (Ann and Margie Cirillo)

## **Announcements**

### **2021 Offering Envelopes**

Please let us know when you could pick up your envelopes. We would be happy to put them outside the office door for easy pickup. If you would like envelopes, please call the office.

### **Sunday, February 14**

Transfiguration of our Lord

### **Wednesday, February 17**

Ash Wednesday worship services at 12 noon and 7 pm

### **Emails**

Are you receiving email notifications from the church? If not, it may be that we do not have your correct email address on file. When you sign the attendance book today, please include the email address you would like for us to use when sending out notifications. Notifications may be funeral announcements, events or just general communication to all members. We don't want anyone left out. Contact Carol at [carolpiet@aol.com](mailto:carolpiet@aol.com) for more information.

## **Acknowledgments**

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1423 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250  
(904) 249-5418 – Church . (904) 249-1204 -- Preschool  
[www.bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org](http://www.bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org)

***Senior Pastor***

Rev. Dana Allen Brones  
[blcdana@bellsouth.net](mailto:blcdana@bellsouth.net)

***Associate Pastor***

Rev. Nathan McCarty  
[revnathan@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org](mailto:revnathan@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org)

***Vicar***

Andrew Simpson  
[vicars@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org](mailto:vicars@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org)

***Preschool Director***

Pat May  
[blppat@att.net](mailto:blppat@att.net)

***Senior Administrative Assistant***

Jennifer Huber  
[jennifer@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org](mailto:jennifer@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org)

***Administrative Assistant***

Tami Moe  
[tami@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org](mailto:tami@bethlehemplutheranjaxbeach.org)

***Sexton***

Dennis Reed

***Director of Music Ministry***

Tim Huber