

**ST. JOHN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**9:15 AM**

**JANUARY  
31, 2021**



Making the  
Love of  
*Christ*  
Known

Jeffery Gramza  
*Senior Pastor*

Doug Meyer  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Charlie Frekot  
*Vicar*

**Opening Song—***Today Is The Day*

**Announcements**

**Praise Songs —**

*Who You Are To Me  
Great Are You Lord*

**Prayer of the Day**

**Children's Sermon**

**Kids Praise**



## First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

*Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.*



[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.”

*The reading is concluded:*

*Word of God, word of life.*

**Thanks be to God.**



## **Gospel: Mark 1:21-28**

*Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.*

<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 is concluded:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**



## **Confession and Forgiveness**

The One who pardons, heals, and strengthens all who repent  
calls us to name our failings and our hopes.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

**Holy and all-powerful God,  
who commands all spirits,  
comforts those in distress,  
and casts out destructive forces,  
we confess that we are unable to do your will.  
We protect what is familiar  
and reject what is unknown.  
We admire those with courage  
but excuse ourselves when we falter from the truth.  
We forget that you are always with us,  
and that with you all things are possible.  
Forgive us, lead us, make us new.  
Remove our desire to heed false prophets,  
and show us your way;  
in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
one God, Mother of us all. Amen.**

The God who made you and knows your every thought  
hears you now and forgives you all your sin.  
You have been redeemed through Jesus Christ,  
God's Son, our Savior, who is Alpha and Omega, all in all.

## **Prayers of the People**



**Offering Prayer**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Closing Song—*My Lighthouse***





PREPARE YE THE  
WAY OF THE LORD

