



Sunday, January 28, 2024

The fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

10:00 a.m.



“The Exorcist”

Pastor Steve Albertin

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

## Call to Worship

Meekness and Majesty

## Announcements

\* (*indicates please stand*)

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## \* Greeting & Passing of Peace

### Hymn of Praise

Now the Feast and Celebration

ELW pg 167

### Prayer of the Day

### Song

Open the Eyes of My Heart

*please be seated*

### Lesson

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 8:1-13

Pew Bible pg 1043

### Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

Pew Bible pg 910

### Children's Message

Pastor Steve Albertin

## Sermon

“The Exorcist”

Pastor Steve Albertin

- In today’s Gospel Jesus drives out/exorcises an unclean spirit/demon/Devil from a man.
- The demonic is real. The devil is recognized not by his appearance but by what he says.
- The devil tells lies about God: God cannot be trusted! God is your judge and enemy. You must prove yourself.
- The devil tries to thwart Jesus’ love for the possessed man with a lie.
- Jesus silences the devil. Jesus is the enemy of the devil and the savior of those who are possessed.
- Jesus wants to assure all the possessed of the world that God loves them. They can trust God. That is the point of Jesus’ exorcism of the unclean spirit.
- Exorcisms continue in the life of the church and in our daily lives as we thwart the lie of the devil and love the world.

## \* Song

The Epiphany Carol

Abertin/Von Schakel

A wondrous light descends upon the earth’s dark night.  
Warming the cold; melting the dark. Shedding the gloom, pouring the light  
upon the wounds of time’s great plight, ending the curse of sin’s dread night.

Chorus:

Rejoice humanity! For this Epiphany  
Reveals divinity, a blessed symphony.  
Sweet notes of light sing through the night;  
The song of God’s delight.

He came as one with strong and bold authority  
Not like the scribes with a rare vibe stunning the crowds saying out loud  
that evil must come out and flee, depart from those who need mercy. (*Chorus*)

When under siege and desperate, we want to run spirits unclean, cruel and mean.  
Tear us apart. Mangle our hearts.  
But Jesus’ love expels the pain and we rejoice and spread his fame. (*Chorus*)

*please be seated*

## The Offering

### \* Offertory

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

### \* The Apostles’ Creed

ELW pg 104

**Prayers of the Church :** (*the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.*)

Members:

John, Tim, Susan, Craig, Lisa, Wes & Lee, Bill

## Family & Friends

Roger, Pete, George, Bob, Alan, Linda, Jeannie, Joyce, Randall & Mary, Carol

### Communion

#### The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

#### The Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!**

*please be seated*

### Distribution

*All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome at his table. There, they receive him and the new life he offers. Those who eat and drink at his table commit themselves to the care and redemption of all that God has made. If you are not baptized, contact Pastor Albertin to learn how you can receive the great gift God has for you in baptism. Today, you are welcome to join us at Christ's table.*

### Benediction

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

\* **Sending Song**

He is Exalted