

Readings, Prayers, Sermon Notes, Psalms, Hymns
To Study and Share with those You Love.

WEEK OF JANUARY 28,

2024

CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
725 Truxton Drive, Kingsport, TN.
concordiakingsport/facebook 10:30am



**Jesus
commands
unclean
spirits**

Mark 1

Hymn of Invocation **Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure** 533

+ The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism +

INTROIT PSALM 32

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,* but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.
Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,* whose sin is | covered. Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD
counts no in- | iquity,* and in whose spirit there is | no deceit. **I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- |**
iquity;* 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 de- | liverance.

Glory to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. |
Amen.

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

COLLECT OF THE DAY

**Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant
strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us 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.**

PSALM III

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. **Great are
the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.** Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness
endures forever. **He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.** He provides
food for those who | fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. **He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving
them the inheritance of the nations.** The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy; **they are
established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.** He sent redemption to his people; he has
commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome | is his name! **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all
those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!**

Glory 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.
His righteousness endures forever.

APPOINTED READINGS 28 JANUARY 2024

Deuteronomy 18:15–20 1 Corinthians 8:1–13 Mark 1:21–28

Our Lord Jesus Christ, True God in the Flesh, Cleanses Our Consciences from Sin

- As He promised, the Lord our God has raised up “a prophet” like Moses, namely Jesus, our brother in the flesh. “To him you shall listen,” because the Word of the Lord is “in his mouth” (Deut. 18:15–18).
- Indeed, He is more than a prophet and more than a scribe of the Scriptures; He is the incarnate Word, and He speaks “a new teaching with authority” (Mark 1:22, 27). He enters “the synagogue” of His Church and provides true Sabbath rest, using His authority to silence and cast out “even the unclean spirits” (Mark 1:21–27). By His Word of the cross, He removes the accusations of the Law and of the devil, and He cleanses our consciences before God the Father, “from whom are all things and for whom we exist.”
- Hence, we are now set free from bondage and commended to God by the one Lord, Jesus Christ, “through whom are all things and through whom we exist” (1 Cor. 8:6). Therefore, use your freedom to care for your brothers and sisters, neither causing them to stumble nor wounding their consciences (1 Cor. 8:9–12), but cleansing and strengthening them with the Gospel.

CONFESSION OF OUR COMMON FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

Hymn of the Day **“Away from Us!” the Demon Cried** 541

SERMON NOTES

+ Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany +

28 January 2024 **He commands unclean spirits** Mark 1:27

Why, he even gives his orders to evil spirits and they obey him!" And his reputation spread like wild-fire through the whole Galilean district.

While our experience of what we call spiritual warfare, that is, conflict with dark, demonic spirits may cause our hearts to fear, even as Christ commands them we find confidence to stand in Jesus' authority and dispel them with His Light and Life.

1. Our experience of conflict with dark, demonic spirits causes fear

1. Why could we not cast him out? (Mark 9:17-29)
2. Ananias sent to the man who did many evil things (Acts 9)

2. Jesus commands even the unclean spirits

1. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (I John 3:8)
2. Jesus will rule the nations with a rod of iron (Rev.19)

3. We find confidence to stand in Jesus' authority, dispel demons

1. in My Name they will drive out demons (Mark 16)
2. Though devils all the world should fill...we tremble not

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 28 JANUARY 2024

O Holy Trinity, You are God of gods and Lord of lords. Truly, there is no God but You alone. From You and from Your Son, Jesus Christ, are all things. Reveal the saving knowledge of Christ's truth to us and all the world, that loving You and one another, together we may be known by God. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, whose voice was heard at Sinai and whose authority was made manifest in Christ, the Prophet greater than Moses, send faithful preachers into Your harvest who will be diligent to listen to Your Word and speak it faithfully in Your name. Preserve us from false prophets who would lead us away from Your truth, and give us ears to hear gladly the saving words of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, guard our families and homes, and build them up in love. Support parents in their task of instructing their children, strengthen those whose faith is weak, and make us bold to forego convenience and security to attest the truths of our most holy faith. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, give health and success to our president and governor, our legislators and judges, and all who serve for our governance and protection. Make them high in purpose, wise in counsel and unwavering in duty. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son cast out unclean spirits and taught with authority. He is the Great Physician of body and soul. Have mercy on those who are sick, distressed, in danger or facing any need [*especially* _____]. Sustain them with patience, trusting in Your merciful care, and graciously relieve them. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Dear Lord, look with favor on all who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood, that in their eating and drinking they may receive the benefits of forgiveness of sins and renewal of life, and so receive a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of hope, guard and keep all who face the temptations of the devil, the world and our sinful flesh, and preserve the faith of those troubled by doubts. Through the daily remembrance of our Baptism, enable us to win the victory over all that threatens our faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ***Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*** 394