## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024

## **OPENING HYMN** 8:00 am "Christ the Eternal Lord" 829



Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93

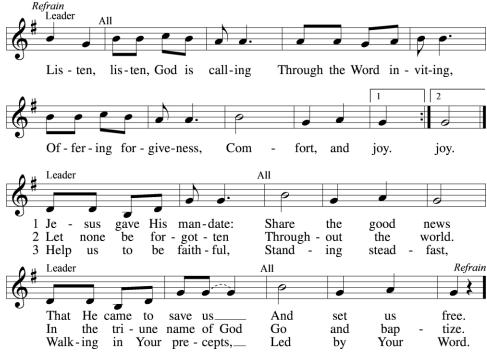
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Shall call Your chil-dren home at last To know as we are known.

## 11:00 am "Listen, God is Calling" 833



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## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C 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.

P 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.

C Amen.

(Share the Peace of Christ with those around you)

## **INTROIT** Psalm 100

P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

C Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!

P Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

C Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise Give thanks to him; bless his name!

P For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever\* and his faithfulness to all generations.

All Glory be 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.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE** "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" 849



#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** Exodus 19:3–6 (God will use His people to serve the world)

There Israel encamped before the mountain, <sup>3</sup>while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup>You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; <sup>6</sup>and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## **EPISTLE** 1 Peter 2:9–10 (now you are God's people)

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### VERSE LSB 173

P Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

C You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 4:22–37 (Jesus meets a woman at a well)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" <sup>28</sup>So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup>"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" <sup>30</sup>They went out of the town and were coming to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. <sup>36</sup>Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

## **SERMON HYMN** "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service" 848



## **APOSTLES' CREED**

C 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 + everlasting. Amen.

## **OFFERING**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P ...Lord in Your Mercy
C Hear our prayer.

## LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

## **PRAYER**

ALL: Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## **BENEDICTION** LSB 183

P 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.

C Amen.

# **CLOSING HYMN** "Serve the Lord with Gladness" (tune: Onward Christian Soldiers)

"Serve the Lord with gladness!" It is He alone
Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own
To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace,
Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name.

"Serve the Lord with gladness!" He gave us command To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest.

Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.

Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:

"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!

"Serve the Lord with gladness!" There's no greater joy Than to serve the Master, Work in His employ.

As we build His kingdom Angels, too, rejoice Over every sinner Brought to hear His voice.

Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:

"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name