

# Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

P.O. Box 10, Belgrade, MN 56312

320-254-3249

[bgcrgparishmn@gmail.com](mailto:bgcrgparishmn@gmail.com)

**January 28, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

*Welcome in Jesus' name.*

*We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.*



Lead Pastor Lisa Meshke, [pastorlisaanne@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisaanne@gmail.com)

Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson, [bhandeljohnson@gmail.com](mailto:bhandeljohnson@gmail.com)

Secretary, Sue Wiener

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prelude/Procession/Bell

Welcome and Announcements

## **\*Confession and Forgiveness:**

L: Blessed be the holy trinity, ✠ one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

L: Loving God,

**C: We confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

L: Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together, God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ✠ Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn:** "Rise, Shine, You People!" ELW #665

1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered  
our human story; God in him is centered.  
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,  
with grace unbounded.

2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;  
he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.  
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,  
now are forgiven.

3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,  
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.  
To all the world go out and tell the story  
of Jesus' glory.

4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.  
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.  
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation  
God's new creation.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

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**\*Apostolic Greeting:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**\*Hymn of Praise:** "This is the Feast" ELW Setting 4, page 149

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,  
and honor and blessing and glory are his.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
blessing and honor and glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

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**\*The Prayer of the Day:**

Compassionate God, **you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Scripture Acclamation:** "Thy Word"

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path.  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path.

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**Scripture Reading:**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

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."

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.****Responsive Psalm Reading:**

Psalm 111

L: Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**C: Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.**

L: Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

**C: You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.**

L: You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

**C: You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.**

L: The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

**C: They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

L: You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

**C: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.**

**Scripture Reading:**

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact 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>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>“Food will not bring us close 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 liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Sermon

**\*Gospel Acclamation:** “Alleluia” ELW, Setting 4, Page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

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**\*Holy Gospel:**

Mark 1:21-28

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of Mark.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

**\*Hymn:** "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

ELW #614

***Refrain:***

There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. ***Refrain:***

2 If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus  
and say, "He died for all." ***Refrain:***

3 Don't ever be discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend;  
and if you lack for knowledge  
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. ***Refrain:***

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**\*Apostles' Creed:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*Prayers of the People:**

**L:** God of grace, **C:** receive our prayer.

**\*Peace:**

**L:** The peace of Christ be with you always. **C:** And also with you.

**Offering**

**Offertory Hymn:** "Arise, Your Light Has Come! ELW #314 (vs. 1,2)

1 Arise, your light has come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God  
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light has come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captive's liberty,  
good tidings to the poor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.  
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**\*Offertory Prayer:**

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

**\*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.**

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy:**

ELW Setting 4, Page 153

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of Pow'r and might,  
Heav'n 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.

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**\*Words of Institution**

**\*The 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.**

**Distribution of Holy Communion**

## Communion Hymns:

“Lamb of God”

ELW, Setting 4, Page 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

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## “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

1 I’ve got peace like a river,  
I’ve got peace like a river,  
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul;  
I’ve got peace like a river,  
I’ve got peace like a river,  
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.

2 I’ve got joy like a fountain,  
I’ve got joy like a fountain,  
I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul;  
I’ve got joy like a fountain,  
I’ve got joy like a fountain,  
I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul.

3 I’ve got love like an ocean,  
I’ve got love like an ocean,  
I’ve got love like an ocean in my soul;  
I’ve got love like an ocean,  
I’ve got love like an ocean,  
I’ve got love like an ocean in my soul.

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## “Lord, Be Glorified”

ELW #744

1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.

2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in our song, Lord, be glorified today.

3 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.

4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

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**Refrain:**

Healer of our ev'ry ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.

1 You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness;  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. **Refrain:**

2 In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision, God of love. **Refrain:**

3 Give us strength to love each other,  
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. **Refrain:**

4 You who know each thought and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing;  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. **Refrain:**

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 One Licence #A-736797

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**\*Benediction:**

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠  
bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Go to the World!



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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## **\*Dismissal:**

**L:** Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **C:** Thanks be to God.