

† THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY †
January 24, 2026
(transferred to Saturday evening)

Service of Holy Communion

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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

C Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone.

C Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit, that attentive to Your Word, we may confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

P Gracious God, have mercy on us.

C In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C 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. Amen.

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

Tune: THE ASH GROVE

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

His law He enforces, the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

¹But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel – and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY (*Congregation rising*)

(from Psalm 27)

A The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

C The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

A One thing I asked of the Lord; this I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.

C For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will set me high on a rock.

A Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

C My heart says, "Come, seek His face!" Your face, Lord, do I seek.

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee.

¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles – ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea for they were fishers. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fisher of people." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. ²³Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light LSB **Hymn 411**

SERMON

Rev. Mark Budenholzer

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known in Your Son, and in Him You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

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

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

C Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand (please ask for "gluten-free" if desired); then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Congregation rising*)

A Life-giving God, You send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish Your people. Send us out as witnesses, that we may show Your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with the You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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

LSB Hymn 395

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (v. 1 & 5)

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Services:

Rev. Mark Budenholzer, Associate Pastor/Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Marcia Kollmann, Associate Organist

Lector	Volunteer
Comm. Asst.	Volunteer
Altar Care	Pastor Budenholzer
Usher Team	Volunteer

News and Notes:

Voter's Meeting – Please make every effort to attend our next Voter's Meeting. The agenda includes discussion of financial matters as well as an update on the pastoral search process. Due to the projected winter storm, the meeting has been **rescheduled to Sunday, February 1, at 12 noon.**

All other Sunday activities have also been cancelled in anticipation of the storm.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – We welcome volunteers to serve as lector, usher, Communion assistant, or altar care. Training will be provided for those who are new. **Please fill out the worksheet** (copies by the Jesus Fountain) to indicate your availability and return to the church office by this **Sunday, January 25.**

Prayer Conference Call – All are welcome to our service of evening prayer by phone on the last Tuesday of the month, led by Pastoral Assistant Morris Mayer. To participate, simply dial (1) 732-434-3982. The next service is **Tuesday, January 27, at 6:00 p.m.**

THE CHOSEN – Season 2: You are invited to enjoy viewing sessions on **Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** The first set of episodes will continue **through February 11**; the rest will be shown after Easter. New participants are welcome any week – please RSVP to the church office using the pew card, email to Krapillo@VLC-NY.org, or call 914-337-0207, x1003. For more info, contact Deacon Janet George or Deacon Tony DeRosa.

Family Worship – Our next Family Worship service will be at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, **February 1.** There is no separate Sunday School and children are encouraged to learn and participate in the complete service. Activities provided!

ASH WEDNESDAY and LENTEN WORSHIP – The season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 18**. We will have two worship services with ashes and Holy Communion at **12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m.** Lenten midweek services will continue on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

SOUP KITCHEN – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop-off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. Please go to our church web site to sign up and indicate what food you will prepare. The next date is **Ash Wednesday, February 18**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

First Holy Communion – First communion classes for children in 5th grade or higher will be held during the Wednesdays in Lent. We will meet from 6-7 p.m. on **February 25, March 4, March 11 and March 18**. A parent or guardian must attend each session. First Communion Sunday will be March 22 at the 10:45 a.m. service. To register, go to www.VLC-NY.org/first-communion-form

Crochet Ministry – Thanks to our dedicated group, we were able to donate over 35 hand-made hats, scarves and neck warmers to the Mt. Vernon Soup Kitchen this month. Anyone who knits or crochets is welcome to pick up yarn to continue working independently. Meetings at church will start up again in the spring.

GATHERING OF FRIENDS – This year's gala on March 20 will feature "A Taste of the Caribbean" with a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing along with silent and live auctions. Tickets are on sale now. You can also support the event by donating auction items, purchasing ads, or by becoming a benefactor or sponsor. Go to www.VLC-NY.org/gathering-of-friends

Wednesday Bible Study – On January 28, we will look at the end of John chapter 11, as people reacted to the raising of Lazarus, and Mary's anointing of Jesus in chapter 12.

Music Ministry: Rehearsals for this week are as follows:

- ❖ High School Choir – Sunday, Feb. 1, at 10:15 a.m.
- ❖ Village Bells – Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ Youth Choir – Thurs., Jan. 29, at 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 1, at 8:30 a.m.
- ❖ Chancel Choir – Thurs., Jan. 29, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 1, at 8:40 a.m.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meeting on Thursday, January 29, at 6:00 p.m.; Lifers (Grades 7-8) Dinner Talk on Thursday, January 29, and Confirmation class on Sunday, February 1; Crusaders (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion on Sunday, February 1

- ❖ Cherub Choir and Youth Choir will sing for the Family Worship service on Sunday, February 1, at 9:00 a.m.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Marcela Acosta, Victor Acosta, Andrea Ansorge, Antonella Barbuto, Linda Blanco, Denise Corbett, Tom Corbett, Davenport Family, Aurora Rose Gitter, Jake & Christina Gitter, Ruth Gitter, Mary Johnson, Layne Klein, Michaela Knoppel, Ilse Koerper, Benny Leyro, Michelle Liscoe, Douglas Miller, Jennifer Pauta, Joshua Pedrosa, Jose Pedrosa, Elaine Podszus, Shelby Restivo, John Scaramuzzo, Diana Schrader, Unateresa Sheahan, Barbara Staalesen, Christian Vesperman, Ronnie Walsh, Peter Williams

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Anita Kebschull**, former VLC member (wife of former VLC Adjunct pastor Allen Kebschull, who pre-deceased her), passed away on January 13, 2026
- † **Kenneth Werring**, long-time VLC member, passed away on January 14, 2026
- † **Christian Rudolf**, son of Rev. Bruce Rudolf (currently serving at Camp SonRise) and Lay Deacon Dottie Rudolf, passed away unexpectedly in his home. Arrangements are pending.

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School

172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708

914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG

Connect Card – Scan the QR code for questions or general info

