

**† FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY †**  
**January 28, 2024**

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| <b>Service of Hymnic Communion 9:00 &amp; 10:45 a.m.</b> |
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**PRELUDE**

Wunderbarer König

Flor Peeters

**OPENING HYMN** (*Congregation rising*)  
God Himself is Present

**LSB Hymn 907**

**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** 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 servant 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.**

**✠ KYRIE** (Sung to "Amazing Grace")

Have mercy on Your people, Lord. Have mercy, Christ our King.  
Renew us by Your mercy, Lord; accept the prayers we bring.

**✠ GLORIA** (Sung to "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

"Glory be to God on high!" This is now our joyful cry.  
Peace to all who live on earth, grace and favor for new birth.  
You we praise and glorify, worship You, O Lord most high.  
Gracious Father, heav'nly King, to Your name alone we sing:  
Praise the glory of Your name, now and evermore the same!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray:

**C**     **Almighty God, You know that we live in the midst of many dangers, and that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant us Your 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. Amen.**

(9:00) **YOUTH CHOIR**                      Rejoice in the Mission                      Dan Bielenberg  
*Oh, the Lord came down from heav'n, tiny baby, great physician,  
gave His body and His blood to live out a holy mission.  
His disciples, they went out to fulfill the great commission;  
with a seed of faith so small, learned a diff'rent kind of fishin'. Will we go?  
And we'll all share the vision, who in Christ we all shall be.  
Come, rejoice in the mission of a new community.  
In this place where we gather, Jesus, still our restless souls;  
to Your Spirit we will listen. We will go.  
As we ponder and we plan in this age of great transition,  
we will keep the Word of God at the heart of each decision.  
Praise the Father, Lord of love; praise the Christ, in glory risen;  
praise the Spirit, by whose pow'r we will share the gifts we're given – as we go...*  
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**OLD TESTAMENT READING**    Deuteronomy 18:15-20

<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     This is the Word of the Lord.

**C**     **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**    1 Corinthians 8:1-13

<sup>1</sup>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 This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

(9:00) **CHANCEL CHOIR** The Lord is a Mighty God Felix Mendelssohn  
*For the Lord is a mighty God and a mighty ruler  
over all false idols.*

**ALLELUIA II** (*Congregation rising*) (LSB Hymn 952)  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Mark 1:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

(9:00) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word LSB **Hymn 655**

**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** Hear us, O God;

**C** Your mercy is great.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OFFERING/VOLUNTARY**

Erhalt uns, Herr

Kevin Hildebrand

### **OFFERING HYMN** (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Hymn 775)

Be present at our table, Lord; be here and ev'rywhere adored;

Thy creatures bless, and grant that we may feast in paradise with Thee.

## **† HOLY COMMUNION †**

### **PREFACE**

**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:

### **♪SANCTUS** (*Sung to the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy"*)

Holy, holy, Lord God almighty!

Day and night we join to praise Your love and majesty.

You alone are holy, worthy and righteous.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

## 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 The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

**AGNUS DEI** (*Sung to the hymn "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*)

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away – our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all, strengthen us when we fall,  
answer our fervent call and grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord  
The Church's One Foundation

LSB **Hymn 637**  
LSB **Hymn 644**

*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 Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for feeding us with the body and blood of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Assist us with Your grace, that we may continue as true members in the mystical body of Christ and do the good works that You desire; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with 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**    We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God    LSB **Hymn 941**

**DISMISSAL**

**P**     Go in peace to serve the Lord.

**C     Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

Thaxted

Matthew Machemer

\* \* \* \* \*

**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:***

|                       |                                 |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                       | 9:00                            | 10:45                           |
| <b>Lector/Asst.</b>   | Chris Gleason                   | Philip Auman Godlewski          |
| <b>Asst. Minister</b> | Daryl Story                     | Philip Auman Godlewski          |
| <b>Youth Asst.</b>    | Violet Linn                     |                                 |
| <b>Altar Care</b>     | Story Family                    |                                 |
| <b>Usher Team</b>     | Richard Graham<br>Joe Wilkinson | Ralph Schoene<br>Jessica Weston |
| <b>Sexton</b>         | Zachary Gleason                 |                                 |
| <b>Refreshments</b>   | Nicole Lord                     |                                 |

***Stewardship Reflection***

Offering received last week: \$7,838  
Offering needed weekly to meet budget: \$6,860  
Offering received to date: \$194,454  
Offering needed to date: \$205,800

### **News and Notes:**

**A prayer service in memory of Bill Phipps** will be held today (January 28) at 12 noon in the sanctuary. There will be music led by FaithWalk, a group which was pleased to have Bill as a member.

**Sluberski Film Series JUNIOR** – Enjoy a free showing of **SING**, the animated family musical, at the Picture House Bronxville Theatre on **Sunday, January 28, at 2:00 p.m.** Tickets are available at church or in the theater lobby. Pre-register online at [tinyurl.com/Sing24](http://tinyurl.com/Sing24).

**Prayer Conference Call** – We are continuing with our monthly prayer service on the last Tuesday of the month. There is a brief liturgy with prayers for the needs of our community and the world. To join in, simply dial (1) 732-434-3982. The next service is **January 30 at 6:00 p.m.**

**God Connects:** Join Pastor Hartwell for this general course in Christianity 7:00 PM-8:30 PM (EST) on **Tuesday, January 30 and February 6**. Meet in person in the Friendship Room or join online via Zoom.

**FREE THRIVENT SEMINAR ON ZOOM:** No matter your wealth or status, you have an estate. All estates have something in common – you can't take it with you when you die. William O'Doherty will present "Prepare Wisely: Estate Strategy Essentials" on **Monday, February 5**, at 6:00 p.m. (repeats Wednesday, Feb. 7). *What is estate planning? Is a will the only document needed to complete my estate plans? How can I make charitable gifts in my estate plans? Is there a way I can enjoy tax savings and other benefits from charitable gifts now?* To receive the Zoom link call 914-337-0207 x1040 or go online to <http://tinyurl.com/Thrivent2024>

**Superbowl Party** – Come watch the Superbowl on our big screen TV in the MPR, **February 11 starting at 6:00 p.m.** Superbowl food and drinks provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

- ❖ Volunteers are needed to help set up at 4:00 p.m. and/or clean-up. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the MPR or speak to Warren Wong
  - ❖ Wildest Superbowl team hat/jersey contest. Spruce up the hat or jersey of your favorite team. Prizes for craziest hat wearer, funniest hat wearer, youngest hat wearer, hat wearer who traveled the farthest.
  - ❖ 50/50 raffle and football squares (\$2 a square) in support of CSA Soup Kitchen
- For more information contact the church office at 914-337-0207 (1003)

**ASH WEDNESDAY is also Valentine's Day (February 14) this year.** We will have worship services with ashes and Holy Communion at **12:00 & 7:30 p.m.** Midweek Lenten services continue each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. with a look at "God's Top 10" – the impact of The Ten Commandments in helping us to live a life according to God's will.

**Parent Community Night** – Our first gathering of the year is on February 15! These are opportunities to get together for food, community, and consideration of how to live well into our callings to raise our children in faith. We'll meet on **Thursday, Feb. 15 from 6-7 p.m. in the Friendship Room**. Pastor Mark would love for you to be able to join us. If you've never been, definitely consider coming. We each bring a bit of food to share, but if you're able to come and have nothing to bring, don't worry about it!

**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 in advance to sign up and indicate what food you will prepare. The next date is **Wednesday, February 21**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at [etakwhit@aol.com](mailto:etakwhit@aol.com).

**1<sup>st</sup> Communion Classes:** Open to youth in the 5th grade and above who have not had their 1st Holy Communion. Classes meet 6:00 p.m. on **Wednesdays February 28, March 6 and 13**. A lock-in will be held Friday, March 1, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., and 1st Holy Communion will be celebrated on St. Patrick's Day (Sunday, March 17, 2024) at 10:45 a.m. Register on-line at [www.VLC-NY.ORG](http://www.VLC-NY.ORG) under the Forms tab. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 914-337-0207 x1003.

**MUSIC MINISTRY** – Our schedule for this week is as follows:

- **High School Choir** rehearse Sunday, January 28, at 10:15 a.m.
- **Village Bells** rehearse Wednesday, January 31, at 6:00 p.m.
- **Youth Choir** rehearse Thursday, February 1, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Chancel Choir** rehearse Thursday, February 1, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, February 4, at 8:40 a.m.
- **Cherub Choir** will sing in worship on Sunday, February 11; please bring children to the Friendship Room at 8:45 a.m.

For more information, contact Minister of Music Deb Reiss at [DReiss@VLC-NY.org](mailto:DReiss@VLC-NY.org) or 914-337-0207, x1018.

**Youth News: Voyagers** (Grades 3-6) meet **Thursday, Feb. 1**, at 6:00 p.m.; **Lifers** (Grades 7-8) Confirmation work on Sunday, Jan. 28, and Dinner Talk on Thursday, **Feb. 1**, at 6:00 p.m.; **Crusaders** (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion at 10:30 a.m. on **Jan. 28**.

**Wednesday Bible Study** – On January 31 we will continue with Romans chapter 15.

**Prayer Line:** We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Maxine Britt, Tabatha Clark, Tracie Davenport, Joan Deery, Rev. Rudy DeRosa, Bennett Dimarza, Eleanor Escherich, Faith Forliano, Nancy Hylton, Eleanor James, Richard Krug, Ralph Kuhn, Merline Leon, Joseph Leonard, Margo McKay, Katiana Michalski, Isaiah Nieves, Anita & Vincent Palmese, Jose Pedrosa, Sunnaria Pettinati, Elaine and Louise Podszus, Irmgard Schoene, Joseph Silvestri, Eugene Siren, Chris Siren, Diane Wade

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

- † **Elena diLeo**, Godmother of Rowena del Castillo, passed away on January 18, 2024
- † **Astrid Rosendahl**, long-time VLC member, passed away on January 15, 2024, less than two weeks after her beloved husband **Willi Rosendahl**, who passed away on January 4, 2024; plans for a joint memorial will be made in the spring.

**Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School**

172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708

914-337-0207 + [www.VLC-NY.ORG](http://www.VLC-NY.ORG)

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