

† FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY †
February 4, 2024

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
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PRELUDE

Lobe den Herrn

Weber/Ore

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB Hymn **790**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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.**

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 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

(LSB Page 155)

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Refrain

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. **Refrain**

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. **Refrain**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith, that relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(9:00) **CHANCEL CHOIR**

Order My Steps

Burleigh/Schrader

Order my steps in Your Word, dear Lord, lead me, guide me, every day.

Send Your anointing, Father, I pray. Order my steps in Your Word.

Humbly I ask Thee, teach me Your will, while You are working, help me be still.

Tho' Satan is busy, God is real! Order my steps in Your Word.

I want to walk worthy, my calling to fulfill.

Please order my steps, Lord, and I'll do Your blessed will.

*The world is ever changing, but You are still the same.
 If You order my steps, I'll praise Your name.
 Order my steps in Your Word, order my tongue in Your Word;
 Guide my feet in Your Word, wash my heart in Your Word.
 Show me how to walk in Your Word, show me how to talk in Your Word.
 When I need a brand new song to sing, show me how to let Your praises ring.
 Please, order my steps in Your Word.*

ALLELUIA VERSE (*Congregation rising*) (LSB Page 156)
 Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Mark 1:29-39

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

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

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

HYMN OF THE DAY Precious Lord, Take My Hand **LSB Hymn 739**

SERMON "Saved to Serve" Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

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

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

Keith Kolander

OFFERING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

Make Me a Servant

Make me a servant, humble and meek; Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.

And may the prayer of my heart always be:

Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.

Kelly Willard ©1982 Maranatha Music

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† 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, who shared our life and lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

JSANCTUS

(LSB Page 161)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. 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 The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

(LSB Page 163)

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness
Jesus Comes Today With Healing

LSB **Hymn 849**
LSB **Hymn 620**

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

A Almighty God, we thank You for feeding us with spiritual food, the body and blood of Christ. All who come to You will not hunger, all who believe in You will not thirst. Strengthened by this sacrament, send us into the world to share the Gospel and be faithful disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, 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

Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old

LSB **Hymn 846**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The Kingsfold Trumpet

Alfred Fedak

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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 Service:

Lector	9:00 Anthony Forcinito	10:45 James Maxeiner
Assisting Minister	Anton DeRosa	Kristin Pimentel
Youth Asst.	Violet Linn	
Altar Care	Anton DeRosa	
Usher Team	Anton DeRosa Richard Graham Mark Runge Fred Swain	Elaine Podszus Kathy Coffey John Ansorge
Sexton	Ava Renzo	
Refreshments	Sponsored by Thrivent	

Stewardship Reflection

Offering received last week: \$3,456
Offering needed weekly to meet budget: \$6,860
Offering received to date: \$197,910
Offering needed to date: \$212,660

News and Notes:

Flowers in the Chancel are given to the glory of God from the Albano family.

- ❖ Flowers may be given for use in worship and taken home after the 10:45 service if desired. They may also be given in honor of a person or occasion. The current cost for one arrangement is \$55. Please sign up on the flower chart in the church entrance or contact Kim Rapillo in the church office, 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org

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>

God Connects: The final session for this course will be on **Tuesday, February 6, from 7:00 PM-8:30 PM (EST)**. Meet in person in the Friendship Room or join online via Zoom.

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** worship continues each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. with a service of evening prayer.
- ❖ **Our theme** this Lent is "God's Top 10" as we review and apply the Ten Commandments to our lives as Christians. We begin on Ash Wednesday with "The First Commandment: Who's on First?" and complete the series on Good Friday.

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.

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 **February 27 at 6:00 p.m.**

1st 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 under the Forms tab. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 914-337-0207 x1003.

Gathering of Friends – Our annual gala in support of VLC/TCS is **Friday, March 15,** at Lake Isle Country Club in Eastchester. This year's co-chairs are school secretary Maura Condolff and music teacher/drama director Kate Marino, who have planned *Le Jardin des Rêves* (Garden of Dreams) to complement our overall theme of "Hope in the Lord." Cocktails at 7:00 p.m., followed by a live auction and dinner at 8:00 p.m. Get your tickets now! Go to Gathering-of-Friends.com or call 914-337-0207 x1040.

- ❖ **The Garden of Dreams Raffle** is \$200 each and only 50 tickets will be sold. One winner will take home \$3,000. This is a great way to share in the event, even if you cannot attend. Tickets available during coffee hour February 4 through March 3 or online.
- ❖ **Children's Jardin**, with games, crafts and prizes on **Saturday, March 9**

Team Chapel NYC Half Marathon – We still have openings for runners to join Team Chapel Arts for the half marathon on **Sunday, March 17**. Funds raised are used in support of the TCS art and drama programs. If you or anyone you know would be interested, please contact Kim Zwisdak in the Development office, 914-337-3202 x1040 or KZwisdak@TheChapelSchool.org

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

- **High School Choir** rehearse Sunday, February 4, at 10:15 a.m.; February 11, at 8:30 a.m.
- **Village Bells** rehearse Wednesday, February 7, at 6:00 p.m.
- **Youth Choir** rehearse Thursday, February 8, at 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, February 11, at 8:30 a.m.
- **Chancel Choir** rehearse Thursday, February 8, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, February 11, 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 or 914-337-0207, x1018.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet **Thursday, Feb. 15**, at 6:00 p.m.; **Lifers** (Grades 7-8) Confirmation work on Sunday, **Feb. 4**, and Dinner Talk on Thursday, **Feb. 8**, at 6:00 p.m.; **Crusaders** (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion at 10:30 a.m. on **Feb 4**.

Wednesday Bible Study – On February 7 we will continue with Romans chapter 15. There will be no class on Ash Wednesday, February 14.

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, Steven Perotto, Sunnaria Pettinati, 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
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