

Epiphany 7
Feb. 19, 2017
Pastor Mark
Voss

Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

CW 580
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Ev - 'ry morn - ing mer - cies new Fall as fresh as
Still your kind - ness and your love Ev - 'ry day our
Let our prayers each morn pre - vail That these gifts may
As the morn - ing light re - turns, As the sun with



morn - ing dew; Ev - 'ry morn - ing let us pay
sins re - move; Dai - ly, far as east from west,
nev - er fail. And as we con - fess our sin
splen - dor burns, Teach us still to turn to you;



Trib - ute with the ear - ly day. For your mer - cies,
Lift the bur - den from the breast; Give un - bought to
And the temp - ter's pow'r with - in, Feed us with the
With your light our souls re - new. Then shall we our



Lord, are sure; Your com - pas - sion will en - dure.
those who pray Strength to live for you each day.
bread of life; Fit us for our dai - ly strife.
voi - ces raise In un - fail - ing prayer and praise.

This service begins
with the words
that began our life
with God - the
words spoken at
Baptism. The sign
of the cross,
traced over us at
Baptism, marks us
as those
redeemed by
Christ.

INVOCATION – Matthew 28:19

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION – 1 John 1:8-9

P: Let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, reflecting on the times we have neglected the mission he has given us. Let us ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

The Bible encourages us to acknowledge and confess our sins. God promises to respond with his gift of forgiveness.

ABSOLUTION – John 1:29 & 20:23

P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the Word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Because Jesus took away the guilt of the world, he authorizes his followers to announce his forgiveness to all who are sorry for their sins.

LORD, HAVE MERCY – Mark 10:47

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all that they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the spread of your life-giving Gospel through the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian Church.

Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the 4th Century.

Tune CW 84 Public Domain

GLORY BE TO GOD – Luke 2:14



All Glo - ry be to God on high! Your name, O Lord, we
Our grate-ful thanks to you we bring. For your great glo - ry,



glo - ri - fy; We praise you for your peace and grace, Your
heav - 'nly King, For all, O Fa - ther, you have done Through



fa - vor toward our fall - en race.
Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.

THE WORD

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

Almighty and eternal God, you govern all things in heaven and on earth. In your mercy hear our prayers and grant us your peace all the days of our life; 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 – Genesis 32:6-12 & Genesis 33:1-5

When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him." In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well. He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape." Then Jacob prayed, "O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, O LORD, who said to me, 'Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,' I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. I had only my staff when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two groups. Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children. But you have said, 'I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.'"

The best thing a Christian can do when worried is pray

Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men; so he divided the children among Leah, Rachel and the two maidservants. He put the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph in the rear. He himself went on ahead and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother. But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept. Then Esau looked up and saw the women and children. "Who are these with you?" he asked. Jacob answered, "They are the children God has graciously given your servant."

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end. Alleluia.

Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Faith comes from hear-ing the
 mes-sage, and the mes-sage is heard through the Word of
 Christ. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL – Matthew 6:24-34

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.



Don't worry is not a harsh command, but a gentle encouragement



SERMON HYMN

“Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul”

CW 238

**Peace in
Our Lives
Takes
Stress
Out of
Them**

SERMON – Philippians 4:12-20

¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³I can do everything through him who gives me strength. ¹⁴Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ¹⁵Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need. ¹⁷Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account. ¹⁸I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. ²⁰To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH – Third Article and Meaning

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.

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.

But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

OFFERING AND SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Public
confession is
faith’s
response to
God’s saving
Word.

Following the
offering we
pray for the
church.

THE SACRAMENT

Our church practices membership communion.

We ask that only members of our church body, the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod
Partake of the sacrament.

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

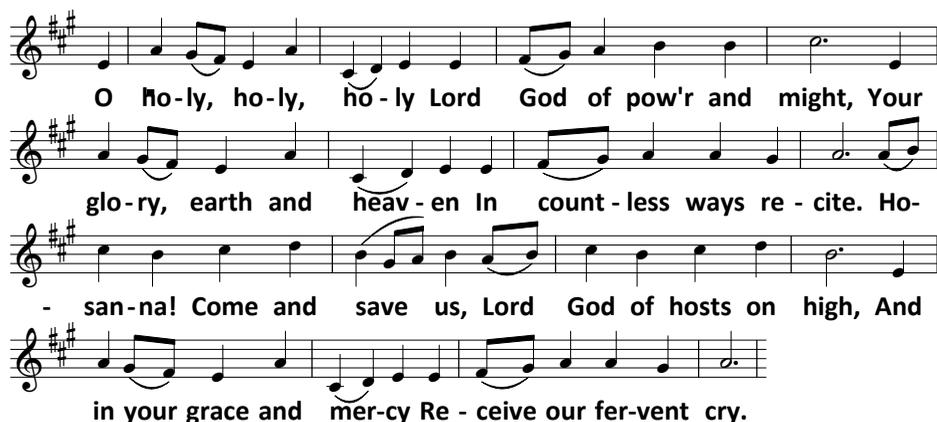
C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came as the Light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sanctus) – Isaiah 6:1-3



O Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of pow'r and might, Your
glo-ry, earth and heav-en In count-less ways re-cite. Ho-
-san-na! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
in your grace and mer-cy Re-ceive our fer-vent cry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION Matthew 26:26-28, 1 Corinthians 11:24-25

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Communion section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.

In this song we praise God, who is present with us in his Supper.
Tune: CW 130
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Jesus is God's Lamb; who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.

LAMB OF GOD - John 1:29

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith.

SONG OF SIMEON

O Lord, now let your ser-vant De - part in peace, as - sured:
For I have seen your prom-ised in - car-nate, sav-ing Word-
A Light that will en-light-en All gloom, where Gen-tiles dwell;
The bril-liant, crown-ing glo-ry Of those in Is-ra-el!

P: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING - Numbers 6:24-29

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years.

CLOSING HYMN

"When Peace Like a River"

CWS 760

When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way,
 My sin - oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought-
 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,

When sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll- What - ev - er
 My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to
 The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall

my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 the cross, and I bear it no more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 re - sound, and the Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul. It is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul. It is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul. It is well, it is well with my soul.

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THANK YOU: Bob and Lila James thank you for all the cards, prayers and words of encouragement following the death of Lila's mom, Irene Friebus. How blessed it is to be a part of God's family.



CHRIST OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

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