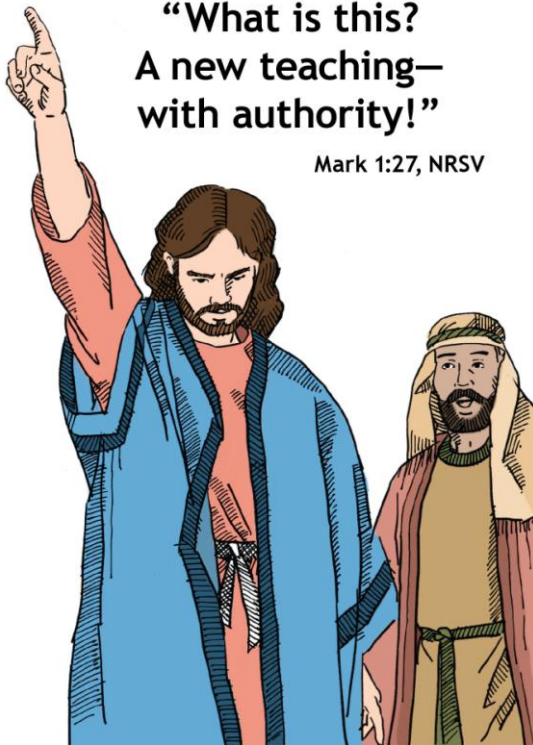


January 30, 2021 ~ 5:00 p.m.

Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

**“What is this?
A new teaching—
with authority!”**

Mark 1:27, NRSV



Trinity Lutheran Church & School

*Our Mission:
To Make More and Better Disciples of Jesus Christ.*



Trinity Lutheran Church

***146 Reserve Road, West Seneca, NY 14224
(716) 674-9188***

E-Mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net

Website: www.trinitywestseneca.com

Pastor: Rev. Dennis Krueger - 997-5666

Trinity Christian School

(716) 674-5353

E-Mail: jbabcock@thinktrinitychristian.com

Website: www.thinktrinitychristian.com

Principal: Mrs. Kathleen Fretthold

Worship Services

Saturday at 5:00pm (in the church)

Sunday at 9:30am (in the church)

On-line at "www.trinitywestseneca.com"

Welcome Visitors and Guests! Thank you for coming to worship God with us today! We believe that the Spirit of God had a hand in your coming. We trust that God's Word and this special time in worship will be a continuing blessing to you. Come again!

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 30, 2021 ~ 5:00 p.m.

AS WE GATHER

Today we close out our celebration of Lutheran Schools Week. As we gather as the body of Christ we celebrate the wonderful gift of God's love and how that love is displayed each day in the lives of our teachers, staff, and students here at Trinity. We praise God for the way He uses our partnership, as parents, students, staff, and members to mold the lives of the children entrusted to our care for life today and for eternity.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES *Psalms 56:10–13*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise—

People: **in God I trust and am not afraid. What can man do to me?**

Pastor: I am under vows to you, my God;

People: **I will present my thank offerings to you.**

Pastor: For you have delivered me from death and my feet from stumbling,

All: *that I may walk before God in the light of life.*

HYMN

"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

[Isaac Watts / Geistliche Kirchengesang. Public Domain]

From all that dwell below the skies

Let the creator's praise arise;

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let the redeemer's name be sung

Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.

REFRAIN:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

Alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are your mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends your Word;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.

REFRAIN:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia!

All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to thee;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore.
(Refrain)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus speaks with authority. He expects us to listen to Him. Yet, far too often, we choose to listen to others. We choose to listen to our sinful natures, the world, or the temptations of the devil. Though we confess that Jesus is our Lord, too often we do not bow to His authority. We confess our sins:

People: **Father in heaven, I confess my sins to You:**
I have not listened to You as I should.
I have listened to others who have led me to sin.
I have sinned against You in action.
I have sinned against You in my thoughts.
I have sinned against You in my desires.
I pray that You have mercy on me, a sinner.

Pastor: Jesus speaks with authority. He spoke with absolute authority when He announced, "It is finished!" He has paid for your sins in full, for every sin of thought, desire, and action. And so in His name, and by His authority, I declare to you: I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You know that as we face so many dangers, one person is strong and another is weak.

People: **Grant us loving concern for our brothers and sisters as Your instruments to support one another in all dangers and carry us through all temptations;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Deuteronomy 18:15–20*

(A new prophet like Moses)

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.”

The LORD said to me: “What they say is good. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

"Speak, O Lord"

[Keith Getty & Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music. Admin. by EMI Music Pub. All rights reserved; CCLI# 254312]

Speak O Lord, as we come to You,
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us:
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness;
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.
Teach us Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes;
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see.
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak O Lord, 'til Your church is built,
And the earth is filled with your glory.

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 8:1–13 *(In our freedom, not causing others to stumble)*

Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God.

So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.” For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL: *Mark 1:21–28*

(Jesus teaches with authority and shows His power over unclean spirits.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

“Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

[Robert Robinson. Public Domain]

Come thou fount of ev'ry blessing.
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore thee;
May I still thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by thy help I'm come,
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
Seal it for thy courts above.

SERMON: *"The Master Teacher," 50 texts*

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Teacher and Lord, we come to You in thanksgiving for the ministry of our Lutheran School and the ministry of this congregation. We give You thanks for those who faithfully serve with us in the ministry You have given us.

People: **Bless our staff as they grow in Christ!**

Pastor: Teacher and Lord, as you have called the little children to come to You, help us to be Your instruments of faith and nurture, and help us to lovingly care for each other.

People: **Bless our families as they grow in Christ.**

Pastor: Teacher and Lord, as you came to seek and save the lost, You have called and commissioned your Church to be Your witness in this community in the world.

People: Bless our missionaries and make us mission voices to invite others to grow in Christ.

Pastor: Teacher and Lord, we remember all who have special needs..... (special petitions) In our troubled times and difficult situations you have promised to be with us. And, Father, hear us as we bring to You our private prayers.

(Silent prayer.)

People: Bless and strengthen those in need that in all circumstances they may grow in Christ.

Pastor: Teacher and Lord, take all that we have, and use us to teach others of your love.

People: Bless us, Lord God, and through Your Spirit help us continue to grow in Christ until we rejoice in life everlasting. Amen.

REDEDICATION TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Pastor: The sharing of the Gospel and the Lord's work in the lives as children is clearly evident through daily Christian instruction. As God has promised to all His children, *"you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call."*

I ask you before God and your fellow Christians, are you committed to sharing the hope of eternal life through the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through Christian Education?

Will you continue to support those who are called to teach here at Trinity and help children grow mentally, emotionally, and spiritually with your time, finances, and your prayers?

If so, answer, *"Yes with the help of God"*.

People: Yes, with the help of God.

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: God has taught you through Christ's example to use your mind to make wise decisions, your hands to work, your heart to love, and your faith to help you use them all to His glory. Go now with the blessings of God the Father, his Son, our teacher Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

HYMN

"Almighty Father Bless the Word"

[Author unknown. Public Domain]

Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through your grace we now have heard.
Oh, may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

We praise you for the means of grace
As homeward now our steps we trace.
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here
May all at last in heav'n appear.

[Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.]



Serving Us

Guest Pastor ... Rev. Ronald Habedank

Organist ... Katherine Herman

Singers ... Linda Meissner, Marie Thompson

Reader ... Linda Meissner

Altar ... Karen Hollowood

Deacon ... Ron Boersch



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
FEBRUARY 17, 2021
7:00PM

**DUE TO COVID DISTANCING POLICIES,
ASHES WILL NOT BE DISBURSED.**



Niagara Easter Candy Fundraiser

Trinity School is holding their annual Niagara Chocolates Easter Candy sale. Please consider ordering your Easter treats from any Trinity student to support this fundraiser. Unfortunately there are no brochures available to look at, but you can go to Niagara's fundraising website to view their Spring catalog (www.niagarachocolates.com/pages/fundraising). You can also place orders by calling the school office at 674-5353. Order deadline is February 10.