

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



RECEPTION UNCOVERED:
REJECTION IS NOT THE EXCEPTION
BUT THE RULE

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 23, 2022



Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. If you have any questions, just ask an usher or other volunteer. Please also fill out our Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

Service Notes For This Sunday

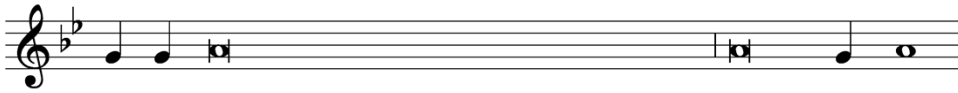


When one proclaims God's Word, typically the intentions are good. We want others to know the joy of salvation and the love of Christ. Therefore, it can be surprising to us when God's Word is met with apathy or rejection by those who hear it. It's easy to conclude that when the Word of God offends human minds and hearts (including our own), something has gone wrong. The truth that is uncovered this week is that rejection of Jesus' words is not the exception but the rule. Jesus' words will always offend. However, we will see that God can use even the rejection of his Word for good.

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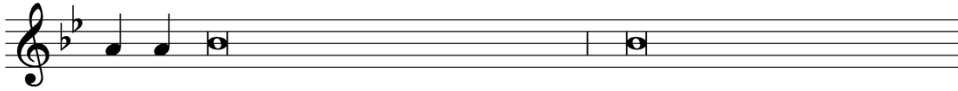
The Service: Setting Two. Words and Music: *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*. © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-719903



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of



God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

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Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.

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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1–6

God allowed Israel to be conquered because of their rejection. Yet, he also promised to forgive them and grant new freedom.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

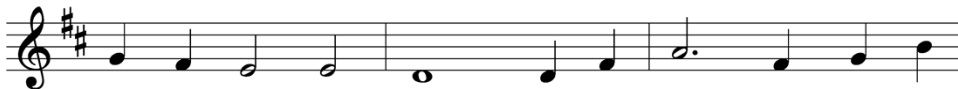
Psalm of the Day

146C Praise the LORD, Sing Hallelujah

The Song Leaders will sing verse 1. Please join on the other verses.



1	Praise the LORD!	Sing hal - le - lu - jah!	Come, our
2	Hap - py are	the ones pro - fess - ing	Ja - cob's
3	Food he dai - ly	gives the hun - gry,	sets the
4	Praise the LORD!	Sing hal - le - lu - jah!	Come, our



great Re - deem - er	praise.	I will sing	the glo - rious
God to be their	aid.	They are blest	whose hope of
mourn - ing pris - 'ner	free,	rais - es those	bowed down with
great Re - deem - er	praise.	I will sing	the glo - rious



prais - es of my God through all my days.
 bless - ing on the LORD their God is stayed.
 an - guish, makes the sight - less eyes to see.
 prais - es of my God through all my days.



Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor on
 Heav'n and earth the LORD cre - at - ed, seas and
 God our Sav - ior loves the right - eous, and the
 O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er; through all



hu - man help de - pend. They shall die, to dust re -
 all that they con - tain. He de - liv - ers from op -
 stran - ger he be - friends, helps the or - phan and the
 a - ges he is King. Un - to him, your God, O



turn - ing; all their thoughts and plans shall end.
 pres - sion; right - eous - ness he will main - tain.
 wid - ow, judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.
 Zi - on, joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.

Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Acts 4:23-31

The apostles pray for boldness to proclaim the gospel in the face of opposition.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 4:18



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

Refrain

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Gospel

Luke 4:16–30

Jesus' own townspeople took offense at his words and ultimately rejected him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

384 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

Sermon

Expect the Good News

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.

Be seated

8:00 – Installation of Leaders

See page 11 of this bulletin

Prayer of the Church

This morning each petition of the prayer will be prayed and then concluded in this way:

...Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The final petition of the prayer will be concluded in this way:

...who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



Musical Offering

Hymn

387 Arise, Your Light Is Come

The Song Leaders will sing verse 1. Please join on the other verses.

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Hymn

313 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes



Installation of Members Who Participate in the Public Ministry

Those being installed approach the altar.

Dear friends,

In Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ set you free from sin and death and made you members of his body, the church. Through Word and sacrament, the Holy Spirit has nurtured your faith and increased your love.

You have now been appointed to serve our Lord on behalf of this congregation. The Lord has entrusted you with responsibilities that you are to carry out according to his Word. St. Paul wrote concerning service in the church: “We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.”

St. Paul spoke to all who serve the Savior: “It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.” The Lord has promised to be with you and give you the gifts you will need to carry out the work entrusted to you.

As servants of Jesus Christ and workers in this congregation, you are to set aside time for study of the Scriptures so that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are to strive to be an example of Christian faith and life so that others may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

So that the congregation may be assured of your willingness to serve, I ask you in the presence of God and this congregation:

Will you diligently and faithfully carry out the work entrusted to you, according to the ability which God gives you? If so, answer: I will, and I ask God to help me.

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Installation

I install you as leaders at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord pour out on you his Holy Spirit for the work you have been called to do that you may faithfully carry out all your duties and responsibilities with the Word of God as your confidence and guide.

The minister speaks to the congregation:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I urge you to regard these fellow believers as servants of Jesus Christ and God's gifts to his church. Pray for them and support them in their service so that believers may be strengthened in faith and many others may come to know the Savior and the eternal hope he gives.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your church through the willing work and special gifts of so many people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit to the servants we are installing today that they may carry out their duties with diligence, wisdom, and humility. Encourage them to seek guidance from your Word and lead them to pray for your direction. Help them to be good examples to others and support the work of the gospel ministry in this congregation. Keep them in your care and encourage them by your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The minister says to those being installed:

The Lord bless you and make your service a blessing to others.

The minister may thank those who have served in the past:

We sincerely thank those who in the past year(s) have served the Lord and his people with their time and abilities. May the Lord graciously bless you and those you have served.

Those being installed may return to their places.

Take Home Questions

1. Read Acts 4:5-22. This will give the background of the verses we heard as today's Second Reading.
 - a. What act of kindness led to this trial (v. 9)?
 - b. Even under duress, what was Peter sure to do (v. 10-12)?
 - c. What did the Sanhedrin order Peter and John to do (v. 18)?
 - d. What did Peter and John, along with the rest of the believers who were with them, pray for in response to these commands (v. 29)?
 - e. In what ways can we model this same attitude in our lives?
2. Looking at Isaiah 61:1-6, what are some ways in which we could misunderstand what God promises to do for us? For example, someone might think that, because God "proclaims freedom for the captives" in verse 1, there will be a time when all earthly prisons are empty. Find at least three other examples of similar potential misunderstandings in these verses.
3. What are some things Jesus says in his Word that might cause us to respond as the people of Nazareth did—with rage and anger toward Jesus—even though those things are true and we need to hear them?
4. "As was his custom, he went into the synagogue..." – Explain why this detail would be included in this account.

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study: Called to Serve

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM
For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

Our 2022 Leaders

Jan. 24-30

President: Kent Schroeder
Vice President: Tom Peronto
Secretary: Chris Jardine
Treasurer: Kevin Meister
Financial Secretary: Mike Anderson
Fellowship Chair: Seth Kroell
Mission Outreach Chair: Todd Ferkey
Properties Chair: Larry Wesenberg
Worship Chair: Chris Williams

Board of Elders:
Rich Herrmann
Vaughn Hetzel
Dale Kretschmer
Greg Paul
Tom Reitz
Gary Stensberg

Scholastic Book Fair Is Coming

Jan. 24-30

St. Paul's Lutheran School will hold a Scholastic Book Fair this week. You can shop the book fair online at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stpaulslutheranwr>. You can also shop in-person next Sunday, Jan. 30 after each worship service.

Special Prayers This Week:

- Matthea Lynn Plagenz was born on Jan 19. Everyone is doing well.
- Oliver Arnold Knutson was baptized on Saturday.
- A community member, Joe, who has ALS & arthritis and now COVID
- Julie Reitz is having foot surgery on Jan. 25.
- Lana Fanning is recovering from open heart surgery
- Pam Williams had outpatient surgery on Thursday
- Bethel Hafermann (a daughter of our congregation) passed away on January 11.
- Roe v Wade Anniversary
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- Sunday**
 - 8:00 AM Worship
 - 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 - 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing
 - 9:15 AM Sunday School (grades 3K-6)
 - 10:30 AM Worship

- Monday**
 - 6:00 PM Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
 - 6:30 PM Worship

- Tuesday**
 - 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 - 9:45 AM Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
 - 6:30 PM Stephen Ministers in the Resource Center

- Wednesday**
 - 8:55 AM School Chapel Service
 - 6:30 PM Bible Book Group in the Resource Center

- Thursday**
 - 7:00 AM Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 - 6:30 PM Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Cafeteria

- Sunday**
 - 8:00 AM Worship
 - 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 - 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing
 - 9:15 AM Sunday School (grades 3K-6)
 - 10:30 AM Worship

Attendance & Offering Report

Last Week's Attendance: 208

Anticipated offerings YTD: \$437,900

Actual offerings YTD: \$415,377

YTD giving to the Organ Fund: \$86,782



CELEBRATING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

January 24-30

Themed Dress Up each day

Book Fair – M-F at 3:30
 Sunday (1/30) after worship

Home Basketball Game
 Friday at 5:00

Christians Education Sunday Services



311 14th Ave S | Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 | 715-421-3634 | churchoffice@stpaulswr.org
Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org
Pastor Peter Plagenz | 920-689-3036 | pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org