

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026 + 9:30 am



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
2417 Drexel Avenue - Racine, Wisconsin 53403
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<https://www.facebook.com/LCRRacine>



Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

We gather today on the ancestral lands of the Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówi, Kickapoo, and Peoria peoples. We honor and acknowledge the traditional stewards of this land, recognizing their enduring connection to this region. As we come together in worship, let us commit ourselves to respecting their history and culture, and work toward healing and justice for Indigenous communities. May we be mindful of our role in creating a more equitable future for all.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **☩** one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

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 minister of the church 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. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

"You Are Holy" ELW #525

Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more

än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un-der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.

Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless-ed are you com-ing near. Bless - ed are you com-ing here

väl - sig - na-de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

²
 Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,

du är nä - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!

Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na to our God!

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÅR HÄLIG, Per Harling

Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America,
 South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Gloria

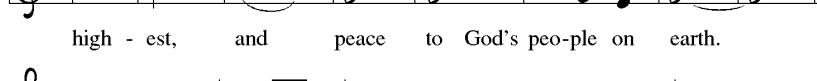
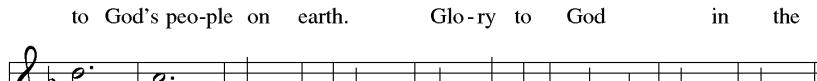
Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
1 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.
Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Refrain



Final refrain



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer,

by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.
3 And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
4 But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God."
5 And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—
6 he says, It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." 7 Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

At the conclusion of the reading, the Assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40:1-11

I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)

1 I waited patiently up- I on the LORD, who stooped to me and I heard my cry.

2 **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the I miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my I footing sure.**

3 The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise I to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust I in the LORD.

4 **Happy are they who trust I in the LORD!**

They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.

⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶ **Sacrifice and offering you do I not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have I not required.**

⁷ And so I said, "Here I I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me: ⁸ 'I love to do your will, I O my God your law is I deep within me.'"

⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O I LORD, you know.

¹⁰ **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and I your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

¹¹ You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the Assembly responds: **Thanks be to God***

Gospel Acclamation

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in G major and the bottom staff is in C major. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia." The music includes various note values (eighth and sixteenth notes) and rests.

Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

John 1:29-42

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

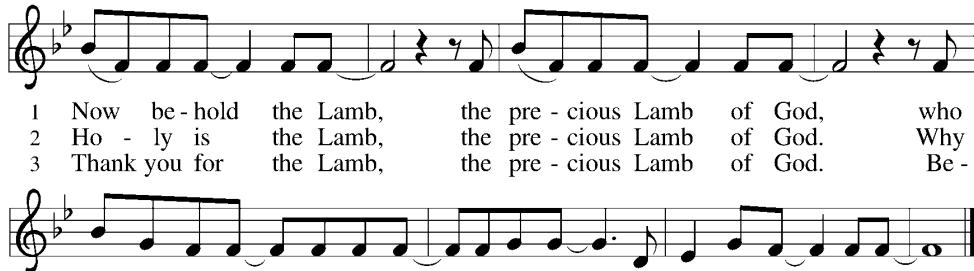
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"Now Behold the Lamb" ELW #341



Text: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970

Music: NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB, Kirk Franklin

Text and music © 1996 Lilly Mack Music. Used by permission.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son*,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

Prayers of Intercession

The Assisting Minister leads the prayers of the people for the church, the world, and all people in need. Each petition ends with:

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Erna Joswig, Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Pat Quale, Bonnie Ayers, Sue Heckel, Donna Johnson, Linda Bagley, Carmen Falk, Tom Johnson, Mario Miranda, Lynda, Sheila Fair, Cherie Julius, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Aimee and Mark Hooper, Missy Hoffman, Mary Scruggs, Linda Losito, Anne Maley, Judi and Larry Krebs, and Eloise and Larry Laugen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering



*There are many ways to give to support Redeemer! You may place your offering in the red offering box in the Narthex, you may mail your offering to the church office, you can even text to give by texting the amount you wish to give to 262.592.5757, then follow the prompts. You may also scan the code to the right with your smartphone's camera to give on our website (www.racinelcredeemer.com). **Thank you for your generosity!***

Offering Song

A musical score for a hymn. The music is in common time with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score consists of six staves of music, each with a different melody line.

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and
fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a
har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of majesty,

**no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared
for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna
in the highest. Blessed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*The Presiding Minister prays giving thanks to God, for God's saving work throughout history.
The Assembly responds when prompted:*

The earth is full of your glory

The earth is full of your glory. ...

Amen and amen.

Amen and Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in God's tender, motherly care, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Distribution of Communion

If you are worshipping with us at home, you are invited to partake in Communion as well! All you need is bread of any kind and wine or juice of any kind. As you receive the bread: 'This is the Body of Christ given for you.' As you receive the wine or juice: 'This is the Blood of Christ shed for you.' If you are worshipping with more than one person, please serve one another as you able using the above words.



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G clef, 2/4 time, and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with each line of text corresponding to a line of music. The lyrics are as follows:

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

Communion Song

"Let Us Go Now to the Banquet" ELW #523

Refrain / Eстрибillo

Refrain / Eстрибillo

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
 Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955
 Text and music © 1994, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358.
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Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. Radiant God,

**we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, ⁺ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine” ELW #774
Words on following page.

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

Serving Today

Assisting Minister:	Sean Fair
Reader:	Sheila Fair
Usher:	Jim Kasprovich
Altar Guild:	Marilyn Rentz & Nancy Vandewinckel
Musician:	Paul Berge
Pastor:	The Rev. Matt James

Sending Hymn

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine" ELW #774



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924