Holy Faith Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany January 29, 2023 – 10:00 am



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WELCOME

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, welcome to Holy Faith Church. We hope that you will feel comfortable while you are here, and that you will leave strengthened to meet the challenges of your week. We hope these notes about our worship will be helpful to you.

ESPECIALLY FOR VISITORS

Standing, sitting, or kneeling for various parts of the service is a matter of personal preference. Please use whatever posture is most helpful to you. If it is your piety to kneel for prayers, please take a kneeler as you come in. Kneelers are stacked at the entrance of this sanctuary. If at first you don't see them, ask an usher for assistance. Congregational responses are shown in **bold**.

CELEBRATING CHILDREN

To parents and grandparents of young children: Congratulations - you made it to church! Now we hope you can relax. God put the wiggle in children - don't feel you need to suppress it here. You may sit anywhere you wish. Some families prefer sitting up front where they can see what's going on. Others prefer sitting in our soft space in the back, where we provide soft toys, and from where families can exit.

If your child needs a break, feel free to leave (and then please come back). We have a nursery downstairs where you are welcome. You may also leave to play outside. And don't worry if your children are playing during the service. They are still hearing and absorbing what is going on.

IN SERVICE TODAY:

| Celebrant & Preacher: | The Rev. Barry Osterbur |
|-----------------------|---|
| Deacon: | The Rev. Don Dersnah |
| Assisting Minister: | Molly Hilton |
| Readers: | Richard Boulter / Peg Hassett |
| Church Musician: | Joy Morin |
| Greeter: | Tish Dersnah |
| Usher: | Dan McGraw |
| Altar Flowers: | Steve Jolliffe |
| Altar Guild: | Jean & Neil Savage |
| Tech Support: | Andy Amstutz / Jim Mangi / Christen Mitchell / Lori Venable |
| Hospitality: | Dan McGraw |
| Counters: | Steve Jolliffe / Carolyn Schneider |

HOLY FAITH'S PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Andy Amstutz, Treasurer* Jane Darling ('24) The Rev. Don Dersnah, Deacon* Charlie Jacobs ('25) Teri Kollath ('23) Jim Mangi, Vice President ('23) The Rev. Andrea Martin, Pastor Noelle Milkey, President ('24) Christen Mitchell ('25)

*Non-voting members

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing, arr. Lorie Line

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN You Are Holy

The congregation stands in body or in spirit.



^{*} May be sung in canon.

THE GREETING

The presider says:

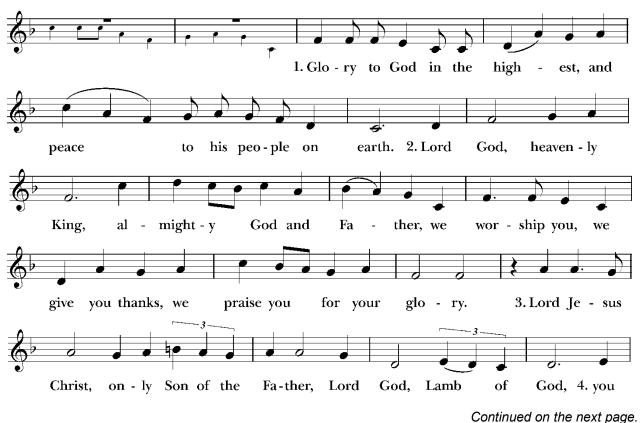
We give thanks for this holy season, adorned with epiphanies, for the star that led the magi to the manger, **that the nations may see the light of Christ;**

for the water turned to wine at Cana's wedding, that the people taste the goodness of the Lord;

for the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan, that the Christ would save us all.

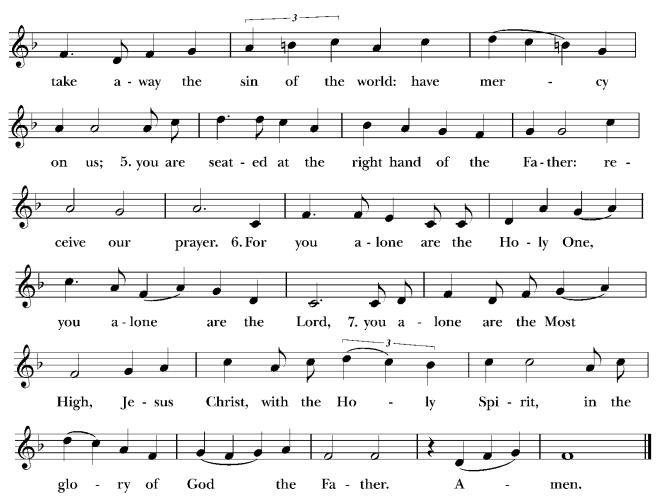
This is the day that the Lord has made, We will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.

God who sent the Light into our world, God who shone in the Bethlehem manger, God who spreads the Spirit's rays, be with you all. **And also with you.**



THE GLORIA

THE GLORIA (Continued)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with You. And also with you. Let us pray.

Give Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The congregation is seated.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Micah 6:1-8 Richard Boulter

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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The congregation stands in body or in spirit.



THE GOSPEL The Rev. Don Dersnah

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

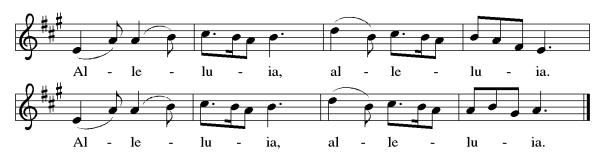
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

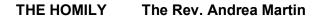
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Celtic Alleluia





THE HYMN OF THE DAY Build a Longer Table



THE NICENE CREED

Let us love one another that with one mind we may confess the Holy Trinity, one in essence and undivided.

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For what else, or for whom else, shall we pray?

I invite your petitions now silently, aloud, or through the Chat feature.

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Presider says:

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the deacon begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The people share with one another signs of Christ's peace. The greeting of Peace may be exchanged by waving, or with a virtual high five.

GOD'S TABLE

THE OFFERTORY

Walk in love as Christ loved us, and gave Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God. - Ephesians 5:2

The congregation may be seated.

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS - Instrumental Music

Seeing how greatly God loves us, we share freely of the good things we've received. Please consider making an offering for the work of the church either by placing your offering in the plate at the back of the church, through the e-giving feature of our website, or by mailing a check to Holy Faith at 6299 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline, MI 48176.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN The Doxology



THE OFFERING PRAYER

The congregation stands in body or in spirit.

Let us pray.

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise!

The presider continues:

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. And now we give you thanks because, in the Incarnation of the Word, a new light has dawned upon the world, that all nations may be brought out of our darkness to see the radiance of your glory.

When we turned away You did not reject us. But came to meet us in your Son.

You embraced us as your children And welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life That we might live in him and he in us.

He opened his arms of love upon the cross And made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin. On the night he was betrayed, At supper with his friends He took bread, and gave you thanks; He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me.

God, we do this in remembrance of him: His body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, He gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, Which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; Do this in remembrance of me.

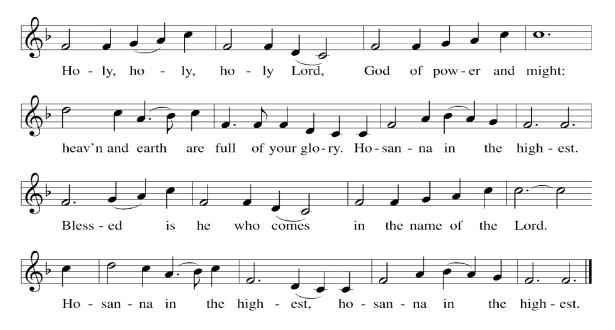
God, we do this in remembrance of him: His blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, Send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine May be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts Make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world We offer you this sacrifice of praise And lift our voices to join the eternal song of heaven:

THE SANCTUS Land of Rest, American Folk Melody; adapt. and harm. Buchanan



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

THE INVITATION

The mystery hidden for the ages is revealed for us in this meal. Come, behold and receive your God.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

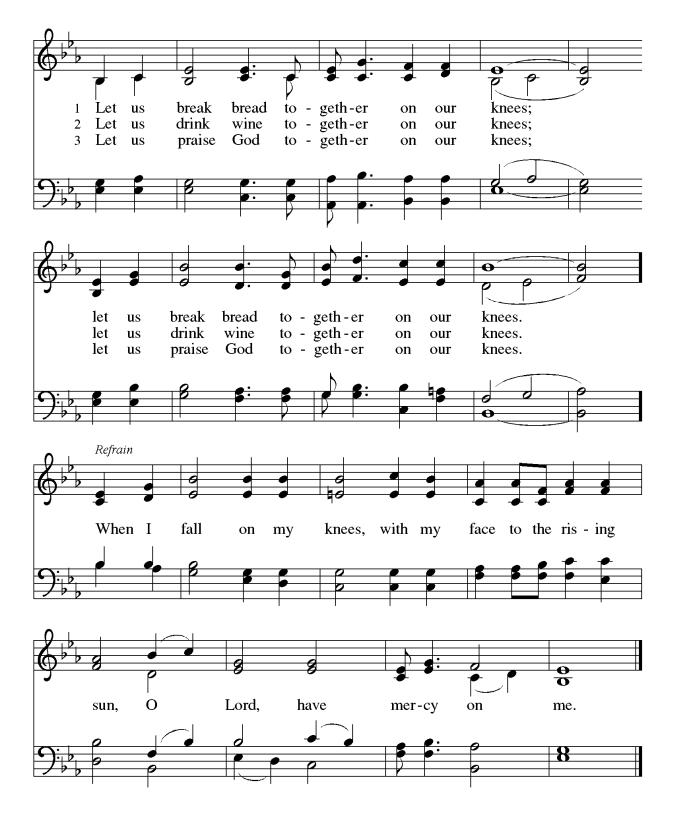
- All are welcome to God's table. Come as invited to the altar where you may kneel or stand.
- Please hold out your hands to take the bread that has been dipped in wine.
- If you wish to receive bread only, please indicate so by putting your finger in front of your lips.
- Gluten-free wafers are also available; please make your need known.
- If you wish to receive a blessing only, please indicate so by crossing your arms in front of you,

THE COMMUNION HYMNS

Congregation may remain seated

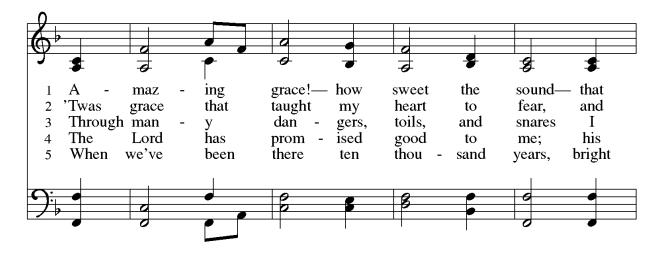
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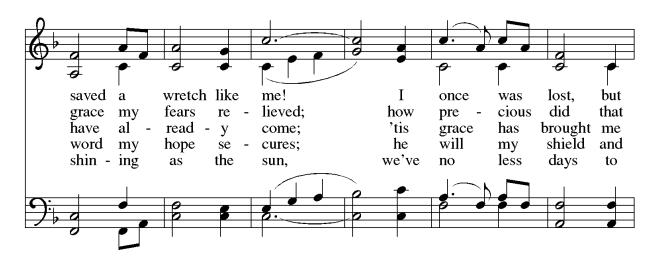
Let us Break Bread Together

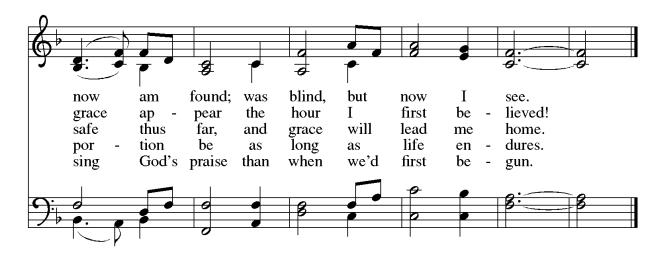


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Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound







18

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Molly Hilton

Let us pray,

God of new beginnings, in the waters of baptism and from the grace that springs forth abundantly from this table, we receive your Holy Spirit and become one with Jesus; help us to live as children of God, filled with your heavenly love, so that all the people and creatures of earth may live happily as one family. Amen.

HYMN We Are Marching in the Light of God

(Go to hymn on next page.)

THE BLESSING.

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod + bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

ANNUAL MEETING CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon says:

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR APRÈS-ANNUAL MEETING HOT DOG BAR

Today's worship is faithful to the shape of the historic Christian liturgy as found in both Episcopal and Lutheran settings. Permission to use resources for our worship come from Augsburg Press, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Lectionary Page; SundaysandSeasons.org; RiteSeries, and other resources where indicated.

We Are Marching in the Light of God



Continued on the next page.

We Are Marching in the Light of God (continued)

