

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 31, 2021

11 A.M. ANTE COMMUNION RITE II

Prelude

Opening Acclamation 351 (prayer book)

Opening Hymn *O for a thousand tongues to sing* 493 (hymnal)

Confession 352 (prayer book)

Gloria S202 (hymnal)

Collect of the Day 215 (prayer book)

I reading— Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Reader: A reading from Deuteronomy

Moses said: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

Psalm 111

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, \*  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the LORD! \*  
they are studied by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and splendor, \*  
and his righteousness endures for ever.

He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; \*  
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

He gives food to those who fear him; \*  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works \*  
in giving them the lands of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; \*  
all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, \*

because they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; \*  
holy and awesome is his Name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; \*  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures forever.

II reading—1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

Reader: A reading from First Corinthians.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

Gospel—Mark 1: 21-28

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark

**People: Glory to you, O Christ**

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily		The Rev. Catherine Carpenter
The Nicene Creed		358 (prayer book)
Prayers of the People		
Anthem	<i>How sweet the name of Jesus sounds</i>	644 (hymnal)
The Lord's Prayer		364 (prayer book)
The Peace		360 (prayer book)
The Blessing		
<i>Celebrant:</i> May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. <b>Amen.</b>		
Closing Hymn	<i>From all that dwell below the skies</i>	380 (hymnal)
Dismissal		366 (prayer book)
Postlude		

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Father.

Merciful God, we pray for ourselves and all Christians, that we may be a royal priesthood, a holy people, to the praise of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

*Silence*

We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishop DeDe, our Rector Cathy, and for all bishops and other ministers, that they may remain faithful to their calling and rightly proclaim the word of truth.

*Silence*

We pray for children and young people and for all who are new in the Faith. Direct and guide them in the way that leads to you.

*Silence*

We pray for those who bear the responsibility of government in this and every nation, that your people may rejoice in your gifts of true justice and peace.

*Silence*

We pray for the people of this community, asking that you will show your mercy to them all. In our family cycle of prayer we pray for Gordon & Mary Tall, and Phyllis Brown.

*Silence*

We pray for all who are sick or in any other kind of trouble, and those who have asked for our prayers, especially Gordon Tall, John Rogers, Agnes Morgan, Fern Butler, Dottie Carrie, Rahel Reger, Donny Witkowski, Tom Mangan, Jayce Diaz, John Bedard, , Merle Geisler, Jason, Bill, Steven, Sharon, Linda, Linda W., Becky, Alice, Debbie, James, Rosalee, Dawn, Lila, Missy, Joyce Y, Erin, Penny, Ann, Sue, Mary Ann, Barb, Anna, Jerry, Isabella, Neva, Eugene and those we now name, silently or aloud.

*Silence*

... that you will deliver them and keep them in your love.

We pray for the victims of sin and those who minister to them, that you will be their help and defense.

*Silence*

We pray that we may all be strengthened in our faith, our love and our service.

*Silence*

We pray for the departed especially Linda Savacool, David Gentry, Garth Foster, mother of Andy Spitler and those we now name, silently or aloud.

*Silence*

...commending them to your eternal love.

Please add your own thanksgivings and petitions, silently or aloud.

*Silence*

We commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The celebrant may add a concluding collect.*



GRACE'S MISSION STATEMENT

*To be a visible sign of Christ's love,  
seeking and serving Christ in all persons.*

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