

Worship Guide
January 24, 2021

God has revealed his great love to us in the life and work of Jesus. We respond to his love by sharing that good news with others. Even to those who treat us badly. Especially to those who treat us badly.



P: We call on the name of our Triune God which He has placed on us in our baptisms. So we begin in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. O come, let us sing to the Lord!

Congregation: Sing unto the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

P: He has revealed his salvation and accomplished it. Let all the earth hear our praise and wonder.

C: Through our weakness he has shown himself strong.

P: We will not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

HYMN

Speak O Savior I Am Listening

CW 283

Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning, as a servant to his lord.
Let me show respect and honor to your holy, precious Word,
That each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you.
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure and my heart's most precious treasure.

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; let your words in me take root.
May your Spirit e'er be near me that I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing your praise, from my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given in the endless joy of heaven.



CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Each of us are born into this world sinful and corrupt.

C: We are sinful from birth, sinful from the moment of our conception. (Ps. 51:5)

P: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Join me then, in confessing our sins,

All: Almighty and most merciful God; we have erred, and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the desires of our own sinful natures. We have offended your perfect will. We have left undone those things, which we should have done; and we have done those things, which we should not have done. But with you, O Lord, there is forgiveness. Spare us, O God, as we confess our faults. Restore us according to your promises declared to humankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake; that we may live a godly, righteous life, to the glory of your holy name.

P: To the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. Because in him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us (Eph 1:6-7). Hear, believe, and live the good news. I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life. Be in peace.

C: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 2 Kings 5:1-15a

Na'aman, the commander of the king of Aram's army, was a great man in the opinion of his master. He was highly honored because the LORD had provided victory for Aram through him. Although he was a powerful warrior, he had leprosy. ²Raiding parties had once gone out from Aram and brought back a young girl. She served Na'aman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "I wish my master stood before the prophet who is in Samaria, because he would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴So Na'aman went and told his master what the servant girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵Then the king of Aram said, "Go there. I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Na'aman went, and he took ten talents of silver and six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. ⁶Then he took the letter to the king of Israel. The letter said, "Now, when you receive this letter, you will know that I am sending my officer Na'aman to you so that you can cure him of his leprosy." ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothing and said, "Am I God that I can kill and make alive? Why is he sending a man to me for me to heal him from his leprosy? See how he is looking for a pretext to fight against me." ⁸But when Elisha, the man of God, heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king: "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Na'aman went with his horses and chariots and stopped in front of the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰But Elisha sent a messenger out to him to say, "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan. Then your flesh will be restored and you will be clean." ¹¹But Na'aman was angry and he left,

saying, “Look, I said to myself, ‘He will certainly come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and wave his hand over the place, and I will be cured of the leprosy!’ ¹² Aren’t the Abana and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn’t I wash in them and be cleansed?” So he turned and went away in a burning rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and spoke to him. They said, “My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not do it? How much more when he says to you, ‘Wash and be clean?’” ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. Then his flesh was restored like the flesh of a small child, and he was clean. ¹⁵ Then he and his whole escort went back to the man of God. He stood in front of Elisha and said, “To be sure, now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now accept a gift from your servant.”

PSALM: Psalm 30

P: I will exalt you, O LORD,

C: because you lifted me up.

P: You did not let my enemies rejoice over me.

C: O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you healed me.

P: LORD, you snatched my life from the grave.

C: You kept me alive so I did not go down into the pit.

P: You turned my mourning into dancing.

C: You removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

P: so that my whole being may make music to you and not be silent.

C: O LORD my God, I thank you forever.

EPISTLE LESSON & SERMON TEXT: Romans 12:16b-21

¹⁶ Have the same respect for one another. Do not be arrogant, but associate with the humble. Do not think too highly of yourselves. ¹⁷ Do not pay anyone back evil for evil. Focus on those things that everyone considers noble. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, maintain peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath. For it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay,” says the Lord. ²⁰ But:

If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him a drink.

For by doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

P: Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is on me; he has anointed me to preach good news. Alleluia. (Luke 4:18a)

C: Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 8:1-13

When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him. ²Just then, a leper came to him and bowed down to him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."
³Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean." Immediately he was healed of his leprosy. ⁴Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one. Instead, go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." ⁵When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him and pleaded with him, ⁶"Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed and suffering terribly." ⁷Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."
⁸The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. But only say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I am also a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ¹⁰When Jesus heard this, he marveled. He said to those who were following him, "Amen I tell you: I have not found such great faith in anyone in Israel. ¹¹I tell you that many will come from the east and the west and will recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. ¹²But the children of the kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹³Jesus said to the centurion, "Go. Let it be done for you as you have believed." And his servant was healed at that very hour.

How to Get Even, God's Way



CONFESSION OF FAITH: (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.

THE 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

BLESSING

HYMN

Christ Be My Leader

CW 367

Christ be my leader by night as by day; safe through the darkness, for he is the Way.
Gladly I follow, my future his care, darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my teacher in age as in youth, drifting or doubting, for he is the Truth.
Grant me to trust him; though shifting as sand, doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

SPECIAL PRAYERS