

Sunday, January 28, 2024

Mark 1:22



He taught them as one
who had authority.

***Christ's Lutheran Church
Murrysville, Pennsylvania***



Christ's Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and welcoming, Christian community committed to encouraging faith-filled living, deepening friendships, and life-changing discipleship.

Welcome! If you are new to worship in a Lutheran church, this introduction will help guide you through our worship service. The prayers, responses, and service music are printed in this bulletin. You will need to use the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnals to sing the hymns.

Communion - All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the gift of Holy Communion. Children who haven't received Holy Communion may also come forward for a blessing. You can either kneel or remain standing when you come to the altar. We offer both wheat and gluten-free wafers, and both wine and grape juice. If you would like to receive grape juice, please take a glass from the tray that has already been filled when you come forward. If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, please let Pastor Wayne know when he gives you the bread.

Children are always welcome! Please feel free to walk around in the rear area of our worship space if your child becomes restless. Rest rooms (with diaper decks) are located in the hallway to the right of the entryway. You can find cloth bags containing activities for children aged 3 and older in the back of our worship space. We ask you to please return the cloth bags and their contents (minus any artwork your child creates while you are worshipping) at the end of today's service.

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road, Murrysville, PA 15668
Office: 412-795-1212
Church Office email: office@christsmurrysville.org
Website: www.christsmurrysville.org
App: [Christ's Lutheran \(ELCA\)](#)

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

(Please take a moment to silence your electronic devices)

PRELUDE

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

John A. Behnke

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OF CONCERNS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over waters.

C: Amen.

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: God, our rock and refuge,

C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters, God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"We Come to You for Healing, Lord"

ELW # 617

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

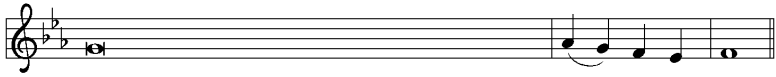
THE KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



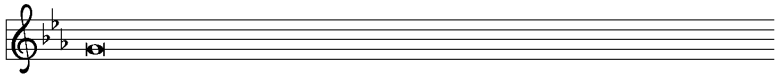
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



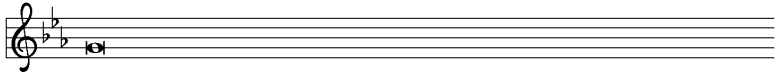
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20

"The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers--it is to him you shall listen--just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth--as indeed 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. However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding

their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately 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 out with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Wayne Gillespie

(please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

ELW #612

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator 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 to the dead.
On the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

P: Lord in your mercy, (*after each petition*)

C: hear our prayer.

TODAY, WE ARE INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Bonnie, Kim Barnes, Don Beckett, Debbie Faust, Marlene Gerdes, Peggy Henry, Gary Keibler, Oren Keibler, John Magnus, Charlie Meade, Taylor Niemetz, Michael O'Donnell, Joyce Orlando, Paul Rizzo, Howard Rockette, Andrea Schwartz Nutter, Stephanie, Bob Stover, and Rev. HB West

Praying for Our Mission Partners & Friends:

Arlene Eddy
Karen Emmett
Barbara Estocin
Irene Evans



P: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING for God's work through the Church

This is a time in our service that we use to remember that all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do is an offering to God. We are in the process of changing the company that collects electronic gifts to ensure that more of your generous gifts support the ministry of Christ's Lutheran Church. You can still use PushPay until the transition is complete.


You can also send your offering to the church by mailing it to: Christ's Lutheran Church, 5330 Old Logan Ferry Road, Murrysburg, PA 17668

OFFERTORY

"Jesus, Lead the Way"

Paul O. Manz

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



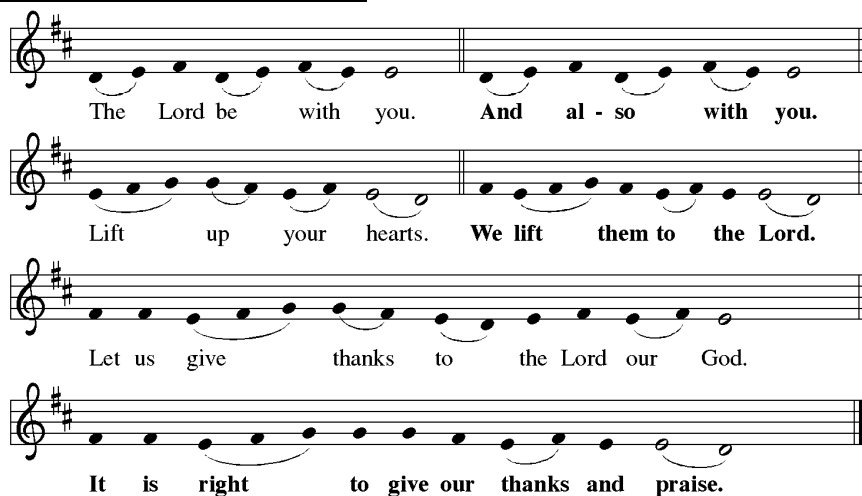
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup, you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your son, Jesus in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

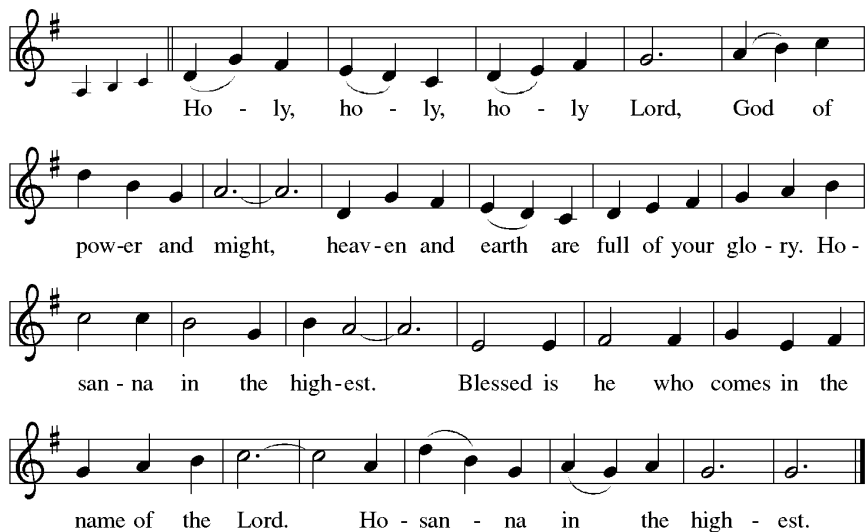
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . (*concluding*) we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER *(all)*

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.

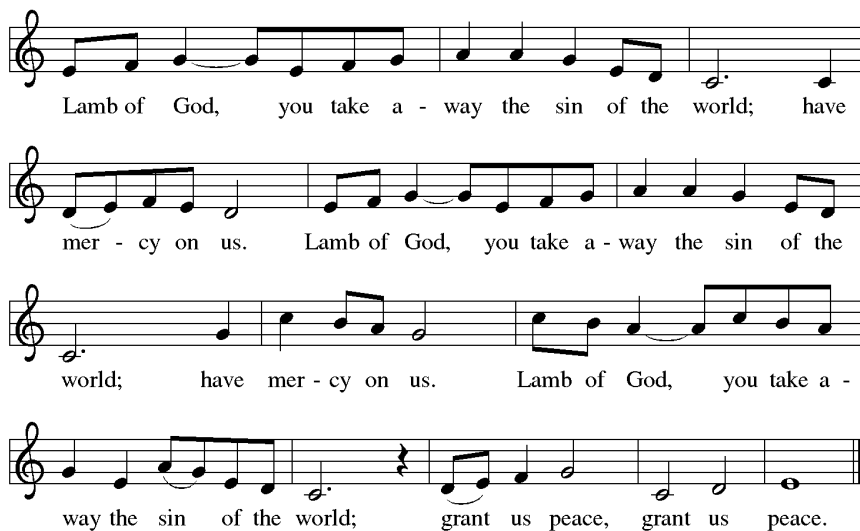
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

AGNUS DEI



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.

HOLY COMMUNION

(When Communion is finished, please stand)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who
dwells in you, + bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

"AARON'S BLESSING"

Pastor Wayne Gillespie

**May the Lord bless and keep you forever.
May the Lord always be by your side.
May the Lord make His face shine upon you,
and be gracious to you ev'ry day.
May the Lord give you peace on your journey.
May God's love and peace fill your heart.
May the Lord bless and keep you forever.
May the Lord always be by your side.**

SENDING HYMN

"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"

ELW #519

THE DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Festive Toccata"

James Biery

Pastor

Rev. Wayne G. Gillespie

Email: revwaynegillespie@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Steven J. Myers

Organist

Kevin Clemens

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We appreciate the continued commitment of our readers, worship assistants, reconcilers, tech team, and many others who make our worship services possible. This week, we especially thank:

Saturday: Bob & Susan Lyons

Sunday: Cindy Shaner, Nancy Smith, Sandy Buehner, Harriet Schwartz, Barb Hall

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR JOB OPENING

We are currently seeking qualified applicants who are interested in serving as our Parish Administrator. A detailed job description will be posted on our church website and Facebook page. If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your resume with a cover letter to: office@christsmurrysville.org

Please be aware that we do not always have someone in the office during regular office hours. Please email or call the Church Office to ensure that someone is in the office prior to coming to the church.



Annual Congregational Meeting & Soup Luncheon February 18th, 2024



Please join us for a soup luncheon during the Annual Congregational meeting on February 18th in the upstairs social hall. There will be a sign-up sheet for those who would like to donate soup, bread, or cookies.

SHROVE SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP



Please join us in celebrating Shrove Sunday on February 11th following the 10:00 am service. There will be pastries and refreshments served in the upstairs social hall.



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

We will be having two Ash Wednesday services on February 14, 2024.

Confession, Ashes and Communion at 1:00 pm
In-Person & Livestream at 7:00 pm.



2024 Offering Envelopes: Please remember to pick up your envelopes. If you are unable to pick up your envelopes, please contact the church office by emailing office@christsmurrysville.org or by calling 412-795-1212. If you

do not receive envelopes but would like to, please contact the church office. Children's envelopes are available on request. We appreciate everyone's financial contributions through-out our church year!

Thank You

Thrivent Choice Dollars

By directing Thrivent Choice Dollars through the Thrivent Choice program, eligible Thrivent members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations. **Christ's Lutheran is an eligible recipient.** 2023 Allocations, which can be made online or by phone, are required to be made by March 31, 2024, or the allocations will expire unused.



CHRIST'S LITTLE PANTRY



THANK YOU to all who have helped to keep the Little Pantry filled. The second weekend of each month is now designated as Christ's Little Pantry Weekend, although you can bring food to put into the Little Pantry with you on any weekend. You can be a part of this life-changing ministry by bringing one or two items with you

when you come to worship on that weekend and by placing your generous gift in the collection box in the Entryway or directly into the Little Pantry, which is located in our lower parking lot. Your kindness is truly appreciated. Let's work together to keep our Little Pantry full!!

Current pantry needs: cereal, spaghetti sauce, fruit, pancake mix and syrup, tuna and ready to eat meals.

We have plenty of Mac and cheese mix, Ramen noodles, and fruit snacks.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED!

Have you ever had the thought that you would like to be a Worship Assistant? Have you not acted on that thought because you do not want to be

thrust into that role without any preparation, help, training, or idea of what is involved? Well, never fear! There will be a training session after each service next weekend. The training sessions will last for about 20-30 minutes. You can also shadow a worship assistant, so that you will feel comfortable and see how, and what a worship assistant does. If you are interested, please speak to a worship assistant, a member of the Worship and Music committee, Sandy Buehner, or Pastor Wayne.

Lenten Journey 2024

Shrove Sunday Fellowship – February 11
Following the Sunday Service

Ash Wednesday – February 14th
Confession, Ashes, and Communion – 1:00 p.m.
In-Person and Livestream Worship – 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday Weekend – March 24
Easter Egg Hunt – 9:00 a.m.
Saturday Evening Worship (In-Person) – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship – (In-Person and Livestream
Worship) – 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday – March 28
In-Person and Livestream Worship – 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday – March 29
In-Person and Livestream Worship – 7:00 p.m.

Easter Weekend – March 30 and 31
Saturday Evening Worship (In-Person) – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday Easter Fellowship – 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship – (In-Person and Livestream
Worship) – 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Easter Fellowship – 11:00 a.m.

January 28, 2024 – February 3, 2024

Sunday 1/28

9:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Sunday Morning Worship
7:30 pm	Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Monday 1/29

5:00pm	Kindermusik
8:00 pm	AA Meeting

Tuesday 1/30

9:00 am	Kindermusik
9:00 am	Sewing Group

Wednesday 1/31

10:30 am	Kindermusik
5:30 pm	Kindermusik
6:00 pm	Girl Scouts

Thursday 2/1

9:00 am	Kindermusik
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Friday 2/2

Saturday 2/3

6:00 pm	Saturday Evening Worship
7:00 pm	Worship Assistant Training