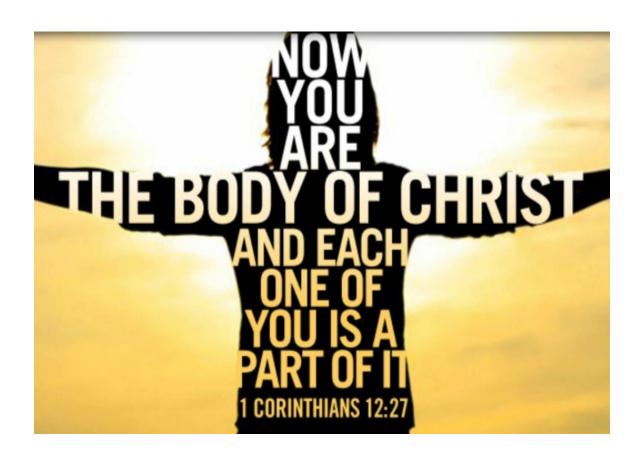
# Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 26, 2025



"Sharing the Good News of Christ With All People"

# The Divine Service

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 26, 2025

#### **AS WE GATHER**

The mystery of the body analogy is not that there are different parts but that all the different parts work together for one purpose. In other words, unity is what is most impressive about how the body works and how the Body of Christ, the church, works. Though it may seem an odd arrangement, the church as the Body of Christ is exactly what God intended it to be. Within the Body of Christ, there are no important parts or unimportant parts. Every part is essential, and when every part is working toward the same goal, it is a wonder of God's grace and design. It is given to us not to figure it out but to treasure the Body of Christ according to God's working and to learn how to work together toward a goal bigger than any part.

### **Prelude**

#### Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

## **Confession and Absolution**

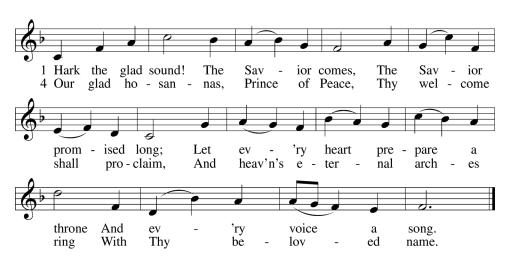
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

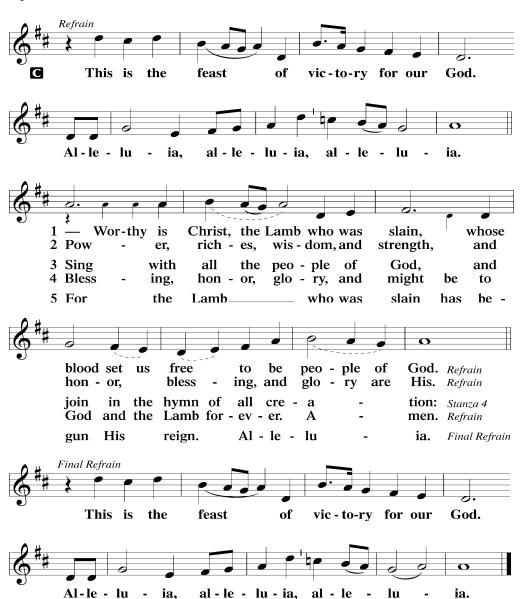
## **Processional Hymn**

## "Hark the Glad Sound"



Kyrie LSB 168

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- 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.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.



#### Salutation

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

# **Prayer of the Day**

- Let us pray. O almighty and eternal Father, You defend us from error and join us into the unity of the one Body of Christ, the church, so that we might give witness to Your name. Help us to live out the unity of faith within the Body of peace through our life together under Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

## **The Old Testament Reading**

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

<sup>1</sup> All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. <sup>2</sup>So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . . <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. <sup>6</sup>And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . . . 8They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. <sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

## **Epistle**

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup>For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup>which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. <sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# Alleluia and Verse LSB 173



Holy Gospel Luke 4:16–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>16</sup>[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup>And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, <sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." <sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup>And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup>And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." <sup>24</sup>And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. <sup>25</sup>But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, <sup>26</sup> and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. <sup>27</sup>And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup>When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. <sup>29</sup>And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But passing through their midst, he went away.

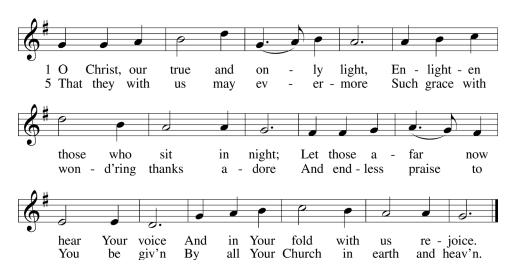
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

## **Hymn of the Day**

## "O Christ, Our True and Only Light"

LSB 839 sts. 1, 5



Sermon

"We Are His Body"

**Pastor Scott Henze** 

## **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

# **Prayer of the Church**

Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy... "Congregation responds, "Hear our Prayer".

## **Offertory Prayer**

- Let us pray: Blessed are You, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

A word about Holy communion We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

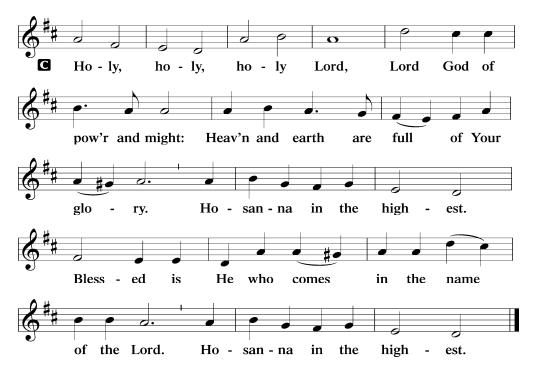
#### Service of the Sacrament

#### **Preface**

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

# **Proper Preface**

Sanctus LSB 178



# The Lord's Prayer

- P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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.

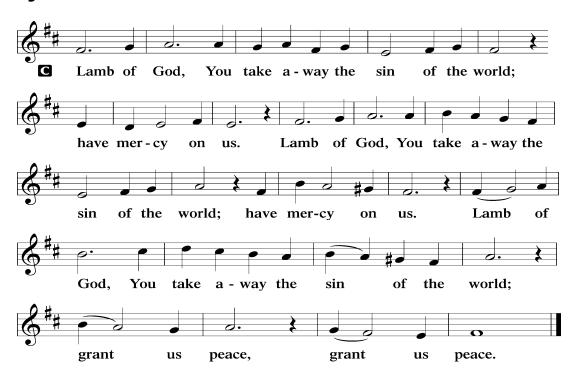
#### Words of Institution

#### The Peace of the Lord

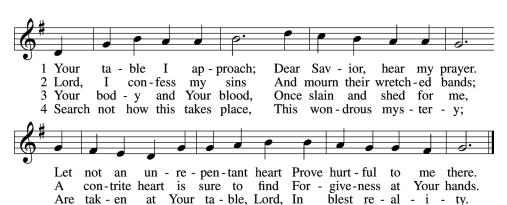
- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- And also with you.

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord)

Agnus Dei LSB 180



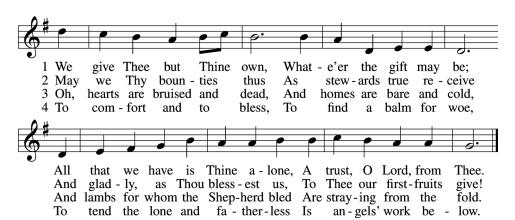




God can ac - com-plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
  To thank You day and nightFor Your true body and true blood,
  O God, my peace and light.





5 The captive to release,To God the lost to bring,To teach the way of life and peace,It is a Christ-like thing.

6 And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be: Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee.

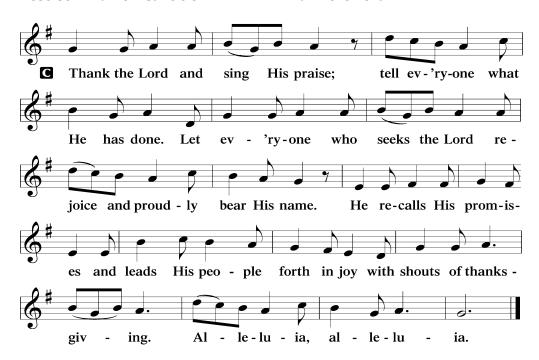


## **Closing of the Table**

## **Post Communion Canticle**

## "Thank the Lord"

LSB 181



## **Post-Communion Collect**

- Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## **Small Groups Minute**

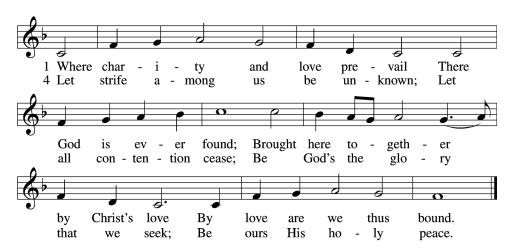
## **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**

# **Recessional Hymn**

# "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

LSB 845 sts. 1, 4



# **Dismissal**

- P Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....
- © Disciples making disciples.
- **P** Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God!



**January 28, 2025 Grief Share 7:00- 9:00 PM** GriefShare is a grief recovery support group that provides a safe space for people to learn how to cope with grief, share their experiences, and gain support.

**February 2, 2025** Bounce House Sunday. Come to celebrate the culmination of Lutheran School week.

**February 14, 2025** OWLS – Older Wiser Lutherans. Older Wiser Lutherans will meet at 7:00 pm in rooms 201/202. Come and mingle in fellowship.

February 15, 2025 Youth Service Saturday Phil's Friends 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor
Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry
Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



