January 14, 2024 Baptism of Our Lord 9:30 am



The Sower, Jean-Francois Millet—1850



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life. We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please sign the card in the pew rack and place in the offering plate with your offering before Holy Communion.
- + The service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymn book.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- Our expectation is that children will be in worship. We understand, though, that there are times when your wiggly ones need a distraction. There is a "Pray Space" under the stairs in the inner narthex with soft toys and books. We also have a nursery with a caregiver available at both worship services. Please ask an usher for assistance.
- + If you would like to have a digital copy of the bulletin, go to our website and download the PDF. www.flcbothell.org
- + Public Wi-Fi: FLC Wireless—Password: MartyLuther

Serving Us In Worship Today

Presiding/ Preaching	Rev. Tor Kristian Berg	Children's Message	Roger Steinke
Music Director	Lucy Kay Osborne		
Greeter	Susan Berg	Acolyte	Hazel Baker
Ushers	Dave Freriks Tom Larsen	Communion Assistants	Kendahl Adjorlolo Susan Berg
Sound Tech	Stephanie Conroy	Camera Tech	Terry Barker
Lector	Tom Larsen	Pew Angel	Marcus Hodges

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor

Rev. Tor Kristian Berg tberg@flcbothell.org

Director of REACH Ministries Roger Steinke rsteinke@flcbothell.org

Director of Music (Organist/Choir Dir.) Lucy Kay Osborne lkosborne@flcbothell.org

Office Manager Kristin Smith ksmith@flcbothell.org Preschool Director Beth Bowers flcbeth@gmail.com

January 14, 2024 Second Sunday after Epiphany

GATHERING

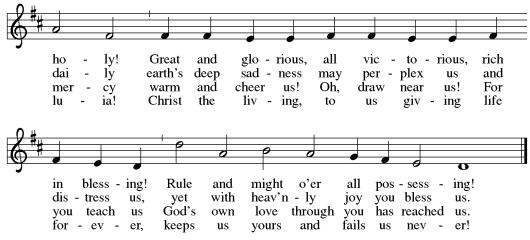
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE: O Morning Star, How Fair & Bright (J. Pachelbel)

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright! (ELW 308)





GREETING

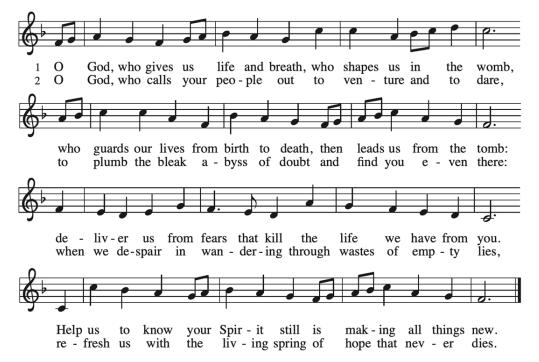
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of the Word, in the parable of the sower you showed us how your word can take root and grow within us. Nurture the seeds of your word in our hearts and help us to grow in faith and love. Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: O God, Who Gives Us Life (ACS 1086)



ANTHEM: A Jubilant Song (M. L. Lightfoot)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

PSALM: Psalm 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands!

²Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with a song. ³Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong;

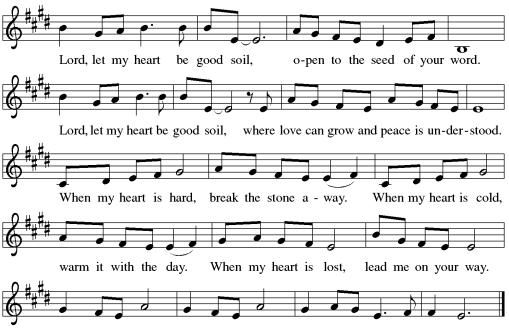
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

⁴Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name.

⁵Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting,

whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 512)



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

THE WORD: Mark 4: 1-34

¹Again [Jesus] began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. ²He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: ³Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. ⁶And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. ⁸Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold." ⁹And he said, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"

¹⁰When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. ¹¹And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; ¹²in order that

'they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven."" ¹³And he said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? ¹⁴The sower sows the word. ¹⁵These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.

¹⁶And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.

¹⁸And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, ¹⁹but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing.

²⁰And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."

²¹He said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? ²²For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light. ²³Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"

²⁴And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. ²⁵For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."

²⁶He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Word of God, word of life.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Lamb of God: Your Only Son (ELW 336) Red Hymnal

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the leaders of your church be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Give this congregation the wisdom that comes from the parables of Jesus, so that we may be the source of the Good News. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For whom do the people pray?

Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints especially the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. whose faithful advocacy for peace and justice continues to embolden the church. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Silence for self-reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

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.

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. **Amen.**

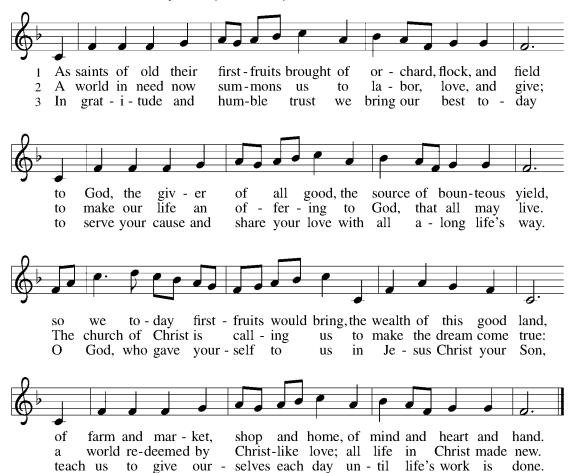
PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY

OFFERING: As Saints of Old (ELW 695)



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING The Lord be with you. And also 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

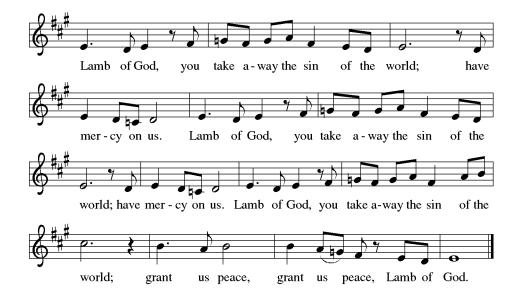
COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION: We will receive the body of Christ as bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. If you desire a gluten-free option that is available. The blood of Christ will be received as either red wine or white grape juice with these or similar words: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

WHO MAY COMMUNE? All are welcome at the Lord's Table. It is a free gift given to all for the forgiveness of sins. The words "for you" really mean FOR YOU! Children may commune at the discretion of their parents. If you wish to receive a blessing: cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the communion assistants.

DIRECTIONS FOR COMMUNION: Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the ushers to receive the sacrament and return to your seat down the side aisle. Please register each person taking communion on a pew card.

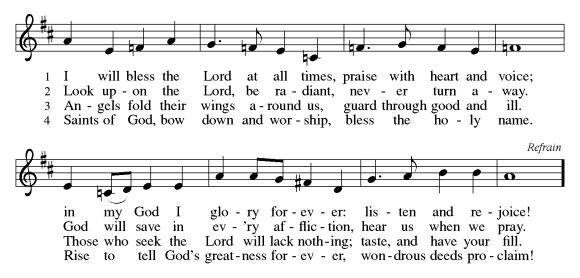


LAMB OF GOD

COMMUNION HYMNS: Come to the Table (ELW 481)







PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

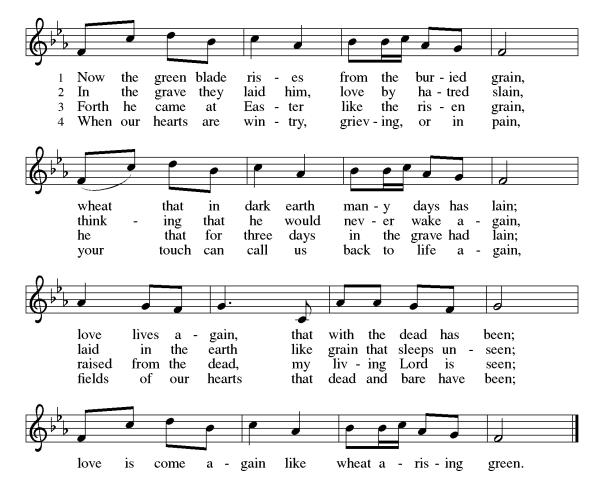
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING SONG: Now the Green Blade Rises (ELW 379)



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Noël Nouvelet (R. Hobby)

INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK!

Sunday, January 14 Second Sunday after Epiphany

9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion

10:30 am Sunday School for All Ages

Journey Class–John Buuk from Lutheran Immigration Services 4:00 pm

Monday, January 15

Martin Luther King Jr Day Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 16

9:00 am 4 & 5 Year Old Preschool	
----------------------------------	--

- 9:15 am Preschool Chapel
- 9:30 am Lectionary

12:00 pm Staff Meeting

Weekly News Submissions Deadline 3:30 pm

Fellowship Committee 6:00 pm

Church Council 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 17

9:00 am 4 & 5 Year old Preschool Rebecca Circle

10:00 am

Thursday, January 18

FLC Quilters 9:00 am 3 & 5 Year Old Preschool 9:15 am Preschool Chapel 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Friday, January 19

Church Office Closed

9:00 am 3 year old Preschool

Saturday, January 20

9:00 am Hannah Circle Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

Sunday, January 21 Third Sunday after Epiphany

- Worship w/Holy Communion 9:30 am
- Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 am
- 2024 Budget Presentation by Finance Committee 10:30 am
- BMW Concert-Bach and Beyond-Free Concert! All are invited! 3:00 pm

In Our Prayers

We pray for Bishop Doctor Sani Ibrahim Azar and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

Those living with cancer:

Juanita (Bonnie Ahlstedt's sister-in-law), Mark (Dick Boyce's son), Lisa (Steve Coble's sister), Karen (Scott Eiler's sister), Dan (Paula Glandon's brother-in-law), Edith Holbrook (member), Tracee (Bonnie Ahlstedt's friend), Sharlene Hauge (FLC Quilter), Richard (Sandy Hendricks' cousin), Jessica Hockstedler (member), Dana (Barb & Tim Thieme's friend), Mike (Jan Anderson's brother), Wayne (Dave Shogren's friend), Jana (Renee & Mike Markert's friend), Tim (Dave Shogren's friend), Richard (Ruth Neitzel's brother), Ted (Sue Toyoda's friend), Kip (Paul Desilet's uncle), Jim (Hendricks' family friend), Joanne (Carolyn Becker's sister-in-law), Diane Mackey (Del Benson's friend), Chris & family (Dan & Sandy Hendricks' friends), Karen (Nora Strothman's cousin).

Those who are ill, have an injury or who are recovering from surgery:

Tom Agnew (member), Alice (Del Benson's friend), Dale (Roger Steinke's friend), Carolyn Becker (member), Dick Boyce (member), Doug (Ho Brown's brother-in-law), Susan (Bob Berg's cousin), John (Linda Chapman's brother-in-law), Judy (Linda Chapman's friend), Richard (Susan & Ross Cook's brother), Randy (Chris Martin's friend), Leanne (Krista Daniels' sister), Elizabeth (Jane King's friend), Nancy Davis (member), Terry Doty (FLC quilter), Carol Jo (Joan and Carl Christian's granddaughter), Audrey Fisher (member), Tracy (Rob & Rene Baker's friend), John Godek (member). Steve (Del Benson's friend), Alexa & Ellie (Tracy Harrison's children), Beau & Gray (Tracy Harrison's grandsons), Cindy (Tracy Harrison's friend), Les & Lois (Tracy Harrison's parents), Karen (Tracy Harrison's sister), Sarah (Hatlen family niece & cousin), Jim (Sandy Hendricks' cousin),

Marilyn Iverson (member), Mary (Melanie Veazey's mother), Marlo (Leona Keltner's friend), Amy (Nancy McGee's friend), Axton (Vicki & Kevin Kastning's grandson), Kathy Koneiczka (member), Richard Konieczka (Kathy Konieczka's husband), Albert (Chris Martin's friend), Shirley (Haley Neff-LaFord's grandmother), Andy (Vickie Shanks' friend), Donnabel (Derrick StaRosa's sister), Hildur O'Connor (member), John (Val Cole's father), Ron (Beth Phelps' brother), Sarah (Susan & Ross Cook's daughter), Sandy Sailand (member), Jim (Tracy Harrison's friend), Mona Shogren (member), Harriett (Roger Steinke's friend), Karen (Tracy Harrison's sister), Walt Stoll (member), Christopher (Karen & Ray Thomas' friend), Sue (Aileen Miller's daughter), Roger

Special Prayers: Rita and Dennis (Thomas family friends), Lynn and Alex (Mark Hatlen's friends)

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Valerie (Kendahl Adjorlolo's cousin), Bonnie Ahlstedt (member), Jeanette Backstrom (member), Sherrill & Larry Baker (members), Trudy Eichelsdoerfer (member), Marge Gonyea (member), Marlys Helgeland (member), Jane King (member), Greta & Larry Nelson (members), Lawrence (Leon Romaniuk's father), Emma (Dave Shogren's mother), Jacquie Stoll (member), Sigrid (Carsten Thode's mother).

Those Serving Our Country:

Wolter (member).

AIR FORCE: Mason Land (Debbie & Darryl Lageson's nephew), Jake Peoples (Andrea & Eric Peoples' son) and Erin Siebert (Linda & Joe Siebert's daughter)

NAVY: Christopher Whipple (Carolyn Whipple's son)

We are honored to be able to pray for your family members in need. Our policy is to publish immediate concerns for 2 weeks, unless we hear from you that an illness or situation is ongoing.

January 21, 2024 Third Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 42:1-9 Mark 5.1-20 Gerasene Demoniac

Weekly Financial Report January 7, 2024 Attendance in Person: 122 Zoom: 27 January 7, 2024 General Offerings: \$10,597 Capital Improvement: \$1,176 General Offerings Needed Each Week: \$10,510



All liturgy, music & lyrics in this bulletin are covered by copyright licenses for publishing & streaming.

- Copyright ©2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed by permission under 1 license #SAS003678.
- 2 3
- Some music used with permission for publishing and streaming under CCLI License #2262125. Some music used with permission for publishing and streaming under LicenSing #623195. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

SERMON NOTES

What caught my attention:

What did I hear that I am eager to share with another person?

I think the title of the sermon should be:

