

**ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Worship At Home**  
**Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**  
**Sunday, February 7, 2021**

This service is intended to be done alone or with loved ones. The readings are the assigned ones for Sunday.

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

**Opening Prayer:** Let us pray. Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**Readings:** First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31 – Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**  
Psalm: 147:1-11, 20c  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 – Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**  
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39 – The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Reflection:** *Having read these readings, think on this:* Mark wants to say in every way he can that God's salvation is hidden in the cross. This is what scholars have called "the messianic secret." There are two instances of the secret in today's text: Jesus silences the demons because they know who he is; and, after "the whole city" has been gathered at his door, he goes away alone to a deserted place. But this hidden Jesus then goes on to all the neighboring towns. In our day, the salvation that is in the cross is still hidden. But we proclaim that the crucified one is risen and goes on to all the world. He comes here to the house of our church and to our own homes. We are the weak ones, sick with a fever. In the power of the Spirit, Jesus is the presence of the God who strengthens the weak. Jesus is himself the gospel given away for free. We are healed now, so that we — like Peter's mother-in-law — may rise to serve others.

If you have a hymnal, you may now sing or read "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship #858).

**Prayers of Intercession:** *Then pray these prayers for our church and world:* Trusting in God's power to heal, let us offer our prayers for all who are in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "We await your steadfast love." We pray for the church's many ministries of healing; for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains; for those serving in prisons, camps, and institutions; and for bishops and pastors facing illness of which we are unaware. We pray to you, saving God: **We await your steadfast love.** We pray for the health of the earth; for its myriad animals and their habitats; and for all created life that has been harmed by human misuse. We pray to you, provident God: **We await your steadfast love.** We pray for the health of people around the globe, especially for the people of Ethiopia and India; for international health organizations; for local and national medical services; and for school officials and teachers facing the pandemic. We pray to you, benevolent God: **We await your steadfast love.** We pray for wholeness in our nation; for the safety of our nation's elected leaders; for an end to domestic violence; for an end to prejudice; and for an end to civic terrorism. We pray to you, sovereign God: **We await your steadfast love.** We pray for a halt to the pandemic; for all who have contracted Covid-19; for health workers; for the prompt distribution of vaccines; and for all who today will die from the virus. We pray to you, compassionate God: **We await your steadfast love.** We pray for all who are sick and suffering; for those with chronic pain; for those experiencing despair; for infants born impaired and for the aged in decline; and for all whom we name here. We pray to you, consoling God: **We await your steadfast love.** We pray finally for ourselves; for steady trust in your power; and for health in our weakness. We pray to you, loving God: **We await your steadfast love.** We praise you for the faithful departed and for their lives of service to others; and we pray that despite sickness and death, at our end we join with them to find our wholeness in you. We pray to you, eternal God: **We await your steadfast love.** Merciful God,

hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

If you have a hymnal, you may now sing or read, "I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me" (ELW #860).

**We continue our worship with this prayer:** Holy God, Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness, we hear your Word in the Scriptures, proclaiming to us your wisdom and inviting us to follow your call. For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God. **We thank you, O God.**

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother, who preached your righteousness, healed the sick, and revived the brokenhearted. For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God. **We worship you, O God.**

By your Spirit bless all who receive this Word, that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son. For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God. **We praise you, O God.**

Blessed are you, holy God, around us, with us, and in us, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer:** 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.

**We end with reciting the Blessing:** God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace. Amen.

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## Announcements and Further Prayer Requests

- Please register for Ash Wednesday If you plan on attending in person, or let us know if you would like an ash kit for at-home application during the live streamed service. We will also have a drive-by imposition of ashes from 11-1 that day (February 17th).
- Join Pastor Tom on Tuesday evenings at 7 PM on ZOOM as he leads us in a Bible study on Moses. You can join us by calling 1 929 205 6099 and using Meeting ID 843 9728 2129 and passcode 349704.
- Please keep in your prayers the following individuals: The family of William Barrett, the family of Evelyn Kirby, Danny Penque, Jane Chervinsky, Janet W., Sean Fallon, Margaret Miller, Beverly and Jim Penman, Philip Paul and Jennifer Buchanan, Dan Kramer, Joyce Zimmerman, Brian Volo, Diane Kraft, Rick, Mike, Olivia Williams and family, Cathy Niccola, Matt Stzaba, Ben Richard, Joanne M., Robert Miller, Louis Volo Jr, Dottie Roehrig, Karen Geng, Sylvia and Joe Smith, Lorraine Pfohl, Jerry Peete, Cheryl Rosati, Rosaria Phillippone, Robin Bengaglio Richard, the Maris Family, Charlene Faleski, and those we name out loud and in the silence of our hearts.
- Pray for racial justice: O God, in your divine mystery you embrace difference in unity, and you call your people to live in peace with all. We pray for an end to racial and ethnic prejudice. Free us from the dread of difference. Free the church from constricting traditions. Free our society from centuries of violence against the other. Break down the walls that separate your people by color, culture, or religion. Call us to repentance for our sins of racism and prejudice, known and unknown. Transform discrimination into a passion for justice. Guide us to nurture a society that embodies reconciliation and cooperation among all, for the sake of the one who embodies your love, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (From *All Creation Sings*: pg. 51)