

# Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2024



## Mark 1:27-28

They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

† The word *epiphany* comes from a Greek word meaning “manifestation or appearance,” and in church history this word has become closely associated with the revelation of Christ in connection with the visit of the Magi. This season after the Epiphany focuses on the teaching and healing ministry of Christ.

- from *The Worship Sourcebook*

## Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Joel Kok ♦ Piano: Shannon Schreurs ♦ Violin: Joya Schreurs  
Sound: Nick Breems ♦ Video: James Rylaarsdam ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

## Hearing Assistance

An FM hearing assistance system is available for those who need it. Consult the sound operator for assistance.

## We Gather; God Welcomes

Welcome

Call to Worship: Psalm 126:3 p.967

\*Song: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" LUYH 581

1. *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!*
2. *All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.*
3. *Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ, our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

Words: Henry Van Dyke; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, adapt. Edward Hodges

\*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

\*Song: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" LUYH 590:1,2,4,5,7,8

1. *Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!*
2. *My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.*
4. *He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free;  
his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.*
5. *He speaks, and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.*
7. *Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ;  
you blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, you lame, for joy!*
8. *To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given  
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.*

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Carl G. Glaser, adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason

## God Sends; We Go Rejoicing

\*Benediction

\*Closing Song: "To God Be the Glory" LUYH 604

1. *To God be the glory, great things he has done;  
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life gate that all may go in.*

*Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory; great things he has done.*

2. *O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God;  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [Refrain]*
3. *Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]*

Words: Fanny J. Crosby; Music: William H. Doane

**Chorus: He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
for my Savior loves me so. He will hold me fast.**

**2. Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. (to chorus)**

**3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last! (to chorus)**

Words & Music: Ada Ruth Habershon, Matthew Merker  
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Communion Song: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" LUYH 348:1,3

**1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

**Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]**

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm; Music: William M. Runyan, © 1951 Hope Publishing Company

\*The Thanksgiving: Psalm 103:1-4

p.939

**Praise the Lord, O my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
Praise the Lord, O my soul  
and forget not all his benefits—  
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion.**

## We Seek Jesus; God Forgives

Call to Confession: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Prayer of Confession

Words of Forgiveness: Psalm 111

p.952

Song: "Ancient Words"

LUYH 762

*Small ensemble will sing vs.1 & chorus, please join on vs.2 & chorus*

*1. Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,  
they resound with God's own heart, O, let the ancient words impart.  
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope.  
In this world, where'er we roam ancient words will guide us home.*

**Chorus: Ancient words, ever true, changing me, and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts, O let the ancient words impart.**

**2. Holy words of our faith handed down to this age  
came to us through sacrifice. O heed the faithful words of Christ.  
Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,  
they resound with God's own heart. O let the ancient words impart.**

Words & Music: Lynn DeShazo © 2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Invitation to Giving

*Offering our gifts is an important part of our response to God—connecting our worship with a life of discipleship—and is a way to participate in the ministry of Covenant CRC here in this building and around the world. Offering boxes are available, or check your bulletin announcements for more ways to give.*

Prayers for the Church and World

## God Speaks; We Listen

Children's Blessing: "Christ, Be Our Light"

LUYH 908 (refrain)

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

Words & Music: Bernadette Farrell ©1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications

*Children ages 3 years old through kindergarten are invited to a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.*

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:21-28

p.1552

Message: "Healing Holiness"

Pastor Joel Kok

\*Song of Response: "Before the Throne of God"

LUYH 682

**1. Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea,  
a great High Priest whose name is Love,  
who ever lives and pleads for me.**

**My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart;  
I know that while in heaven he stands  
no tongue can bid me thence depart,  
no tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**2. When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look and see him there who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
for God the Just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,  
to look on him and pardon me.**

**3. Behold him there! The risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness;  
the great unchangeable "I AM," the King of glory and of grace!  
One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood;  
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,  
with Christ, my Savior and my God.**

Words: Charitte Lees DeCheney Bancroft; Music: Vikki Cook, © 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship, admin. Capito/CMGPublishing.com

## God Provides; We Feast

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

We praise you, O God; we acclaim you as Lord;

all creation worships you, the Father everlasting.

To you all angels and all heavenly powers cry aloud;

the cherubim and seraphim sing in endless praise;

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

The glorious company of apostles, praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets, praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs, praise you.

Throughout the world the holy church acclaims you;

**Father, of majesty unbounded;**

**your true and only Son, worthy of all praise;**

**the Holy Spirit, advocate, and guide.**

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you took our flesh to set us free,

you humbly chose the virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

**Come, then, Lord, and help your people,**

**bought with the price of your own blood,**

**and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.**

The Institution: 1 Corinthians 11

Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Prayer of Consecration, concluding with 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

The Invitation

*We invite you to come down the center aisle to the communion table. You may partake at the table or take it back to your seats. Gluten-free bread is available on the table.*

Communion Song: "He Will Hold Me Fast"

**1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
when the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.**

**I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path  
for my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.**

*(continued on next page)*