

Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:30AM  
Facebook Live @faithandrockcreek  
WRDN 1430AM / 107.3FM  
Pastor Bethany Walker



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Rod and Tracy Rosemeyer's family  
in honor of Jean Hermann's birthday

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name. Amen.

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

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news:

In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. Amen.

## **Entrance Hymn**

## **We Come to the Hungry Feast WOV 766**

We come to the hungry feast, hungry for a word of peace  
To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is not denied  
We come we come to the hungry feast

We come to the hungry feast, hungry for a world released  
from hungry folk of every kind the poor in body, poor in mind  
We come we come to the hungry feast

We come to the hungry, hungry that the hunger cease  
And knowing though we eat our fill the hunger will stay with us still  
We come, we come to the hungry feast

## **Greeting**

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

## **Prayer of the Day**

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Children's Message**

### **Old Testament Reading**

### **Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

<sup>1</sup>All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>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 standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they

bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. 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 when 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 of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

## Psalm

## Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

**One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another. Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard, their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward. **Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense. **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

## **New Testament Reading**

## **1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

<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 the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would 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 would 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. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <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 members, 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 members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<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 deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, 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 in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup>But strive for the greater gifts.

## **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day**

### **One Bread One Body WOV 710**

(refrain)

One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing that we bless, and we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more (refrain)

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. (refrain)

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all (refrain)

## **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**

**Hear us O God, Your mercy is great.**

## **Peace**

## **Offering**

## **Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

## **Offering Prayer**

**Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.**

## **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 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.**

## **Benediction**

**God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

**Bind Us Together WOV 748**

(refrain)

Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken

Bind us together Lord, bind us together Lord, bind us together in love

There is only God there is only one King

There is only one body that is why we can sing (refrain)

You are the family of God You are the promise divine

You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine (refrain)

**Dismissal**

Go in peace to be the body of Christ in the world. **Thanks be to God!**