

**Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches
4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Sunday, January 29th 10:30AM
Facebook / WRDN
Pastor Bethany Walker**



**Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by
Ruth Hayden in memory of Clem Hayden
who died 10 years ago on Jan 29, 2013**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us,

that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

(refrain)

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,

give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

Healer of Our Every Ill WOV 738

You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. (refrain)

In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. (refrain)

Give us strength to love each other, every sister, every brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. (refrain)

You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. (refrain)

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, **you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm

Your Holy Hill based on Psalm 15 By My Soul Among Lions

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation

Listen, listen, God is calling through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Blest Be the Tie That Binds LBW 370

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

The unity of heart and mind is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers.

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,

and often for each other flows, the sympathizing tear.

From sorrows, toil and pain, and sin we shall be free,

and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Merciful God, **receive our prayer**

Peace

Offering

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Liberating God, **you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.**

Words of Institution

On the night...remembering, therefore, Christ's life, death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Holy One, **we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.**

Blessing

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. Amen.

Sending Hymn

My Life Flows On In Endless Song WOV 781

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation, I catch the sweet
though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. (refrain)

(refrain) No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? (refrain)

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth. What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. (refrain)

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing! All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? (refrain)

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God!