



310 First Avenue South 715-423-0180 www.wr moravian.org

"Sharing Christ, Serving People"

Sunday, January 26, 2025

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

PRELUDE: "In the Morning When I Rise"

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 19

L: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

C: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world.

L: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

C: the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

L: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

C: the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

L: the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;

C: the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

L: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

C: Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

L: Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts

C: be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

(Please sign Welcome Pad)

*HYMN #471 "Your Majesty, How Vast It Is"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE with PASTORAL 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

SCRIPTURES: Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴ Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to set free those who are oppressed,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹² 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. ¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members yet one body. ²¹ 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.” ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ 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, ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ 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. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*HYMN #785 “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

*RESPONSE **Praise God, who blesses from above;
Praise Jesus Christ, God’s living love;
Praise God, whose Spirit in us lives;
We praise you God through what we give. Amen.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

MEDITATION

*LITURGY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY – pg. 122

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

*Stand as able

IN OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING

MinistersAll who serve Jesus Christ
Pastor.....Rev. Beth Rohn-Habegger
Keyboardist.....Julie Rucks
POP Musician.....Trudy Knipple

IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION THIS WEEK

TODAY at 9:00 am.....Church School
10:15 am.....Worship
11:30 am.....Light Lunch hosted by the Trustees
followed by Church Council
TUESDAY at 4:30 pm.....TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
WEDNESDAY at 6:00.....Confirmation Class
THURSDAY at 9:30 am.....Alanon
SATURDAY from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.....Winter Market
NEXT SUNDAY at 9:00 am.....Church School
10:15 am.....Worship

PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Dell King

Patty (Schoechert) Beyer, Jan Baker's daughter (Natalie),

Ashley & Kolby Kelnhofer, Marie Kaszuba, Alice Lavin, Jim Laufenberg,

Lorraine Abbott, Linda (Behrend) Nelson, Jaden (Patty Beyer's

granddaughter), Dave Plummer, Beth Sowatzke, Kurt Young, Neil

Nursing/Assisted Living Residents: Deb Maier, Laniece Haferman,

Diane Klawikowski, Marilyn Hutter, Lucy Severt, Barb Scholl,

Olaf & Rita Andersen, Marion Bailey

At home: Lloyd Young, Paul & Marie Knipple

Servicemen: Paul & David Eklund, Mason Fellowes, Elias Thelemann

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our **Joyful Noise** offering this month will go to G.R.A.C.E. (Greater Rapids Area Churches for Ecumenism)
- **South Wood County Empty Bowls** sponsored by FOCUS will be February 15, 11am-2pm. They are looking for volunteers to help with this fundraising event. If you are interested please contact Don Mancl at lindaanddon@solarus.net.
- Just a reminder that a signup sheet for **Coffee Hour hosts** is located in the Social Room. Call the church office (715) 423-0180 or Kathy Plante (715) 459-1110 if you have any questions.
- **POP (Prelude, Offertory and Postlude) musicians** are needed. To schedule a date or check availability, you can call Diane Renner (715-325-5300) or just talk to her at church.
- The Board of Trustees has established a **Donation List** of items that we use around the church. You can find the list on our website or on the bulletin board in the south hallway. You are invited sign up for those items you would be willing to donate.

Christ, the Fulfillment of the Good News

The lectionary is quite intentional in beginning today's passage with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit and ending this section before the conflict ahead. One must contemplate the intentionality of Luke's portrayal of Jesus' identity and his purpose before escalating to the implications ahead. Jesus is the carrier and fulfillment of the Good News, and the Holy Spirit empowers, equips, and leads Jesus to deliver his inaugural address precisely in his own hometown.

Jesus is not just the carpenter's son; he has a greater purpose. The Holy Spirit has anointed him to bring the Good News to the economically, socially, and religiously unfavored and the marginalized. He was sent to liberate the prisoners. He was sent to give sight to people who are blind. He was sent to free the oppressed. This is the Good News for Jesus' audience, because it is also the Year of the Lord's Favor.

God's favor will reach the unfavored because of Jesus. The audience knew the importance of the Year of the Lord's Favor. It's known as the Jubilee: a year of liberation and restoration (Leviticus 25:8–15).

All eyes are fixed on Jesus, perhaps of amazement, for this is the Good News they want to hear, and ending this section with Jesus' prophecy, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing," is the end of Luke's introduction of the Christ. His hometown must gasp at his true identity. During this Epiphany season, we are reminded of Christ's purpose and our mission.

The deliverer of the Good News is the Christ and the fulfillment of the prophecy. Today, the Holy Spirit is still at work equipping, empowering, and leading the body of Christ to proclaim the Year of the Lord's Favor to all people, specifically to the unfavored. Amen.

Jesmina Meade, pastor, Trinity Moravian Church, New Carrollton, Maryland

The Moravian Church

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 26, 2025

