

Divine Service Setting Four (LSB p. 203)
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, January 29, 2023
St. John Lutheran Church, Crete (Kramer), NE
Welcome in the name of Christ Jesus

Announcements

Bells

Hymn of Invocation

590 Baptized into Your Name Most Holy



1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, here You take me To be hence-forth Your
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly
4 All that I am and love most dear-ly— Re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, here You make me
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
The fruit of all Your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
com - fort me When threat - ning clouds a - round I see.
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Baptism Heath Moravek

Confirmation Ethan Sublett

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.....

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading **Micah 6:1-8** *See Insert*

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle **Ephesians 2:8-9** *See back of Service bulletin*

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel **Matthew 5:1-12** *See Insert*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 5:1-12, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

566 By Grace I'm Saved



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to
4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it
true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must
Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and
What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.
God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

- 5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?
- 6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Sermon “The Gifts of Grace and Faith” Ephesians 2:8-9

Gathering of our Thank Offerings

Stand

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that.....Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

C  Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;

Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You.....that come to us in His body and blood.

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." +++ In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

C ♪1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymns (as needed or number of communicants)

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which
2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
3 Who can con - demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is
4 Though death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, It can - not
5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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Tune: Public domain



568 If Your Beloved Son, O God



1 If Your be - lov - ed Son, O God, Had not to earth de -
2 But now I find sweet peace and rest; De - spair no more reigns
3 I trust in Him with all my heart; Now all my sor - row
4 All righ - teous - ness by works is vain; The Law brings con - dem -
△ 5 My guilt, O Fa - ther, You have laid On Christ, Your Son, my



scend - ed And in our mor - tal flesh and blood Had not sin's
o'er me. No more am I by sin op - pressed, For Christ has
ceas - es. His words a - bid - ing peace im - part; His blood from
na - tion. True righ - teous - ness by faith I gain; Christ's work is
Sav - ior. Lord Je - sus, You my debt have paid And gained for



pow - er end - ed, Then this poor, wretch - ed soul of mine In
borne sin for me. Up - on the cross for me He died That,
guilt re - leas - es. Free grace through Him I now ob - tain; He
my sal - va - tion. His death, that per - fect sac - ri - fice, Has
me God's fa - vor. O Ho - ly Spir - it, Fount of grace, The



hell e - ter - nal - ly would pine Be - cause of my trans - gres - sion.
rec - on - ciled, I might a - bide With You, my God, for - ev - er.
wash - es me from ev - 'ry stain, And pure I stand be - fore Him.
paid the all - suf - fi - cient price; In Him my hope is an - chored.
good in me to You I trace; In faith and hope pre - serve me.

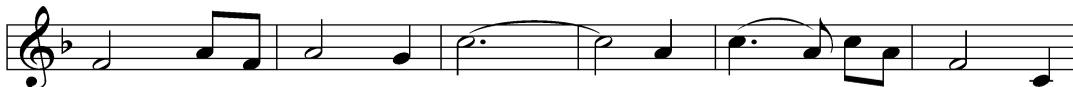
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His
Glorious
Grace

744 Amazing Grace



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text and tune: Public domain

amazing
GRACE

596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized



1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of
2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-
3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-merged and drowned for-
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of
cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-
ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-
cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The
out-ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned
gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-stroyed And
for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!
in-ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de-nied Him.
all our sin-ful selves em-ployed Ac-cord-ing to our na-ture.
makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.

- 5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift
And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift
In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul,
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole
And then in death completes you.
- 6 So use it well! You are made new—
In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians, live and do
Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess
His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!

Stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

C  1 O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.....one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart

567 Not What These Hands Have Done



1 Not what these hands have done Can save this guilt - y soul;
2 Not what I feel or do Can give me peace with God;
3 Thy work a - lone, O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin;
4 Thy love to me, O God, Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,



Not what this toil - ing flesh has borne Can make my spir - it whole.
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears Can bear my aw - ful load.
Thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, Can give me peace with - in.
Can rid me of this dark un - rest And set my spir - it free.

- 5 Thy grace alone, O God,
To me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.
- 6 I bless the Christ of God,
I rest on love divine,
And with unfalt'ring lip and heart
I call this Savior mine.

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The Grace
of God is
with you!

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

The Third Article (LSB p. 323)

Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Crete (Kramer), Nebraska. Rev. Maynard L. Toensing Jr.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY JANUARY 29, 2023

WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

TODAY. *God Manifests His Glory in the Humility and Weakness of Christ Crucified.* The Lord tells His people, “*I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery*” (Micah 6:4). By the sacrifice of His beloved Son, He has redeemed us from our slavery of sin and death; He has forgiven our transgressions by the shedding of His blood. His great mercy and salvation lead us “*to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly*” with our God (Micah 6:8). We boast only in the incarnate and crucified Lord Jesus. He is “*the power of God and the wisdom of God*” (1 Cor. 1:24). He is our life and salvation, our “*wisdom*” and “*righteousness and sanctification and redemption*” (1 Cor. 1:30). Now He opens His mouth and teaches us His wisdom. By His cross and Passion, the kingdom of heaven is ours. We receive mercy and are satisfied; we see God and are called sons of God in Christ. “*Blessed are you,*” therefore, “*when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely*” on account of Christ (Matt. 5:11). The readings today are as follows: the Old Testament Reading is Micah 6:1-8, the Epistle Reading is Ephesians 2:8-9, and the Holy Gospel Reading is Matthew 5:1-12. The Epistle Reading is the text for today’s message. The message from God’s word, “*The Gifts of Grace and Faith*”.

HOLY COMMUNION...EPIPHANY means “manifestation” or “appearance”. It is a season which highlights many of the epiphanies of God in human flesh (to the wise men, at His Baptism, His miracles, His transfiguration). It is a season which also sets forth Christ as the light of the world and mission outreach to all peoples. As Christ manifests Himself today in the **Lord’s Supper**, His forgiveness empowers us to walk in His light and witness of Him to a world sitting in darkness. God’s Word teaches that doctrinal unity is central to the common reception of the **Lord’s Supper**. **Guests** desiring to commune are kindly asked to speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service.

PRAYERS OF THE FAMILY OF GOD....

In our prayers today: *August Wendelin, Darleen Dittmer, Fred and Olga Weidner, Marcia Stewart (Cari Henning’s mother), Richard Rambo (Karen (Renner) Rambo’s stepson), Brianna (8 year old friend of Renner family)*

For God’s continued care: *All who have been infected with COVID-19, Mark Albrecht (Liz [Eggert] Albrecht’s father-in-law), Roy Bleich (Ray Bleich’s brother), AnnaBella Heckmann (daughter of Rev. Michael and Rebecca Heckmann), Norman Johnson (Linda Lee’s father), Ken Kahle, Diane Kouba, Linda Lee, Glen Louch, Gene Muff, Jolene Reetz, Michelle Reetz, Del Reiss, Sharri Rosendahl (Les Korte’s sister), Anita Stougard*

Those in our congregation who are home bound: *Fran Sieck, Albert Vosika*

Those in the Military: *Elliott Reitz (at his First Duty Station in Ft Bliss, El Paso, TX)*

For our adopted Missionaries: *Rev. Dr. Gerald and Heidi Paul...please see the bulletin board in the Narthex for the January Newsletter; also, it has been posted on our website.*

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

EVENTS TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK...The Ladies Aid of St. John Lutheran Church has been blessed by God to celebrate their 100th anniversary on Tuesday, January 31, 2023.

WE PRAY FOR GOD’S BLESSINGS for Heath and Ethan. Today Heath Moravek will be baptized and Ethan Sublett will be confirmed. Heath is the husband of Sara (Hollman) Moravek and Ethan is the son of Ivan Sublett and Sara and Heath Moravek. The flowers on the altar to celebrate the baptism and confirmation are from Chris Hollman and her mother, Leona Kant.

LYF VALENTINE’S DINNER...It’s that time of year again! The dinner will be held on **Sunday, February 19** at 11:15, following Bible Class and Sunday School. Dinner will include drink, salad and dessert. Choose either lasagna, vegetable and garlic bread OR chicken, vegetable and potato. Cost per dinner is \$13.00. **Last day to sign up is Sunday, February 12.** Join us for a delicious dinner!

FEBRUARY FAMILY FUN NIGHT will be Saturday, February 25, 6:30 p.m. Our **entire** church family is invited to join us for a February Family Fun Night. There will be –well, we don’t want to give away all of the surprise, but there’s a **clue** or two in this announcement. You don’t want to be a **minute** late, or you might miss something and have to **fish** around to **find** it. There will be some **sweet** fun, loads of laughter and of course, some **Jesus** in it too!!! We promise that you’ll **love** it! Just so we have an idea of how many to plan for, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or let Pastor or Shelley know you’ll be coming.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILBOX in the Narthex as the Treasurer has put your statement for 2022 Donations.

BIBLES...Please bring your old and **not being used** Bibles and Christian books to be sent overseas for mission work. A tote is in the entry way. For more information, go to lovepackages.org Thank you for your generosity.

WORSHIP SERVICE attendance for Sunday, January 22 was 73. Worship Services, barring technical difficulties, are Live Streamed here: www.youtube.com/@stjohnkramer. Additional information can be found at www.stjohnkramer.org.

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR DECEMBER, 2022:

General Budget	\$15,456.59
Anniversary Fund	\$ 327.50
Scholarship Fund	\$ 15.00
Missions	\$ 2,779.00
Lambs of Christ	\$ 302.50
Evangelism	\$ 250.00
Russian Mission	\$ 500.00

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Secretary Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:15 - noon
Website: www.stjohnkramer.org

OUR MISSION...Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions and mission outreach.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE, you may contact Pastor Toensing at 402-418-8760 or by email at pastortoensing@gmail.com

About the cover: Micah's vision presents the people of Israel on trial before the mountains for their continued refusal to listen to the word of the Lord. Yet the Lord presents *His* case by pointing to His saving deeds in the past. For us today, though our sin is ever before us, in Christ, the Lord does not give testimony against us but *for* our sake!