



Messiah Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord God, in the chill and dark of winter we are waiting and longing.
We are looking for you to come into our world!
We are seeking light.

In our lives,
We are seeking light.

In our neighborhoods,
We are seeking light.

In our families,
We are seeking light.

In our work,
We are seeking light.

In our nation,
We are seeking light.

In our world,
We are seeking light.

In our hearts,
We are seeking light.

Seek and you shall find.
Knock and the door will be opened.
Ask and it will be given to you.
Jesus Christ you are the light of the world.
May we have eyes to see you and ears to hear you.
Fill our lives with your light today! Amen.

GATHERING SONG:

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

ELW 815

GREETING:

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

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.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

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: "Celtic Alleluia"

ELW Service Music #174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:23-25 ; 5:1-2, 13-14

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

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:

¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: "Be a Light!"

Pastor Dave

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM - ELW, page 227

Vaeda Charlotte Malevich
Child of Philip & Carissa Malevich

Vivian Rose Anderson
Child of Ben & Marisa Anderson



OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "We Are an Offering"

ELW 692

Chorus 1

We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are Yours, We are an offering

Bridge

All that we have, All that we are, All that we hope to be
We give to You, We give to You

Chorus 2

We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering
We are an offering

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OFFERING PRAYER: Living God, in your Son, you have given the world a radiant Light shining brightly in the darkness! Lead us onward in Light that we may share your warmth and grace with all people. Let our lives be an offering of love every day. We pray through Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

PRAYERS:

Let us now pray to the Father of light,
that we may truly become the salt and the light of the world!
We pray: **Lord, let your light shine in us.**

That there may be greater love on earth ...
Inspire people to have deeper understanding,
to show kindness to one another,
and to share readily with those in need.
We pray: **Lord, let your light shine in us.**

That there may be greater justice on earth...
Inspire governments and public officials
to make room in their priorities and policies
for those who are struggling.
We pray: **Lord, let your light shine in us.**

That there may be greater peace on earth...
Inspire all nations to put an end to words of hatred
threats of revenge,
and thoughts of war.
We pray: **Lord, let your light shine in us.**

That there may be greater joy on earth...
Inspire all who follow your Son
to show affection and faithfulness to one another,
and to be concerned about our neighbor.
We pray: **Lord, let your light shine in us.**

Lord God, let your light shine on all the earth!
Inspire our words and actions to reflect the light of your love,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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

DISMISSAL:

L: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
C: **Thanks be to God.**