

Vasa Lutheran Church

The First Shall Be Last and Last First

Pastor Maureen Hagen Accompanist – Anne Anderson

Sunday, February 18, 2024

ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Psalm 19:7-10

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;

C: sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world,

God draws near to us,

breaks every snare of sin,

washes away our wrongs,

and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

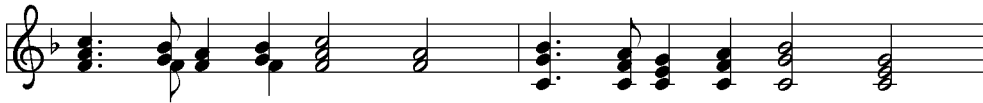
Amen.

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy



1, 3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	e - lei - son.	Chris - te	e - lei - son.
1, 3	Lord, . . .	have mer - cy.	Lord,	have mer - cy.
2	Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.	Christ,	have mer - cy.



	Ky - ri - e	e - le	-	i - son.
	Chris - te	e - le	-	i - son.
	Lord, . . .	have mer	-	cy.
	Christ, . . .	have mer	-	cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Lord of abundant riches, **when asked to give everything to follow Jesus, a rich man faltered. Give us the courage to give everything that we have to you, knowing that what you offer is more valuable than all the riches in the world. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 10:17-31 As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 18 Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" 20 He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." 21 Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." 22 When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" 24 And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to

enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." 26 They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" 27 Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." 28 Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." 29 Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age-- houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions-- and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

WE ARE CALLED

ELW 720

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS ELW 772

CONFESSION OF FAITH using the words of the **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 THE CONGREGATION Each petition will end with the words, "Lord, in your mercy," Please respond with "**hear our prayer.**"

GENEROSITY MOMENT

HOLY COMMUNION: *We will receive communion by intinction. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.*

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his 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.

THE 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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER Generous God, **at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

HYMN

THE SPIRIT SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE

ELW 551

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING and DISMISSAL

L: Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and † give you peace.

Amen.

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.



Paul Mikaelson, Jay Mikaelson, Scott Sorenson, Max Tilderquist, Anne Rathman, Wendy Anderson, Geri Lindholm, and Dale Anderson.

Parish Pulse:

Feb. 7 & 11

Participating in Worship: **48**

+17 **live-streams**

Total Offerings:

\$666.00

Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Rick Samuelson

Reader: Katie Featherstone

Comm. Asst: Tim Carlson

Hospitality: B-J Norman

Worship Assistants Next Week (February 25)

Usher: Roger Guttromson

Reader: Roger Guttromson

Hospitality: Gail Strusz-Klein

MUSIC FOR FEB. 18, 2024

LORD JESUS CHRIST, BE PRESENT NOW

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WE ARE CALLED

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OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

THE SPIRIT SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE

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Women of all Ages and Stages

Bible Study will meet again on Wednesday, Feb. 21, the regularly scheduled time. We meet in the Fellowship room from 9:30-11:00AM.



SCRIPTURAL EMPHASIS DURING LENT...During each Wednesday Lenten Service we will hear a monologue from a New Testament character who will talk about how Jesus had an impact on their lives. The schedule is:

February 21--Peter's Mother-in-Law
February 28--Mary Magdalene
March 6--Thomas
March 13--Martha
March 20--The Paralytic

Congregational Meeting



Vasa's Annual Meeting is scheduled for next Sunday, February 25th. We will gather in the Lutheran Center gym for worship at 9:00AM, followed by rolls and coffee, and then the meeting which will begin around 10:00AM. Business items include the election of Church Council members, approval of the 2024 budget, and several property improvements

(in the LC AND the Sanctuary) which also will need congregational approval. And last, but certainly not least, will be a discussion on which Vasa anniversary to celebrate! A quorum of 40 is required by our bylaws to authorize these important decisions. So please plan to attend if you are able!

you
make a
A DIFFERENCE
lo



We, the Vasa Congregation,
Called by God, commit to:
Worshipping together,
Growing in Faith,
Serving Others, and
Welcoming and Loving All!