

Vasa Lutheran Church

Jesus Heals and Teaches

Pastor Maureen Hagen Accompanist – Anne Anderson

Sunday, January 7

ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Psalm 103:6-14

L: The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

**C: He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.**

L: The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**C: He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.**

L: He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**C: For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

L: as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.

**C: As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.**

L: For he knows how we were made;

C: he remembers that we are dust.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

**We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.**

Remember your covenant. Renew your creation.

Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.
 God has spoken:
 The time of grace is now.
 In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
 By the authority of † Jesus Christ,
 your sins are forgiven.
 You are God's beloved.
Amen.

HYMN

O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT!

ELW 308

We will sing verses 1-4.

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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
 and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.


Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.


HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.


All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,




we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,




you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;




you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Lord of forgiveness, **you healed a paralytic by forgiving his sins. Forgive us, heal us, and teach us to walk in your ways. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 2:1-22 When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. 3 Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried

by four of them. 4 And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? 10 But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-- he said to the paralytic-- 11 "I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home." 12 And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

13 Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. 14 As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. 15 And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples-- for there were many who followed him. 16 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" 17 When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" 19 Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.

21 "No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. 22 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN O CHRIST, THE HEALER, WE HAVE COME ELW 610

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE ELW 310

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 kneeling at the railing. 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.*

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen, amen, 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: Giver of every gift, **Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

ELW 838

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING and DISMISSAL

L: God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

L: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

Parish Pulse:

Dec. 31

Participating in Worship: 178

+19 live-streams

Total Offerings:

\$9,125.00

THIS WEEK AT VASA:

MONDAY – TEAM MEETINGS

TUESDAY– 9:30AM

COFFEE

WEDNESDAY 5:30PM

FAMILY NIGHT



Irene Carpenter, Paul Mikaelson,
Jay Mikaelson, Scott Sorenson,
Max Tilderquist, Anne Rathman,
Wendy Anderson, Geri Lindholm,
and Kevin Eckblad.

Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Duane Hanson

Reader: Tim Carlson

Comm. Asst: Katie Featherstone

Hospitality: Marilyn Hanson

Worship Assistants Next Week (January 14)

Usher: Roger Guttromson

Reader: Katie Lindahl

Hospitality: Marcia Featherstone

MUSIC FOR JAN 7, 2024

O MORNING STAR HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg
Fortress

O CHRIST THE HEALER, WE HAVE COME

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SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.
Music: Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach,
1685–1750

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-
1904

Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

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STATEMENTS have been printed for everyone who gave money to the church in December. If you need a statement for tax purposes and don't have one, please contact Kathy.



*We, the Vasa Congregation, called by God, commit to:
Worshipping together, Growing in Faith, Serving Others,
and Welcoming and loving all!*

Vasa Family Night



Wednesday, January 10th

5:30-7:00pm

Vasa Lutheran Center

Turkey Sandwiches

Scavenger Hunt

Short Devotional

All Are Welcomed





Good Earth Village: It's time for Vasa families to sign up for Bible Camp. There are significant discounts in tuition costs if families/children/youth sign up before January 14th as *Super Early Birds*. Discounts of 10% apply from January 15 through March 3. Tell your kids and grandkids about this opportunity. Flyers with more information will be available at Family Fun Night.

Annual Reports are due to Emily by Thursday, January 18th. The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 25th following 9:00 worship. Both worship and the annual meeting will be held in the LC gym that morning.



Volunteer help needed: Vasa will need one or two people for the Property team, one or two people for the Parish Life team, and one or two people to assist in what are sometimes called "altar guild" duties. If the Spirit is moving you to become more deeply involved at Vasa please contact Pastor Maureen.