# Vasa Lutheran Church

Jesus and the Gerasene Demoníac

Pastor Maureen Hagen Accompanist – Anne Anderson

# Sunday, January 21, 2024

# ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Psalm 89:1-4

L: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;

C: with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

L: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

C: your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

L: You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,

C: I have sworn to my servant David:

'I will establish your descendants forever,

## and build your throne for all generations.'"

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

# **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

ELW 358

We will sing verses 1-3, and 5.

**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.

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#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



# **PRAYER OF THE DAY:** Jesus, healer of mind and body, we sometimes suffer at the hands of physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Quiet our minds, still our hearts, and empower our bodies so that we may be whole and healed. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 5:1-20 They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. 2 And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. 3 He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; 4 for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. 6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; 7 and he shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." 8 For he had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" 9 Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." 10 He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. 11 Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; 12 and the unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." 13 So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

14 The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. 16 Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. 17 Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. 18 As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you." 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

L: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.** 

HYMN	GOD, WHOSE ALMIGHTY WORD	ELW 673
SERMON		
HYMN OF THE DAY	PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS	ELW 843

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.

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

## **GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS**

ELW 733

#### 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: Jan 14 Participating in Worship: 43 +22 live-streams Total Offerings: \$3,210.00



# 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.



Irene Carpenter, Paul Mikaelsen, Jay Mikaelsen, Scott Sorenson, Max Tilderquist, Anne Rathman, Wendy Anderson, Geri Lindholm, Kevin Eckblad, Bob Sammelson Norlene Josephson, and Dale Anderson.

# Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Marv Fredrickson Reader: Melanie Carlson Comm. Asst: Barry Skog Hospitality: Mo Hauck

# Worship Assistants Next Week (January 28)

**Usher**: Duane Hanson **Reader:** Mo Hauck **Hospitality:** Mo Hauck

#### MUSIC FOR JANUARY 21, 2024

#### **GREAT GOD, YOUR LOVE HAS CALLED US**

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permission.

Music C Oxford University Press

#### GOD WHOSE ALMIGHTY WORD

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.

Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

#### PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS

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#### **GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS**

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VASA SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN 01-14-2024