

Candlemas Sunday: A Service of Holy Communion

Leader's Guide

GATHERING

***Weekly Announcements** (begin at 10:10 a)

***Prelude** (begins at 10:15a)

Welcome Pastor Dustin (begins at 10:20a)

Confession & Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

A. Amen.

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A. Amen.

P. Before we confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another, let us take a brief pause for personal reflection.

Brief pause – scenic video during silent individual reflection.

VIDEO

P. Most merciful God,

A. we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

A. Amen.

Gathering Hymn – *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing*

VIDEO

Welcome

P. The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A. And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P. Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A. Amen.

P. We shall continue with our first reading.

WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 40:21-31

VIDEO

L. Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Musical Meditation

VIDEO music with overlay video

Gospel Reading - Mark 1:29-39

P. The Gospel according to Saint Mark.

A. Glory to you, O Lord.

P. As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-

in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P. This, my siblings in Christ, is the Gospel of our Lord.

A. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Dustin Wright

Hymn of the Day – *Be Still, My Soul*

VIDEO

Prayers of Intercession

P. We ask that you lift up your prayers in the comments section of Facebook Live (or in your hearts) at this time.

P. Hear us, O God

A. Your mercy is great.

Intro to Response to God's Call: Micah 6:8

P. As we have lifted up prayers for our community and world, we are reminded that we are called to go and bring the witness of God's love to the world. Will you join us in our sung response as we consider the words of the prophet Micah - what does the Lord require of you?

Response to God's Call: Micah 6:8

Peace

P. And may the peace of Christ be with you always.

A. And also with you.

P. Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

MEAL

Contact Us and Offering***

TWO SLIDES

- P. We know that some are joining us here at Messiah for the first time. If you'd like to learn more about our ministries and activities, or for any one with questions about Messiah, please contact us by email or by phone. At this time, if you'd like to make an online gift using tithe.ly or via mail to Messiah, feel free to do so.

Offering interlude music and slide

VIDEO

Offering Prayer

- P. O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. **Amen.**

The Meaning of the Sacrament

VIDEO

Beloved in the Lord Jesus Christ,
the holy Supper which we are about to celebrate
is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope.
We come in remembrance
that our Lord Jesus Christ was sent of the Father into the world
to assume our flesh and blood
and to fulfill for us all obedience to the divine law,
even to the bitter and shameful death of the cross.
By his death, resurrection, and ascension
he established a new and eternal covenant of grace and reconciliation
that we might be accepted of God and never be forsaken by him.
We come to have communion with this same Christ
who has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the world.
In the breaking of the bread he makes himself known to us
as the true heavenly Bread that strengthens us unto life eternal.
In the cup of blessing he comes to us as the Vine
in whom we must abide if we are to bear fruit.
We come in hope,
believing that this bread and this cup
are a pledge and foretaste of the feast of love
of which we shall partake when his kingdom has fully come,

when with unveiled face we shall behold him,
made like unto him in his glory.
Since by his death, resurrection, and ascension
Christ has obtained for us the life-giving Spirit
who unites us all in one body,
so are we to receive this Supper in true love,
mindful of the communion of saints.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

VIDEO

Lord's Prayer

P. God remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

VIDEO

Eucharistic Prayer

VIDEO

P. On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus was gathered with his disciples around a table. And while he was with them took bread, and gave the Father thanks for it and he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. As often as you eat of it do so in remembrance of me.
And in the same manner after they had eaten he took the cup, and poured it out for them saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, as often as you drink of it do so in remembrance of me.

Invitation to Communion

VIDEO

Friends this not my table, this is not Messiah Lutheran Church's table, this is not the ELCA's table, this is CHRIST'S table. It does not belong to any one of us but to Christ who welcomes all to partake, here at this feast.

Friends the bread which we break is our communion with the body of Christ and the cup of blessing which we bless is our communion with the blood of Christ. Come for all things are now ready!

Distribution of the Sacrament

VIDEO

At this time, all may share Holy Communion amongst their families.

Post Communion Blessing

VIDEO

- P. Friends as we have been fed at this table, let us give thanks to God for this meal:
- A. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name! Amen!**

Prayer After Communion

- P. Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. **Amen.**

Blessing

- P. God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace.

Sending Hymn – *I Love to Tell the Story*

VIDEO

Benediction

Postlude

VIDEO