

Central Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany February 16, 2025

The Rev. Veronika Czutor, Pastor Dr. Joe Henry, Music Director Rachel Brown, Administrative Assistant

Central Lutheran Church, ELCA

1000 Easton Rd., Dallas, Texas

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.

Please turn off your cell phone.

This service is being livestreamed to our neighbors near and far on Facebook.

Most of the sanctuary- including all leaders and worshippers- is on camera.

BELL PEAL (10:30 am)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Aria from Water Music

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

C you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act

with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways.

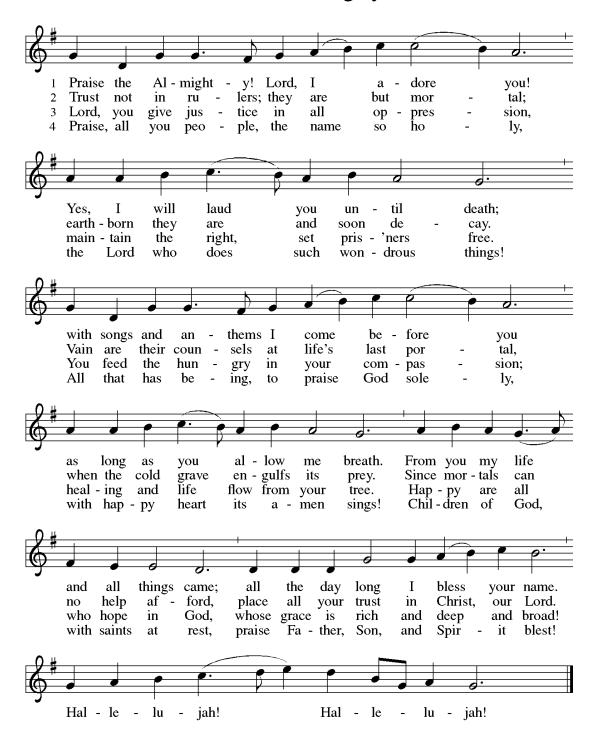
Amen.

P God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C Amen.

The assembly stands.

Praise the Almighty!



GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

GLORY TO GOD Pg. 148



FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 17:5-10

⁵Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. ⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? ¹⁰I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 1

Sung responsively.



- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!
 - ²Their delight is in the law | of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night.
- ³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do not wither;

everything they | do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so | with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.

- ⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.
- ⁶ For the Lord knows the way | of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then

our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter.



READING OF THE GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Veronika

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 725



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.

THE PRAYERS

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation

Please sit or kneel for prayer.

The response to each spoken petition is:

P God of grace, C Receive our prayer.

People with prayer needs: **Lydia** Landfair, **Norma** Ruth Myrick, **Brenda** Burden, **Charlene** Zimmermann, and **Paul** Chambers.

The prayers conclude:

P ...We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with one another in Christ Jesus. Please offer a symbol of reconciliation to one another.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. C And also with you.

THE OFFERING

We give thanks for what God has first given us. Our ministry to the people of East Dallas is supported by your offering. An offering plate is available in the narthex after worship. You may also use our online giving through Vanco, PayPal, or Givelify (available in the App Store) or continue to mail your offerings to our office.

MUSICAL OFFERING: Blest Are They

Blest are they. The poor in spirit; Theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blest are they, full of sorrow; They shall be consoled

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones; They shall inherit the earth.

Blest are they who hunger and thirst; They shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy; Mercy shall be theirs.

Blest are they, the pure of heart; They shall see God.

Blest are they who seek peace; They are the children of God.

Best are they who suffer in faith, the glory of God is theirs.

Blest are you who suffer hate, All because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, your is the kingdom, shine for all to see.

OFFERING PRAYER

P God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

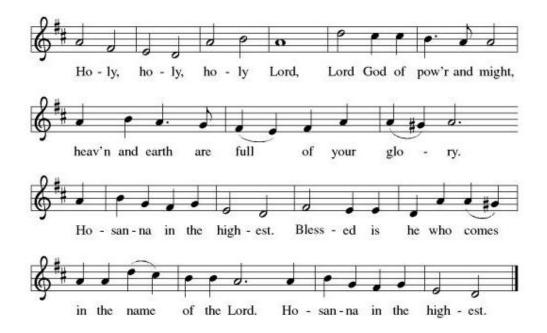
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Holy One... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **C 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness. **C Thanks be to God.**

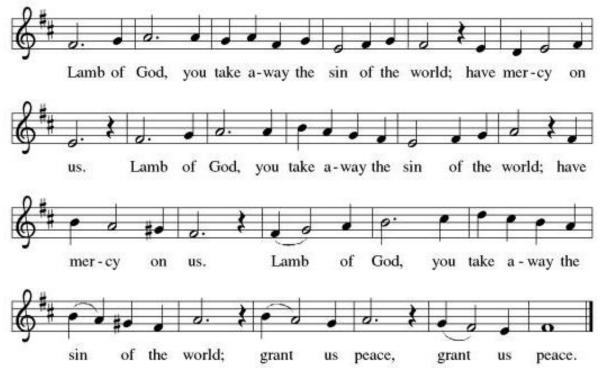
COMMUNION

As you come forward for Holy Communion, please sanitize your hands. Communion will be distributed at the altar rail, where you may choose to kneel or stand. The bread will be placed in your hand, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request—please inform the ministers if needed. The Communion cups contain red wine and white grape juice. If you prefer to receive only the bread, let the ministers know. If you would like to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

Follow the guidance of the ushers if you decide to walk up to the Altar to receive the Sacraments.



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

MUSICAL MEDITATION: Minuet from Water Music

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Nourishing God,

C at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

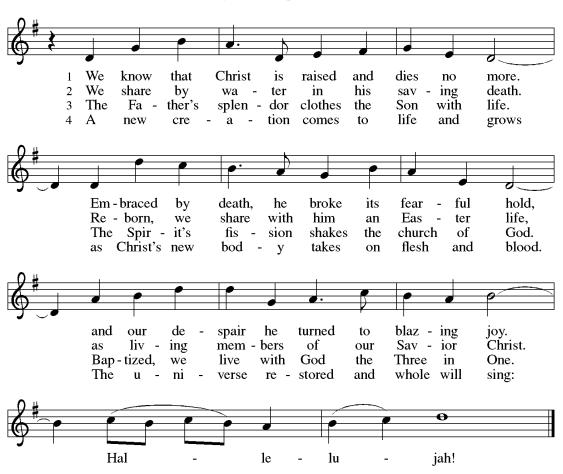
BLESSING

P The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 449

We Know That Christ Is Raised



DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live in hope.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Coro from Water Music

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Prelude: Aria from Water Music

Music: Georg Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Gathering Hymn: Praise the Almighty!

Text: Johann D. Herrnschmidt (1675-1723); tr. Hymnal version

Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, O MEIN SEELE, Neuvermehrtes Christlich Seelenharpft, Ansbach (1665)

Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Hymn of the Day: When the Poor Ones

Text: José Antonio Olivar (b. 1939); tr. Martin A. Seltz (b. 1951)

Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano (b. 1934)

Text and Music © 1971, 1998 J. A. Olivar, Miguel Manzano, and San Pablo Internacional- SSP, admin, OCP Publications

Musical Offering: *Blest Are They* Text & Music: David Haas (b. 1957)

Musical Meditation: *Minuet from Water Music* Music: Georg Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Sending Hymn: We Know that Christ is Raised

Text: John B. Geyer, (b.1932)

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford (182-1924)

Text © John B. Geyer

Postlude: Coro from Water Music

Music: Georg Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Central Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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www.CentralLutheran.org

www.facebook.com/Central LutheranDallas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors, we are glad to have you with us and invite you to come again!

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 10 am - 2 pm

You may make an appointment with Pastor Veronika by calling the church office.

Serving in Worship today: Ushers & Lectors: Scout Troop 861

Celebrate our new Music Director: Today, after worship we will welcome and celebrate our new music director, Dr. Joe Henry. Stay after worship to learn about Joe, his background, what inspires him about church music, and how you can get involved with music ministry here at Central. Scout Troop 861 will be serving a spaghetti lunch.

Scout Sunday: Boy Scouts of America (BSA), now Scouting America, is celebrating 115 years this year! Nationwide, every February, scouts and congregations celebrate "Scout Sunday" as part of a birthday celebration for scouting and as a practice for scouts to express their appreciation for our support to them. We welcome our scouts and families today and look forward to continued opportunities together.

NT-NL Synod Assembly Registration is Open: A Synod is a group of ELCA churches in a specified region (in our case, Northern Texas/ Northern Louisiana). The Synod Assembly happens once a year in April. During the assembly, attendees discuss how our Synod-wide ministries are faring, and how we can grow in the coming year. It's also a chance to network with others in our Synod. It's a spiritually nourishing experience that connects us with the wider ELCA church. The NT-NL Synod Assembly will be in **Lubbock, TX on April 25-26.** Registration for the Synod assembly is open now. For more information visit: www.ntnl.org/event/2025-nt-nl-synod-assembly/

Ash Wednesday is on March 5: Join us as we begin our Lenten journey. "Ashes to Go" will be available in the morning at Ascension Coffee on Garland Rd. We will gather for an Imposition of Ashes service in the evening at 6:00 in our sanctuary. Ash Wednesday reminds us of our mortality and need for repentance. For the following five weeks, we will walk through Lent together—a season of reflection, renewal, and drawing closer to God. Join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm for Midweek Services and a Soup Supper as we journey in faith.

Open this QR code (or go to linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch) to connect with us, join our mailing list, or make your offering online.

Friend of Janis Farrow

Our Prayer List: Please submit your prayer requests to the church office via email (central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) or via phone (214-327-2222).

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

For healing Relationship Archie and Rebecca Huizenga Friends of Janis Farrow Linda Gourley Sister of Julie Atkins Robin Friedrich Friend of Mary Glenn Brother of Ruth Chambers Jover Veraguas Norma Ruth Myrick Mother of Alesia Pearson Gail Oehler Friend of Beth Garcia Sylvia Chadwick Mother of Mary Glenn Daughter of Irene Hallmon Elizabeth Cardenas Sister of Harold Knight Bonnie Knight Sato Brenda Burden Friend of Jean Staffeld Charlene Zimmermann Aunt of Jan Moody

Church Members

Elizabeth Brownsted

Don Smith Yuvonne Muirhead Mario Montejo Lydia Landfair Kris McDowell Mary Swenson Nancy Nulisch Judy Christiansen Carol Paschetag Suzanne Schwenn

Paul Chambers