



**CROWN OF LIFE** | LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

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*A Service of Worship and Praise*

**-We Gather as God's People to Worship Him-**

**OPENING HYMN**

**African-American Heritage Hymnal 342**

*We Gather Together*

*PLEASE STAND*

**Minister says:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation says:** And also with you.

**-Introduction to Worship-**

**M:** God, our Father, each day is a gift of your grace.

**C:** Your mercies are new every morning.

**M:** Guide our steps by the light of your word.

**C:** Shield us from harm and keep us from evil.

**M:** Better than life is your love.

**C:** Put joy in our hearts and praise on our lips. Alleluia!

**-We Prepare Our Hearts-**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C:** Merciful Father in heaven, I know that I have been sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Forgive my sins and change my life.

**We sing:**

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Thou art the Potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after Thy will,

While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!  
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always living in me!

**M:** Jesus says to His people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

**C:** Yes, I believe.

**M:** Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, it is my privilege to declare to you that your sins are forgiven. You are a dear child of God. Let's praise His name.

**We sing:**

*No Other Name But the Name of Jesus*

*Chorus:* No other name, but the name of Jesus  
No other name, but the name of the Lord  
No other name but the name of Jesus  
Is worthy of glory, And worthy of honor  
And worthy of power and all praise!

His name is exalted far above the earth;  
His name is high above the heavens.  
His name is exalted far above the earth;  
Give glory and honor and praise unto His name.

*Chorus*

**-We Pray Together-**

**M:** I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?

**C:** My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

**M:** He will not let your foot slip – He who watches over you will not slumber

**C:** My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

**M:** The LORD will keep you from all harm – He will watch over your life.

**C:** The LORD will watch over my coming and going, both now and forevermore.

AMEN.

*BE SEATED*

**-We Listen to God's Word-**

**FIRST LESSON**

*Isaiah 61:1-6*

**61** The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives  
and release from darkness for the prisoners,  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor  
and the day of vengeance of our God,  
to comfort all who mourn,  
<sup>3</sup> and provide for those who grieve in Zion—  
to bestow on them a crown of beauty  
instead of ashes,  
the oil of joy  
instead of mourning,  
and a garment of praise  
instead of a spirit of despair.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
a planting of the LORD  
for the display of his splendor.  
  
<sup>4</sup> They will rebuild the ancient ruins  
and restore the places long devastated;  
they will renew the ruined cities  
that have been devastated for generations.  
<sup>5</sup> Strangers will shepherd your flocks;  
foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.  
<sup>6</sup> And you will be called priests of the LORD,  
you will be named ministers of our God.  
You will feed on the wealth of nations,  
and in their riches you will boast.

**We Sing:**

*Thy Word*

*Refrain:* Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid and I think I've lost my way  
Still, You're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near  
Please be with me to the end.

*Refrain*

I will not forget Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide and hold me to Your side  
I will love You to the end.

*Refrain*

**SECOND LESSON**

*Acts 4:23-31*

<sup>23</sup> On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup> When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. <sup>25</sup> You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

"Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?

<sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth rise up  
and the rulers band together  
against the Lord  
and against his anointed one.'

<sup>27</sup> Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. <sup>28</sup> They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. <sup>29</sup> Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. <sup>30</sup> Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

<sup>31</sup> After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

*PLEASE STAND*

**GOSPEL LESSON**

*Luke 4:16-30*

<sup>16</sup> He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup> Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. <sup>21</sup> He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

<sup>22</sup> All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

<sup>24</sup> "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. <sup>25</sup> I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. <sup>26</sup> Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. <sup>27</sup> And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

<sup>28</sup> All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

*BE SEATED*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Christian Worship 85**  
*O God from God, O Light from Light*

### **SERMON**

**Jesus: God-Man on a Mission**  
*Luke 4:16-30*

*PLEASE STAND*

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him, all things were made. For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. AMEN

*BE SEATED*

**OFFERING**

*Instrumental*

**PRAYERS**

*The Lord's Prayer*

**BENEDICTION**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C:** AMEN

**OPENING HYMN**

**African-American Heritage Hymnal 219**

*Brightest and Best*

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| <b>Serving at CofL:</b> | <b>Today</b>      | <b>Next Sunday</b> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Music                   | Katherine, Elijah | Karis, Elijah      |
| Ushers                  | Perry, Bob        | Lee, Mike          |
| Reader                  |                   |                    |
| Altar                   |                   |                    |
| Streaming               | Noah              | Noah               |
| Refreshments            |                   |                    |
| Cleaning                |                   |                    |
| Mowing                  |                   |                    |

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Wednesday | 7:00 PM Online Bible Class                           |
| Thursday  | 10:30 AM Bible Class at Timeless Grace, Carriere, MS |
| Thursday  | 12:00 PM Confirmation Class, Picayune, MS            |
| Sunday    | 10:00 AM Bible Class, Sunday School                  |
| Sunday    | 11:00 AM Worship                                     |
| Today     | Council Meeting                                      |
| Feb 9     | 2024 Q4 Congregational Meeting                       |

| <b>OFFERING</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>Budget</b> | <b>%Budget Met</b> |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Last Week       | \$2,349.00   | \$2,548.40    | 92.2%              |
| January         | \$7,286.02   | \$11,043.08   | 66.0%              |
| Qtr-to-Date     | \$7,286.02   | \$33,129.25   | 22.0%              |
| Year-to-Date    | \$7,286.02   | \$132,517.00  | 5.5%               |



*"...give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."  
II Corinthians 9:7*

