

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

Pastor Dawn Busch

Serving the congregations of Medora, Belfield, Daglum

Musical Accompanists

Tami Elefson – Medora Jean Franklin – Belfield

A warm welcome to all visitors and friends.

We hope you are blessed by worshipping with us today.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Announcements

**Stand*

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross.

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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.

Amen.

Hymn #425 – O God of Mercy, God of Light



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
 2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
 world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
 those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
 Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
 stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
 word and thought may work a work for you.
 grace pro - vide to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
 each other's burdens help us share;
 may we, where help is needed, there
 give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
 all those who live to live in love,
 till you receive in heav'n above
 those who have lived to you.

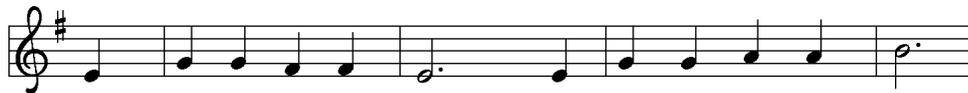
Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
 Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Canticle Of Praise

3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer Of The Day

Let us pray.

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

**Congregation is seated*

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading - Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon

a neighbor.

4In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

5They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

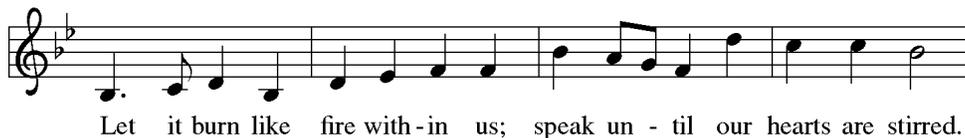
18The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19**For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." **20**Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? **21**For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. **22**For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, **23**but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, **24**but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25**For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. **26**Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. **27**But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; **28**God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, **29**so that no one might boast in the presence of God. **30**He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, **31**in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Stand*

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel - Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to _____.

Glory to you, O Lord.

1When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2**Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- 4" Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
 5" Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
 6" Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
 7" Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
 8" Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
 9" Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
 10" Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 11" Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Congregation is seated*

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn #316 - Jesus the Very Thought of You



- 1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
- 2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
- 3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
- 4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
 a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
 how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
 grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878
 Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

**Stand*

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you

**Congregation is seated*

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offering Song #732 - Create in Me - WOV

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un-to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12
Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us into this gathering space. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Prayer Response: God of Glory.

Hear our prayer.

Remembering those in our prayers: Family of Audrey Kuntz, Schuhrke family, Kwirt Johnson, Pastor Beth Parks, Maurice Obrigewitch, Craig McLaughlin, Doris Urban, Brad Johnson, Randy Mosser, Al Urban, Dave Kuntz, Bishop Craig Schweitzer, JoAnne Suomala, Philip Malkowski, Steven Cowan, Denise Cowan, Dale Oyhus, Mary Knotts, Bryce Wigert, Norma Newton, Lanie Nichols, Margaret Braun, Johnny Syminow, Mark Hinrichs, Nicole Koegl, Lincoln Lee Johnson, Duane Davis, Carmen Ruud, Becky Yadon, Carol Johnson, Monica Hushka, Mark Trechock, Janeen Nichols, Marilyn Oyhus, Mindy O'Brien, Chandler Nichols, Bennette Mansfield, those who have lost their jobs, those with mental illness, those seeking Sobriety, those struggling with infertility, all troops and their families & those working for peace in our world. Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**Stand*

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Congregation is seated*

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Hymn #763 - Let Justice Flow like Streams - WOV



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

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Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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** Thank You to Paulette Dorval and Sherri O'Brien for helping lead worship in Belfield this morning. Your help is greatly appreciated.

** The Belfield WELCA Annual Meeting will be held on February 11, 2023 at 11:00 am at Belfield Lutheran. Lunch will follow the meeting.

** Our Parish will be hosting a blood drive on February 27 from 2:00pm-6:00pm at Belfield Lutheran Church. Contact Sara Bock for more info! Sign up at vitalant.org or call the church office at 701-575-4703.

** Coats For Kids - If you know of a kid in need of a winter coat, please contact Carmen Waldo at 701-590-3934. The only information needed is the size and whether it's for a boy or girl. The coats will be provided (free of charge) back to the requestor.

** The Belfield Lutheran Cemetery is looking for a Sexton/Sexton apprentice, to work alongside Wes Schuhrke. Take care of the cemetery and help families when they are in need of a plot. If you are interested in learning this very important job, please contact Cory Smith at 701-590-4662.

**St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church will be selling pyrohy for Lent! Price: \$15 per 2 dozen bag - Sauerkraut - Potato - Cheese. Place your order by February 3rd by calling or texting Stephanie at 701-590-0105. Pickup will be Saturday, February 18th from 9:30 am - 11:00 am (special arrangements can be made if needed).

Announcements - Please send any announcements by Wednesday evening to Tami Elefson: call or text 701-290-4107 or email: belfieldlutheran@gmail.com or medoralutheranchurch@gmail.com



Be counted as a Giving Heart on

GIVING HEARTS DAY

24-hour online fundraising event

To make a secure online donation to one or more of the charities go to:

givingheartsday.org



Support these SW North Dakota charities:

- Assumption Abbey, Richardton, ND
- Badlands Ministries, Medora, ND
- Benedictine Living Community, Dickinson, ND
- Best Friends Mentoring Program, Dickinson, ND
- Camp ReCreation, Inc., Richardton, ND
- Chasing Horses Wild Horse Advocates, Dickinson, ND
- Dickinson Public Library Foundation, Dickinson, ND
- Home On The Range, Sentinel Butte, ND
- Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center, Elgin, ND
- Sunrise Foundation, Bowman, ND
- USpire ND - Healthy Families, North Dakota
- West River Health Services Foundation, Hettinger, ND

Checks are also accepted!

Checks must be dated and received by the charity on or before **Thursday, February 9, 2023!**
Your donation goes directly to the charity of your choice!

Your gift could improve life for so many in our region!

Today

- 8:30 am – Medora Lutheran Worship
- 9:00 am – Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church
- 9:00 am – Choir Practice at Belfield Lutheran Church
- 9:30 am – Medora Lutheran Annual Meeting
- 10:00 am – Belfield Lutheran Worship
- 6:00 pm – Bible Study at Dwelle’s home – please RSVP

Tuesday, January 31

- 3:30 pm – Pastor’s Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran or on Zoom
- 8:00 pm - AA Meeting at Belfield Lutheran Church

Wednesday, February 1

- 5:30 pm – Confirmation at Belfield Lutheran Church

Thursday, February 2

- 7:00 am – Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

Friday, February 3

- 8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church

Sunday, February 5

- 8:30 am – Medora Lutheran Worship
- 9:00 am – Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church
- 9:00 am – Choir Practice at Belfield Lutheran Church
- 10:00 am – Belfield Lutheran Worship
- 11:45 am – Daglum Lutheran Worship
- 6:00 pm – Bible Study at Dwelle’s home – please RSVP

Belfield, Daglum & Medora Lutheran Churches

Pastor Dawn Busch

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