

† THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY †
January 23, 2022

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
--

PRELUDE

Fanfare and Air

Raymond Haan

INVOCATION and CONFESSION (*Congregation rising*)

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

LSB Hymn 901

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Lord God Almighty, You bless Your servants with various and unique gifts of the Holy Spirit. Grant us the grace to use them always to Your honor and glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the

assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law... ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground... ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers?

Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues?
Do all interpret? ³¹But strive for the greater gifts.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

♫ **ALLELUIA VERSE** (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Page 156)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(9:00) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Church of God, Elect and Glorious

LSB **Hymn 646**

SERMON

"A Time to Serve"

Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

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

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Make Me a Servant

Laura Bergquist

OFFERING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Hymn 783, v. 1 & 6)

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our human nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♪ **SANCTUS**

(LSB Page 161)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

(LSB Page 163)

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

LSB Hymn 848

Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

(Worshipers are invited to come forward to receive the pre-packaged Communion kit, then return to your seat to eat and drink. Children and those not partaking of communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing. If you need assistance, please alert the pastor or usher.)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P O God the Father, fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

LSB Hymn 803

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Hymn to Joy"

Douglas Wagner

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Service:

	9:00	10:45
Lector	Katie Vogt	Dwayne Gitter
Usher Team	Richard Graham, Mary Martin	Ralph Schoene, Terry Vidal
Sexton	Sofia Renzo	

Refreshments "Grab and Go" snacks on the Great Porch

Health & Safety Precautions: Thank you for helping us care for each other.

- If you are feeling unwell or have been exposed to or tested positive for Covid-19, please join us virtually (VLC-NY.org, YouTube, Facebook)
- If you are eligible, get vaccinated (or get a booster)
- Feel free to move if you are uncomfortable with the proximity of a fellow worshipper
- All worshippers 2 years old and older, must wear a properly fitting mask

News and Notes:

Special thanks to Marcia Kollmann for filling in as organist this weekend, as Deb Reiss needed to go upstate for her cousin's funeral.

Congratulations to our newly appointed Trustee, Kharis Lena, who is filling a vacant term (2023). God bless our Trustee Board.

Prayer Conference Call: As the pandemic continues to affect all of us, we invite you to join in prayer by telephone for the needs of the community on the last Tuesday of the month. The next date will be **Tuesday, January 25, at 6:00 p.m.** To access, dial (1) 732-434-3982.

PTO Food Drive: This week is a targeted opportunity to bring in canned or boxed dry goods to help keep food pantries well stocked. Please drop off donations at the Reception Desk or by the School Entrance **January 24-28**.

Superbowl Chili-to-Go: What's the best thing about the Super Bowl? The snacks! Enjoy this year's big game with homemade chili and cornbread. Each order helps our kids go to this summer's Youth Gathering in Houston AND is guaranteed to be delicious. \$10 per order. Please specify regular or veggie. **Pick-up at church before noon on February 13.**

SOUP KITCHEN - Aluminum trays are available at the Reception Desk. Volunteers prepare food in the trays and drop off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. The next date is **Wednesday, February 16**. Please sign up in advance to confirm your contribution. For more information, contact Nelly Palumbo at NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org or 347-538-2909.

Women's Bible Study/LWML - The next meeting is **Saturday, February 19**, at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Wendy at 914-391-9356 or Terry Vidal (terry.n.vidal@gmail.com).

Urgent Need for Blood Donors: VLC & TCS will be scheduling a blood drive in April, but the NY blood supply is now at a critical level. If you are willing and able to donate please call the New York Blood Center at 1.800.933.2566 or visit <https://donate.nybc.org/> to make an appointment at a location of your choice.

Music Ministry: Please note our re-scheduled rehearsal dates:

- **Village Belles** - Rehearse Wednesday, February 2, at 6:30 p.m.
- **Youth Choir** - Rehearse Thursday, January 27, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Chancel Choir** - Rehearse Thursday, January 27, at 7:30 p.m.
- **High School Choir** - Rehearse Sunday, January 23, at 10:15 a.m.

Please watch for continuing updates. For more information, contact Deb Reiss at DReiss@VLC-NY.org or George Heath at GHeath@VLC-NY.org.

Wednesday Bible Study - We have extended our winter break and will plan to resume on February 2. The new topic will be Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) will meet on Thursday, Jan. 27, at 6:00 p.m. **Donuts & Discussion** (High School) will meet on Sunday, Jan. 23 and 30. For more information, contact Erika Schultz at tyandbash@aol.com; Sarah Nunes (Confirmation instructor) at SNunes@VLC-NY.ORG; or Amy Heath (High School Youth) at amyheath1023@gmail.com

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Victor Brown, Flora Calvano, Daniel Chao, Kevin Cook, Gail Epstein, Deacon Faith Forliano, Ben Hartwell, Suzanne Heinrich, John Hiddleston, Keith Hough, Deacon Joe Lamoureux, Eugene Lunog, Janet Lunog, Morena Rodriguez, Willi Rosendahl, Doug Salisbury, Ben Tashoff, Deb & Emma Tashoff, Irmgard Schoene, Ragnar Sjonvall

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Elizabeth McCooey Fisher**, friend of Carolyn & Pedro Fiuza, who passed away on January 11, 2022
- † **Judy Ressmeyer Hinsch**, mother of former TCS teacher Jessica Hinsch Raba, who passed away on January 8, 2022
- † **Roberto Serrano**, uncle of Nelly Palumbo, who passed away on January 6, 2022



A Time to Serve

A Celebration and Exploration of The Clarity Plan

Acts 6:1-7

¹ Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. ² And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, ⁴ while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word.” ⁵ What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

**Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708
914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG**