

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



10:00

January 31, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church Camas,
Washington

Ministers: the entire congregation

Susan Dollinger, Associate Pastor

Pam Ensley, Youth Minister

Karen Rezabek, Praise Team

Patricia Hagensen, Administrative

Assistant

Church office 834-4201; email info@zionluthcamas.org

Hours: Mon 8-12:00, Tues-Fri 8-5:00

“As a welcoming Body of Christ, we celebrate and share God’s saving grace for all.”

Prelude

Patrick Murphy

INTRODUCTION

Today’s service is a Prayer for healing of our country. Through the struggles of COVID 19, racial inequality, and political disagreement, our nation has been challenged in so many ways this past year. We pray that God brings healing to our nation, and that as Christians we may lead the way to unity in our community with faith, love, and hope. Wishing you peace and healing through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Welcome – Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

So often, God of wholeness, we are a torn people.

We confess we set ourselves apart based on differences – perceived and real, judgments, and opinions. Instead of turning towards Christ, we strive instead for independence, and unique individuality. We do not recognize our common longing for peace, for healing, and for deeper meaning within life. In our failures, Christ, you come to us in reassuring love. The power of your Spirit blesses our lives with hope, and feeds us in joy. In the unity of your Spirit, we draw together to sing and pray as your own dear children. Refresh us now as we open who we are, to welcome who we may yet become. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who are in need, and through his death and

resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in faith to do God’s work in the world. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Loving God, as we worship you today let not our hearts be as hard as stone, but make us soft and pliable as clay. Let not our minds be armored as a fortress but make us as open as an archway. Let us not cling to preconceived assumptions, but relax our hands to let go of all to which we grasp. Set us free to hold whatever you might send us. May we not be like rocks, unaffected amid the current, unconnected to its source. Instead, may we flow with your Spirit as a fallen leaf floats lightly on the surface of a stream. **Amen.**

Opening Song

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

Number 612

Refrain

Healer of our ev’ry ill, light of each tomorrow, give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

- 1 You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain*
- 2 In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding, give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain*
- 3 Give us strength to love each other, ev’ry sister, ev’ry brother; Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain*
- 4 You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing; Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain*

First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Arise, 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. “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of bondage; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Be’or 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? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my first-born for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”⁸ He has showed you, O man, 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?

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

Second Reading Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ² a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; ³ a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; ⁴ a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ⁵ a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶ a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ⁸ a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. ⁹ What gain has the worker from his toil? ¹⁰ I have seen the business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with. ¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time; also he has put eternity into man’s mind, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹² I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; ¹³ also that it is God’s gift to man that every one should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil. ¹⁴ I know that whatever God does endures for ever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has made it so, in order that men should fear before him. ¹⁵ That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already has been; and God seeks what has been driven away.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Gospel Reading

John 14:25-27

“These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: ***Praise to you, O Christ!***

Message

Leslee Froehlich

Song of the Day *“For the Healing of the Nation”*

Prayer and Meditation/Candle Lighting

Prayers of Intercession

With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, we pray for our community, our nation and our world - for all those in need of healing.

A brief silence

Gracious God we pray for the healing of our world – from the blight of this global pandemic to the ways we fail to care for your creation. We ask for wisdom and integrity in our leaders throughout the world, that they might care for the people and your creation: Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our nation, that you might guide us Lord with love, and mercy, and justice. Help to resolve long standing racial injustices that dwell within our society. Help us find healing from political and other divisions that keep us from being the unified Body of Christ: Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our congregation and our community, that we might overcome the physical, emotional and economic plagues caused by this virus. Bring us healing, bring us access to vaccinations, bring us financial support for those who are struggling. Most importantly bring us your peace for all who are grieving loss, those we speak aloud or silently: Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who sacrifice to care for the sick with dedication and compassion, and for all those who labor to keep our lives supported during this pandemic time. Thank you for the healing and nurturing they provide. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful God, please hear the prayers of your people, and send us the peace of your Advocate. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

Number 751

1. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and listen to me.
2. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

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.

Peace

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.

Benediction

Go forth now to be the people of love, peace, justice, and hope that God created you to be. May God Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer guide and support you in all that you do, and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending: *“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”*

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope, where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness ever joy.

O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Our thanks to this morning's musicians: Brooke Danielson, Doug Danielson, Patrick Murphy

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“Healer of Our Every Ill”

Text and music: Marty Haugen; @1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

“For the Healing of Our Nation”

Original text: Susan Briehl @2009 Augsburg Fortress; adapt. Doug Peterson @2020; Music: John D. Becker @1987. *Singing Our Prayer: A Companion to Holden Evening Prayer Around the Cross* @2010 Augsburg Fortress

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Text: Psalm 102:1-2; Taizé Community, adapt.

Music: Jacques Berthier

Text and music @1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA
Publications, Inc.

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Text: Sebastian Temple; Music: Jane Holstein

@1967 and this arrangement@1998 OCP Publications