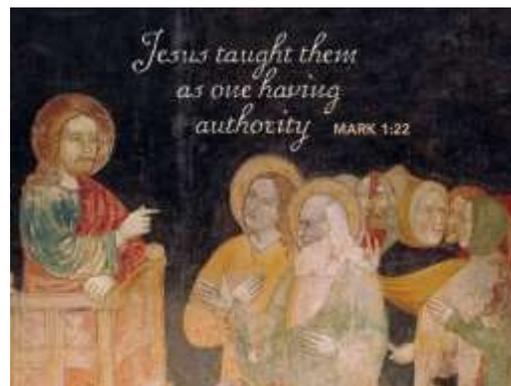


Fourth Sunday after Epiphany January 31, 2021

Kviteseid and Big Bend Lutheran Churches

Pastor Kristine Isder



ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... We are delighted you've joined us. May God's word today strengthen your faith, inspire curiosity and learning, and motivate your service of others.

INTRODUCTION

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please read the words to the hymns silently.

Please read aloud the **bold texts**.

Please read the italicized texts silently in your heart as your own words.

OPENING HYMN

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

(vs. 1 & 2)

ELW #886

**CALL TO WORSHIP

P Come! Let us give thanks to the Lord with whole hearts.

Ps. 111

C *Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

P Glory be to the One whose wonders are to be remembered.

C *Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

P The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

C *Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

P The Lord feeds the righteous with truth.

C *Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*

P Come! Let us give thanks to God.

GREETING

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

2 Corinthians 13:13

C **And also with you.**

DIALOG

P In the beginning was the Word,
C *and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
P In the Word was life,
C *and the life was the light of all people.*
P The Word became flesh and lived among us,
C *and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.*

John 1

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray.
C *Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

LESSON: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

PSALM 111

L ¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
C ²*Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.*
L ³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.
C ⁴*You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.*
L ⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.
C ⁶*You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.*
L ⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.
C ⁸*They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.*
L ⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is
your name.
C ¹⁰*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding.
God's praise endures forever.*

LESSON: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C *Glory to you, O Lord.*

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C *Praise to you, O Christ.*

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”

ELW #510

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C *We believe in him and are marked with the seal
of the promised Holy Spirit.*

Ephesians 1:13-14

APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **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 Pilot,
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.**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C *pray in the Holy Spirit.*

Jude 20

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C *look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Jude 21

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C *Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!*

2 Corinthians 5:17

****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P The One who pardons, heals, and strengthens all who repent
calls us to name our failings and our hopes.

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

C *Holy and all-powerful God,
who commands all spirits, comforts those in distress,
and casts out destructive forces, we confess that we are unable to do your will.
We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown.
We admire those with courage
but excuse ourselves when we falter from the truth.
We forget that you are always with us, and that with you all things are possible.
Forgive us, lead us, make us new.
Remove our desire to heed false prophets, and show us your way;
in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

P The God who made you and knows your every thought
hears you now and forgives you all your sin.
You have been redeemed through Jesus Christ,
God's Son, our Savior, who is Alpha and Omega, all in all. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another,
agree with one another, live in peace.

2 Corinthians 13:11

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

****OFFERING PRAYER**

P For all you have given us, we give you thanks, O God. Let these gifts be used for good wherever
there is need, in the name of all that you have first given us, especially Christ Jesus, your Son, our
Savior.

C **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P let us pray.

C *Have mercy, O God.*

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells
among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

****CHARGE**

P Go out from this place to a world fully known by God.
Where there is fear, remember the authority of Christ Jesus.
Where there is need of love, give it. Where there is pain, bring peace.
For you are loved by the One who redeems, and freed to live by the Word of life.

BLESSING

P Go in peace with the knowledge that God's power is given to the church,
the body of Christ, for the sake of the life of the world.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“On Our Way Rejoicing”

ELW #537

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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