



The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 1, 2026 (Setting 3)

Therefore be bodily and outwardly poor or rich, as may be your lot, God does not ask about that; and he knows that every one must be before God, that is spiritually and in his heart, poor; that is, not to place his confidence, comfort and assurance in temporal possessions, nor fix his heart upon them and make mammon his idol....a heart that does not cling to property and riches; but, although it has, yet it is as though it had not, as St. Paul boasts of the Corinthians, 2 Corinthians 6:10: "As poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things."

The meaning of all that has been said is that one is to use all temporal good and bodily necessities, whilst he lives here, not otherwise than as a stranger in a strange place, where he spends the night and leaves in the morning. He needs no more than food and lodging, and dare not say: *"This is mine, here will I stay nor dare he take possession of the property as tho' of right it belonged to him; else he would soon hear the host say to him: Friend, do you not know that you are a stranger guest here? Go your way, where you belong."* Just so here; that you have worldly goods, that is the gift of God to you for this life, and he allows you indeed to make use of it and to fill with it the worm-bag that you wear about your neck; but not that you fix and hang your heart upon it as though you were to live forever; but you are to be always going farther and thinking about another higher and better treasure that is your own and is to endure forever.

-Martin Luther, Sermon on the Beatitudes

Welcome

We are thankful you have joined us today!

Hymn

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here | 592 (1,2)

Please be seated. Turn to page 268 in your hymnal for the rite of Holy Baptism.

The Service of Holy Baptism for
Jacob Lee Clipp
Born January 12, 2026

Parents Jonathan Edward & Kodi Lynn Clipp
Sponsor James Alan Clipp
Witnesses Hanna Clipp, Jordan Taylor

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. [Matt 28:19b; 18:20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord, [Hebrews 10:22] **who made heaven and earth.** [Psalm 124:8]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** [Psalm 32:5]

Quiet time for self-examination and confession.

O almighty God, merciful Father, **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

Kyrie

[Mark 10:47]

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria

[Luke 2:14; John 1:29]

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only - begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray... *[silence for individual prayer]* Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand Upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.*Please be seated*

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Micah.

Hear what the **LORD** says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the **LORD**, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the **LORD** has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me!

For 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.

O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,

and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the **LORD**.

“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?

Will 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?”

He has told 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? [Micah 6:1-8]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading is from First Corinthians.

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

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? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews



and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 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; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." [1 Cor. 1:18-31]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Holy Gospel singing:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

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

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

[Matt 5:1-12]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Please sit.

Children's Message

[Mark 10:14-16; Matt 19:14; Luke 18:16-17]

The children are invited forward for a message led by Pastor Fitch.

Hymn

Son of God, Eternal Savior | 842

Sermon

Gathering of the Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay
Please stand.

Offertory Hymn Dearest Jesus, We Are Here | **592 (4, 5)**

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord: **Lord have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert.

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]

