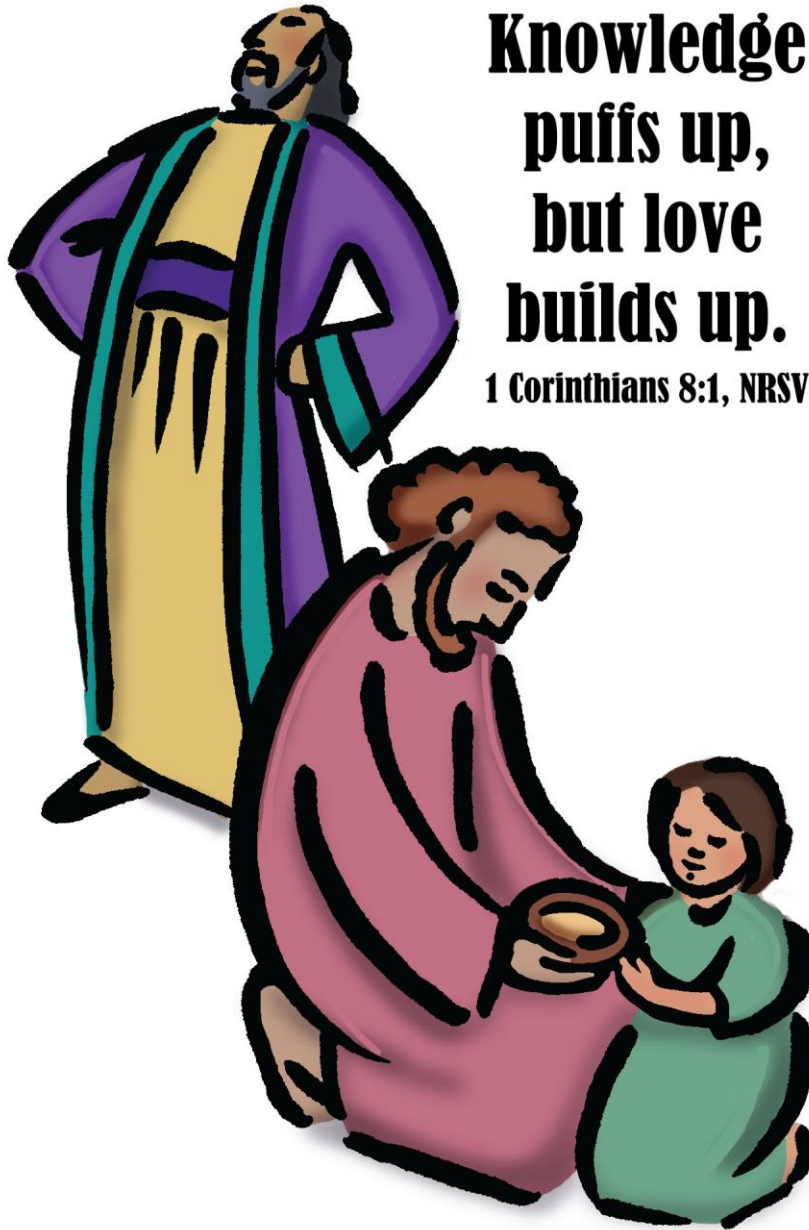


**Knowledge
puffs up,
but love
builds up.**

1 Corinthians 8:1, NRSV



ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 31, 2021 - 8:00 AM

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. In May of 2020, Resurrection Lutheran Church celebrated forty-two years of ministry. Celebrating our Savior's love continues today in the faithful gathering of God's people, whether we are together in God's house or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY

“Do you have the authority to do that?” We do not have that problem with Jesus. We never have to go to a higher authority. Jesus has the authority to help us in our greatest need: our need for salvation. God has raised up prophets we can trust, and the greatest of these prophets is Jesus. In the Gospel, we see that Jesus really does have authority and proves it by driving out a demon. God takes us places we haven't gone before, but we don't go alone. He has raised up a Prophet for us who is with us. Jesus has the authority; listen to Him!

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance – arr. W. Bay

Lecia Cecconi-Roberts, Clarinet

WELCOME

SONG

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship – B. Doerksen

Verse

**Come, now is the time to worship; come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are, to worship; come, just as you are before your God, come.**

Refrain

**One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God, One day, ev'ry knee will bow;
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly praise You now:**

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❖ **INVOCATION**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the Name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

❖ **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
C **Who made Heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite Mercy of God, our Heavenly Father, seeking His Grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:
God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to Everlasting Life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, in His Mercy, has given His Son to die for you and, for His sake, forgives you all your sins.
As a Called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His Authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

❖ **KYRIE**

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For Peace from above to calm troubled hearts this day and for our Eternal Salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of our nation and the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God around the world, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, leaving to serve in their various callings, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Strengthen, save, comfort, defend, and guide us, Gracious Lord.

C Amen.

❖ **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know that we live in the midst of so many dangers and in our fear and frailty we cannot stand.

C Grant strength and protection to support us in all perils, and encouragement to resist temptations; 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

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

(God promises a prophet like Moses.)

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said,

"Let us not hear the Voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die."

The LORD said to me:

"What they say is good.

I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers;

I will put My Words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. If anyone does not listen to My Words that the prophet speaks in My Name, I Myself will call him to account.

But a prophet who presumes to speak in My Name anything I have not commanded him to say, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, must be put to death."

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

PSALM

Psalm 111

(Praise the Lord for His Glorious Deeds.)

P Praise the LORD.

C **I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.**

P Great are the Works of the LORD;

C **they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

P Glorious and majestic are His Deeds,

C **and His Righteousness endures forever.**

P He has caused His Wonders to be remembered;

C **the LORD is gracious and compassionate.**

P He provides food for those who fear Him;

C **He remembers His Covenant forever.**

P He has shown His people the power of His Works,

C **giving them the lands of other nations.**

P The works of His Hands are faithful and just;

C **all His Precepts are trustworthy.**

P They are steadfast forever and ever,

C **done in faithfulness and uprightness.**

P He provided redemption for His people;

C **He ordained His Covenant forever — holy and awesome is His Name.**

P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
C **all who follow His Precepts have good understanding. To Him belongs eternal praise.**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

EPISTLE

I Corinthians 8:1-13

(We want to use the freedom we have in Christ to build up in love.)

Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. The man who thinks he knows something does not yet know as he ought to know. But the man who loves God is known by God.

So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols:

We know that an idol is nothing at all in the world and that there is no God but one.

For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from Whom all things came and for Whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through Whom all things came and through Whom we live. But not everyone knows this.

Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat such food they think of it as having been sacrificed to an idol, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled.

But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak.

For if anyone with a weak conscience sees you who have this knowledge eating in an idol's temple, won't he be emboldened to eat what has been sacrificed to idols?

So this weak brother, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge.

When you sin against your brothers in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.

Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.

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

❖ **ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

C Alleluia. Alleluia. They were astonished at His Teaching, for He taught them as one who had authority. Alleluia. *(Mark 1:22a)*

❖ **HOLY GOSPEL**

Mark 1:21-28

(Jesus casts out an unclean spirit.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at His Teaching, because He taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the Law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, "What do You want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are--the Holy One of God!"

"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!"

The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching--and with authority!

He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey Him."

News about Him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Vicar Alan Shaw

SONG

Living Waters – K. Getty, E. Cash

**1. Are you thirsty? Are you empty? Come and drink these living waters;
Tired and broken, peace unspoken, Rest beside these living waters.**

**2. Christ is calling; find refreshing At the cross of living waters;
Lay your life down, all the old gone, Rise up in these living waters.**

Refrain

**There's a river that flows with mercy and love,
Bringing joy to the city of our God;
There our hope is secure - do not fear anymore!
Praise the LORD of living waters.**

**3. Spirit moving, mercy washing, Healing in these living waters;
Lead your children to the shoreline – Life is in these living waters.**

**4. Are you thirsty? Are you empty? Come and drink these living waters;
Love, forgiveness, vast and boundless – Jesus Christ, our living waters.**
Refrain

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SERMON

Real Issues, Real Grace 3:
Knowledge that Builds Up in Love
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Vicar Alan Shaw

❖ CREED

APOSTLES' CREED

**C 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.

❖ GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3*) Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow, or handshake) is welcome.

OFFERING

The offerings of God’s people are received through electronic giving at rlcary.org or by postal mail.

OFFERTORY SONG

Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

LSB 819, vs. 1-3 & 5

**1. Sing praise to God, the highest good, The author of creation,
The God of love who understood Our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills And ev’ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!**

**2. What God’s almighty pow’r has made, In mercy He is keeping.
By morning glow or evening shade His eye is never sleeping.
Within the kingdom of His might All things are just and good and right:
To God all praise and glory!**

**3. We sought the Lord in our distress; O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness And came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord, Who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!**

**5. All who confess Christ’s holy name, Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow’r proclaim Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev’ry idol from its throne, For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!**

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❖ **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in Your Mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your Hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Mercy for the Sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

❖ **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.**

❖ **BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

Son of God, Eternal Savior

LSB 842

1. Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

2. As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

3. Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.

4. Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.

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P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Standing on the Promises – arr. G. Lanier

Lecia Cecconi-Roberts, Clarinet

+ + + + + + + +

Acknowledgments:

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