

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Passing of Peace**

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn:** *More Precious Than Silver*

**Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Closing Hymn:** *Lord of Light* Dakota Road p. 14

**Dismissal**  
P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!  
C: Thanks be to God!

**Beaver Valley Lutheran Church**

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*Welcome! We are glad you are with us today!*

*“If you do not have a church home, you are welcome here. If you would like to become a member, contact any member or the church office.”*

**Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 9:30 am Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**Prelude**

**Welcome/Announcements**

**Hymn:** *Seek Ye First* Vol 2 #40

**Apostolic Greeting**

**Kyrie** (setting 4, p. 147)

**Hymn of Praise:** *Glory to God* Setting 4, p. 148

**Prayer of the Day**

**Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn:** *Father, I Adore You*

**Scripture Reading** **Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10** Dennis Moritz

*(The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that “the joy of the Lord is your strength.”)*

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, Ezra the priest 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. <sup>3</sup> He 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. <sup>5</sup> And 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. <sup>6</sup> Then 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. <sup>8</sup> So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. <sup>9</sup> And 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. <sup>10</sup> Then 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.”

### **Responsive Psalm Reading** from Psalm 19 (New Living Translation)

Lector: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

**People: The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.**

Lector: The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart.

**People: The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight to life.**

Lector: Reverence for the Lord is pure, lasting forever.

**People: The laws of the Lord are true; each one is fair.**

Lector: They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold.

**People: They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.**

Lector: Keep me from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me.

**People: Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.**

### **Scripture Reading** 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

*(The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.)*

For 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. <sup>13</sup> For 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.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If 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. <sup>16</sup> And 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. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If

all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The 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.” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and 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, <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. <sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And 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. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? <sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> But strive for the greater gifts.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia (I Am the Light of the World)* Dakota Road p. 128

### **Gospel Reading** Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

*(Response after the announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.)*

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. <sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When 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, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup> “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 set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

<sup>20</sup> And 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. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

*(Response after the conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.)*

### **Children's Message**

Brittany Gerovac

### **Sermon**

Interim Pastor John Dalen

### **Hymn:**

*To God be the Glory*

### **Apostles' Creed**