


THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Mills River, North Carolina
The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
January 28, 2024

Sacred Place +++ Sacred Space
Please observe silence after the altar candles are lit



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Mountain Folkharpers

PRELUDE *Winter* by Antonio Vivaldi Arr. Anne Macdearmid

A bell rings three times; the people stand

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE HYMN *GTG# 65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for
ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from
you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and
worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE GTG #614 Great Are You Lord

Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just; by your power we trust in your love. Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true; by your mercy you prove you are love. Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise. Great are you Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice: great are you Lord! Great are you Lord!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

[Moses summoned all Israel and said to them,] “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: ‘If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.’ Then the LORD replied to me: ‘They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.’”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 111

¹Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²**Great are the deeds of the LORD! ***
they are studied by all who delight in them.

- ³His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures forever.
- ⁴**He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; ***
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.
- ⁵He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- ⁶**He has shown his people the power of his works ***
in giving them the lands of the nations.
- ⁷The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.
- ⁸**They stand fast for ever and ever, ***
because they are done in truth and equity.
- ⁹He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant forever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.
- ¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; ***
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures forever.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their

conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN *GTG #440 Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past.
Safe into the haven guide. O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee.
Leave, ah! leave me not alone; still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed; all my help from thee I bring.
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, are all I want; more than all in thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness.
False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart. Rise to all eternity.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?

Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Deacon Paulette Remppel

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord! So let us come before the Lord, saying, “Righteous God; ... **Direct our ways.**”

Celebrant Thanksgiving, blessing and praise be yours, God of the incarnation; because you care for us and for our prayer. May our love for you and our likeness to you be strengthened every time we pray. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

GATHERING *GTG#507 Come to the Table of Grace*

(The people return to their seats to gather for the Liturgy of the Table.)

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.

This is God's table; its not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace.

This is God's table; its not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love.

This is God's table; its not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

Come to the table of hope. Come to the table of hope.

This is God's table; its not yours or mine. Come to the table of hope.

Come to the table of joy. Come to the table of joy.

This is God's table; its not yours or mine. Come to the table of joy.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY *Arrane Ny Nie/Auldyn River*

Arr. Rachel Hair

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS S 125 *Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to

stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM S 154 *Christ our Passover*

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION HYMN *The Lone Wild Bird* Arr. Sharon Thormahlen

POST COMMUNION HYMN *Craigie Dhu* by Dougie MacLean

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN *GTG # 12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE The Chanter/La Rotta Arr. Sue Richards

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Yoga with Kelly, Feb. 2, 9, and 16, 10:00 am
Men's Breakfast, Feb. 3, 9:00 am, Mills River Restaurant
Women's Group, Feb. 10, 10:00 am
Choir Practice, Feb. 11, 9:30 am
Outreach Committee Meeting, Feb. 13, 4:00 pm
Vestry Retreat, Feb. 17, 9:30 am-3:00 pm
AARP Tax Service starts Jan.30, 10:00 am

CONTACT INFORMATION

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