

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 3 & 4, 2018

5:00 & 8:15



AS WE GATHER

Today's Readings have one point in common: There is no competition to our great God on any level. In Isaiah's day, the people feared the nations around them. But the prophet reminds them that God is in control of not only nations but His whole creation. When Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law, the people were amazed. But Jesus is ready to conquer the true opposition by preaching and casting out demons in towns throughout the area. The limited expectations about God by Jews and Gentiles alike were a challenge to Paul. But by becoming "all things to all people," he hopes to open their eyes to see the God who offers the blessings of the Gospel to everyone.

PRELUDE "Come, O Almighty King"

Handbell Choir

RINGING OF THE BELLS - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*



WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" *LSB 790*

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade you.**

**Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.**

**Praise to the Lord! Oh let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!**

(Please Stand)

INVOCATION

Pastor: At our Lord's Epiphany, we celebrate God in man made manifest.

Men: *Manifest to the Magi.*

Women: *Manifest to the Jews.*

Men: *Manifest to the Gentiles.*

Women: *Manifest to all nations.*

All: **Manifest to us! Manifest through us!**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 45:7, 17*

*(If you would like private confession and absolution,
please call the office (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)*

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: 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 forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

People: **Amen.**

☩ **WORD** ☩

[OR]

Seminary Student: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*

People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" *LSB 394, v. 1 & 5*

**Songs of thankfulness and praise Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar.**

Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:

Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

**Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith

People: **that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 40:21–31*

(The Lord reminds His people that He is willing and able to defend them.)

²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³ who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 9:16–27* (Paul changes his approach to win different people.)

⁶ For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. ¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. ²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL VERSE “O God of God, O Light of Light” *LSB 810, v. 1*

**O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To You in heaven’s glory bright The song of praise forever rings.
To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory He has won, all thanks and praise! Amen, amen.**



HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:29–39* (Jesus heals Simon’s mother-in-law and many others.)

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁹ And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.” ³⁸ And he said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.” ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



APOSTLES’ CREED

LSB 159

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.

(Please Be Seated)



CHILDREN’S MESSAGE “This Little Gospel Light of Mine” v. 1

**This little gospel light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
This little gospel light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
This little gospel light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine all the time let it shine.**

**Rise! To arms! With prayer employ you, O Christians, lest the foe destroy you;
For Satan has designed your fall. Wield God's word, the weapon glorious;
Against all foes be thus victorious. For God protects you from them all.
Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Emmanuel. Hail the Savior!
The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield, And we, the victors, hold the field.**

**Cast afar this world's vain pleasure And boldly strive for heav'nly treasure.
Be steadfast in the Savior's might. Trust the Lord, who stands beside you,
For Jesus from all harm will hide you. By faith you conquer in the fight.
Take courage, weary soul! Look forward to the goal! Joy awaits you.
The race well run, Your long war won, Your crown shines splendid as the sun.**

**Wisely fight, for time is fleeting; The hours of grace are fast retreating;
Short, short is this our earthly way. When the Lord the dead will waken
And sinners all by fear are shaken, The saints with joy will greet that day.
Praise God, our triumph's sure. We need not long endure Scorn and trial.
Our Savior King His own will bring To that great glory which we sing.**



SERMON



INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

(Please Stand)



PRAAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Pastor: Ruler of all, You sit enthroned above all human might and power. Give to all entrusted with authority among us wisdom to recognize Your rule and humility to serve the common good of our citizens. Remember all in our armed forces (especially...) and our first responders in every community, and protect them in their service. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Kind One, as the people of Capernaum gathered about Your Son, bringing to Him all who were in need, we bring before You in prayer this day all who are sad and lonely, the sick and injured, the hospitalized and homebound, the anguished and despairing (especially...) Heal the broken-hearted, bind up their wounds and give Your people grace to trust Your unfailing love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Holy Father, provide for the needs of those who are new to our land, especially refugees. Provide for their needs of both body and spirit. Bless the efforts of ministries like Christian Friends of New Americans and our own congregation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

People: **Amen.**

(Please be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”
Handbell Choir

(Please Stand)

OFFERTORY “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

LSB 806

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.**

**And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,”
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us.**

Give thanks, give thanks.



✠ SACRAMENT ✠

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at Ascension in the confession that, as He says, our Lord gives not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. All those who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for Your Son is God in flesh made manifest to us. You continue to make Him known to the nations today through Your Holy Word and Spirit. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;*
1 Corinthians 11:23–25

LORD’S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*) *LSB 162*

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *LSB 163*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

(Please be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “What Wondrous Love Is This” *LSB 543*

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down Beneath God’s righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.**

**To God and the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.**

**And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on;
And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on.
and when from death I’m free, I’ll sing His love for me,
And through eternity I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on,
And through eternity I’ll sing on.**

**Your hand, O Lord, in days of old Was strong to heal and save;
It triumphed over ills and death, O’er darkness and the grave.
To you they came, the blind, the mute, The palsied and the lame,
The lepers in their misery, The sick with fevered frame.**

**Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health, Gave speech and strength and sight;
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed Revealed You, Lord of light.
And now, O Lord, be near to bless, Almighty as before,
In crowded street, by beds of pain, As by Gennes’ret’s shore.**

**O be our great deliv’rer still, The Lord of life and death;
Restore and quicken, soothe and bless, With Your lifegiving breath.
To hands that work and eyes that see Give wisdom’s healing pow’r
That whole and sick and weak and strong May praise You evermore.**

**Voices raised to You we offer; Tune them, God, for songs of praise.
Hearts and hands we bring in tribute For Your gifts through all our days.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to You we sing!**

**All creation joins to praise You; Earth and sky Your works display.
Art and music, gifts You lend us, We return to You today.
Alleluia! Alleluia! God, Creator, source of life!**

**Christ, the song of Love incarnate, Touching earth with heaven’s grace,
For Your living, suff’ring, dying, For Your rising, hear our praise!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ, Redeemer, Lord of life!**

**Spirit, flaming through creation, Kindle faith within each heart.
Lift our voices high in chorus; Through our hands Your love impart.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Spirit, Helper, breath of life!**

**How can any praise we offer Measure all the thanks we owe?
Take our hearts and hands and voices—Gifts of love we can bestow.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to You we sing!**

(Please Stand)



BENEDICTION *Isaiah 60:1*

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come,
People: and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

Pastor: 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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: Amen.

**Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be Your joy and crown eternally.**

**Run the straight race through God’s good grace; Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.**

**Cast care aside, lean on your guide; His boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.**

**Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He changes not who holds you dear;
Only believe, and you will see That Christ is all eternally.**

POSTLUDE

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