Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024– 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Service Book, Holy Communion, Setting 2



Prayer before worship

Lord God, You revealed Yourself through Jesus, the Messiah. As I come before You in worship this day, I humbly pray that You would open my heart and mind to Your Word, turn me from sin, and strengthen the light of Christ within me. Amen.

Pre-Service Music

"Arioso" (J. S. Bach)

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.
- 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 forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD



Greeting

- P The grace of God in Christ Jesus, poured out in every gift of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
- C And also with you.



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray:

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Isaiah 40: 21-31

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

²¹Do 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? ²²It 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; ²³who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴Scarcely 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. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift 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.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸Have 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.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,

and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹but 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.

I This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm (read responsively)

Psalm 147:1-11

- Praise the LORD!
 For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*
 for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.
- The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;* he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.
- L He heals the broken- | hearted* and binds | up their wounds.
- He determines the number | of the stars;* he gives to all of | them their names.
- L Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;* his understanding is beyond | measure.
- The LORD lifts up the | humble;*
 he casts the wicked | to the ground.
- L Sing to the LORD with thanks- | giving;* make melody to our God | on the lyre!
- He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain | for the earth;*

he makes grass grow | on the hills.

- L He gives to the | beasts their food,* and to the young ravens | that cry.
- His delight is not in the strength | of the horse,* nor his pleasure in the legs | of a man,
- L but the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,* in those who hope in his | steadfast love.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 9: 16-27

¹⁶If 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! ¹⁷For 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. ¹⁸What 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.

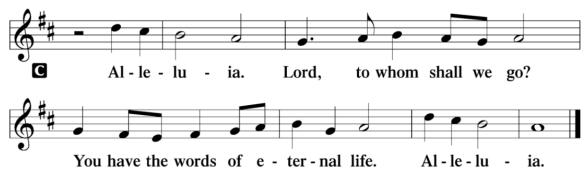
¹⁹For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside 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. ²²To 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. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel Mark 1: 29-39

Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

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



²⁹Immediately [Jesus] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And 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.

³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." ³⁸And 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." ³⁹And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

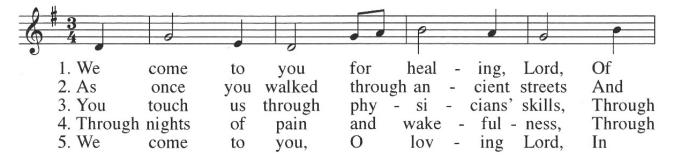


Sermon

"Striking a Balance"

Hymn of the Day

"We Come to You for Healing, Lord" (ELW 617)







Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, © 2006, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: MARTYRDOM, CM; Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father 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.

Prayer of the Church

P Drawn to the light of Christ, made bold in the waters of Baptism, and filled with the Spirit, we lift up our prayers in confidence that God loves and listens to us.

Special petitions are announced, followed by a brief silence. Each petition closes with the words

"Lord in Your mercy." Please respond by saying, "hear our prayer."

The prayers conclude with:

- P Good and gracious God, we ask all these things and whatever else you see that we need with a sure and certain hope in your goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C Amen.

Scouts Sunday Ceremony

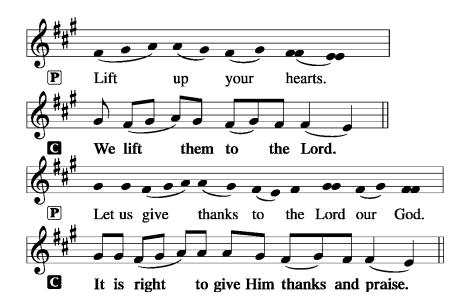
Announcements

Offertory Prayer

- L Let us pray: Merciful God,
- in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.



Preface for Epiphany

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your 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:





Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My → body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My → blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

© 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.

Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Agnus Dei C Lamb of God. You take a - way the sin of the world; Lamb of God, You take a-way the have mer-cv us. on sin of the world; have mer-cy Lamb of on us. You take a - way the of God, sin the world: grant grant us us peace, peace.

Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please be seated

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these.

Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at the Distribution "The Seven Joys of Mary" (Richard Shephard)

Choir of St. John's

The first good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of one:
to see her blessed Jesus Christ
When He was first her Son.
When He was first her Son, good man;
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
to all eternity.

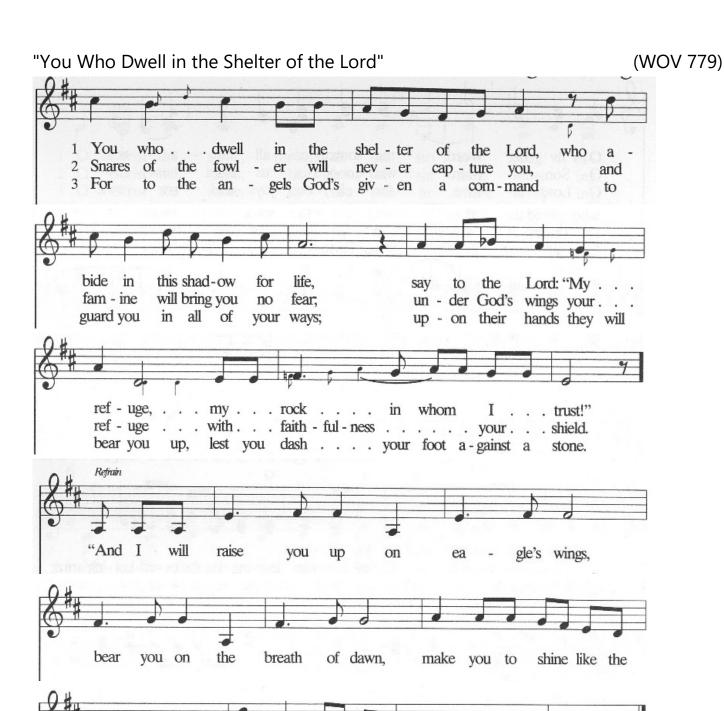
The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of two:
to see her own son Jesus Christ,
to make the lame to go.
to make the lame to go, good man;
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
to all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, It was the joy of three: to see her own son Jesus Christ, to make the blind to see. to make the blind to see, good man; And blessed may he be, Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. The next good joy that Mary had, It was the joy of four: to see her own son Jesus Christ, to read the Bible o'er. to read the Bible o'er, good man; And blessed may he be, Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, It was the joy of five: to see her own son Jesus Christ, to bring the dead alive. to bring the dead alive, good man; And blessed may he be, Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had, It was the joy of six: to see her own son Jesus Christ, Upon the crucifix. Upon the crucifix, good man; And blessed may he be, Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of seven:
to see her own son Jesus Christ,
to wear the crown of Heaven.
to wear the crown of Heaven, good man;
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
to all eternity.



hold you

in

the

palm

and

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1951 Music: Michael Joncas, b. 1951 © 1979 New Dawn Music

sun,

ON EAGLE'S WINGS irregular

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of my



Dismissal

Post-Communion Canticle



Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray:

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

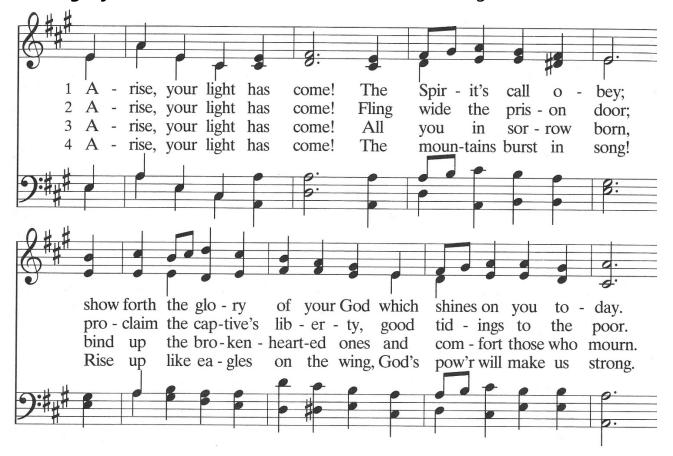
P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and

→ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Arise, Your Light Has Come!" (WOV 652)



Postlude

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Postlude" (Ernest A. Dicks)

FESTAL SON

+ +

Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher Pastor Meehan

Welcome & Children's Message Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship

Lay Assistant Stacey Crosson
Communion Lay Assistant Barbara Pate

Organist/Pianist David Leahey, Director of Music

Acolyte Charlotte Hills

Crucifer Sofi Hills

Ushers Benjamin May

Michelle May

Altar Care Cathy Long
AV Operators Gred Auld

Greer Putnam

Welcome Host Joe Godwin Nursery Jodie Pleisch

+ + +

To **Give** to St. John's Lutheran Church scan this QR Code





This weekend's **altar flowers** are given in memory of Vera H. Godwin in honor of her birthday.

+ + +

To **view** the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter, **Midweek Update**, scan this QR Code



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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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