

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 5, 2023 (Setting 4)

Alas in our day the Christian life is unknown throughout the world; it is neither preached about nor sought after; we are altogether ignorant of our own Christian name and do not know why we are Christians or bear the name of Christians. Surely we are named after Christ, not because he is absent from us, but because he dwells in us, that is, because we believe in him and are Christ's one to another and do to our neighbors as Christ does to us. But in our day we are taught by the doctrine of men to seek nothing but merits, rewards, and the things that are ours; because of this, We have made Christ a task-master far harsher than Moses.

—Martin Luther, Sermon on Matthew 5

Welcome

We are thankful you have joined us today!

Entrance Psalm

[Ps. 119:9-16; antiphon: Ps 119:12]

P Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!

AD **How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.**

With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!

**I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.**

Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!

**With my lips I declare
all the just decrees of your mouth.**

In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

**I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.**

I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!

Hymn

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies | **873**

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. [Matt 28:19b; 18-20]

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8]

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

[Psalm 130:3-4]

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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. [Luke 18:13]

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins,
and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

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. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

Lord, Have Mercy

[Mark 10:47]

Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Glory to God in the Highest

[Luke 2:4; John 1:29, Setting IV]

1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.

Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** [1 Timothy 4:22]

Let us pray... [silence for individual prayer] 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. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah.

Why have we fasted, and you see it not?
Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers.

Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD?

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.' [Isaiah 58:3-9a]

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

The Epistle Reading is from First Corinthians.

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,

nor the heart of man imagined,

what God has prepared for those who love him"— these

things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

[1 Corinthians 2:1-12]

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

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse.

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

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus said:] You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. [Matthew 5:13-20]

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children's Talk

Please sit. The children are invited forward for a message based on today's Scripture readings led by Pastor Riordan.

Hymn

Thy Strong Word | **578**
1 all | 2 low voices | 3 high voices | 4-6 all

Sermon

Our Confession of Faith

*Please stand to confess the **Apostles' Creed** printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert

Announcements/Gathering of Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay

Please be seated and place completed attendance cards in the offering plate, then stand as the gifts are brought to the altar and sing:



Hymn

May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill | **698**

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

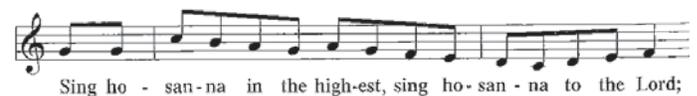
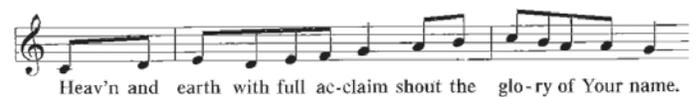
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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 at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved 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:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]



Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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. [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

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."

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 is My + blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

[Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** [John 20:19]

Lamb of God

[John 1:29]

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

The pastor will bring the gifts to you in your seat, please inform an usher or the pastor as needed

Hymns Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness | **563**
 Hope of the World | **690**
 Tune Morning Star LSB 400

When all have communed, please stand.

Song of Simeon—Post Communion Song

[Luke 2:29-32]

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

[Psalm 103:1; Numbers 6:24-26]

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you
 and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
 and give you + peace. **Amen.**

Hymn Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings | **782**

Postlude

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Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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