

# The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Celebration ♦ February 4, 2024

8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Worship

(Following Readings for Epiphany 5 Series B)

## WELCOME

*How easy to fall in to the trap of being religious. We think that if we behave in certain ways, or follow certain rules, we will be blessed. We desire God to act in ways that we determine, and we fully expect Him to serve us by making our lives better. Jesus turns religion inside out. He redeems us, not to make us comfortable, but to make us fit for use in His Kingdom. Jesus does not belong to us. We belong to Him, and He calls us to follow Him into all the world.*

## HYMN "Rise, Shine, You People"

LSB # 825



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.  
He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.  
Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.  
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -  
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are  
To all the world go out and tell the  
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.  
driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.  
sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

## INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen**

Pastor: In the name of God the Father, the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth; In the name of God the Son, Jesus Christ, Who came as the Savior of the world; In the Name of God the Holy Spirit, Who gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

All: **Our hope is in the Lord. Our strength is renewed. We soar on wings of eagles. Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus often reminded His disciples: "Whoever has ears to hear, let him listen."

People: **Gracious Lord, we confess that we have been inattentive to the voice of our Good Shepherd. We haven't wanted to hear the truth; sometimes we only listen to what we want to hear. Forgive us for not taking the time to listen to what You want to tell us. Help us not only to hear but to obey.**

Pastor: The God we worship is truly a great God! His ears continue to be attentive to our cry for mercy. In His Son, Jesus, He has provided forgiveness for our sins and He remembers them no more. He who has begun this good work in us, will bring it to completion. For He has promised, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation."

People: **Amen.**

## THIS IS THE FEAST

Mark 10:47

*Refrain*

© This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the words 'This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.' The second staff contains the melody for the words 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' There is a copyright symbol (©) at the beginning of the first staff.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

## SALUTAION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, You sent Your Son Jesus into our fallen world to restore us as Your children. Fill us with the power of His Spirit that we might not expect Jesus to make us comfortable, but to follow Him into all the world. In His name, and in the power of His Spirit we pray.

People: **Amen**

## FIRST READING

*(The Holy One of Israel makes Himself known in these passages. He alone has created every star and called each one by name. He alone can bring the rulers of this world to nothing. Indeed, He alone gives hope and strength to the weary.)*

Isaiah 40:21-31

<sup>21</sup>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? <sup>22</sup>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; <sup>23</sup>who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. <sup>24</sup>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.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup>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.

<sup>27</sup>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"? <sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. <sup>30</sup>Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; <sup>31</sup>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.

## SECOND READING

*(Paul is compelled to reach people, using whatever means possible, as well as every ounce of strength.)*

1 Corinthians 9:16-27

<sup>16</sup>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! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. <sup>18</sup>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.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

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

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR “Lamb of God” by Paris/Craig**

**GOSPEL READING** Mark 1:29-39

*(If we always seek to please people we may miss the most important call on our lives – to share the Gospel. We must learn to listen to our Father the way Jesus listened, and go where the Father tells us to go.)*

Pastor: The Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>29</sup>And immediately [Jesus] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

<sup>30</sup>Now Simon’s mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. <sup>31</sup>And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

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

<sup>35</sup>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. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, <sup>37</sup>and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.” <sup>38</sup>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.” <sup>39</sup>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.**

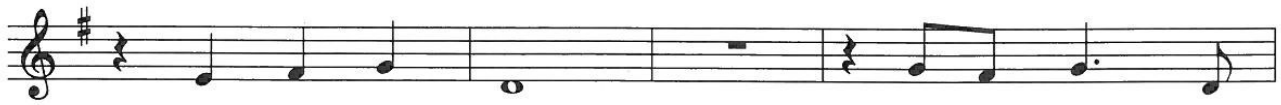
**SONG OF THE DAY** "Here I Am Lord" by Dan Schutte



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin  
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.  
 poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I who made the  
 They turn a - way. I will break their  
 My hand will save. Fin - est bread I



stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Isaiah 6; Dan Schutte, b.1947  
 Tune: Dan Schutte, b.1947; arr. by Michael Pope, SJ, John Weissrock  
 © 1981, Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music. Published by OCP Publications.

**SERMON "By My God I Can Leap Over A Wall"**

**Text: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 & Psalm 18:29**

**Sermon Preached by Pastor Mike Von Behren on 2-4-2018**

**OFFERING**

**NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with  
the Father, by whom all things were made;  
who for us people and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again  
according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to  
come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. ..Lord, You have power not only to heal our ills but also to heal  
the self-centeredness within; free us from ourselves that we may serve  
You and others in Your name; Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Guard our mouths lest we judge others unkindly and keep our hearts from  
taking Your gifts and selfishly refusing to share them with those in need;  
Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give us many opportunities to display Your love to others; remind us that serving others is its own reward, lest we expect recognition for what we do; Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: As Jesus brought healing and freedom to Simon's house long ago, bring His healing grace to the homes of those in need today; give healing for the sick, relief for the suffering, and peace for the dying. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Restore Your Church and all her pastors and leaders, that they be instruments of forgiveness and healing today especially do we pray for our Synodical President, our district president, our pastor and for all the baptized people of God; Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Teach us the pathway of service, that as Jesus became our servant, so we might learn to serve others and extend His grace to all who are in need; Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Teach humility to the leaders of this and every nation, that those who govern here and in every place may unselfishly serve the causes of peace, freedom, and justice; Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Mark our hearts with a grateful spirit that what we receive from You we may return to You for the work of Your Kingdom; use what we bring You to extend the good news of Jesus and lead others into His light and joy; Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray...

**All: 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.**



✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

Pastor: We lift our hearts and hands and voices unto You, Almighty God, for You have blessed us in abundance. You have given Your Son to die and rise again for us, and have made us part of Your Kingdom. Jesus has filled us with peace and joy, and has called us to follow Him into the “next towns.” And when we grow weary, You sustain us through this meal, as we again receive Your grace. In this eating and drinking we are renewed, and the Spirit empowers us to soar on wings of eagles.

For our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread...

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-24  
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-2*

**PAX DOMINI ~ The Peace of the Lord**

*John 20:19*

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

People: Amen.

**AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God**

☐ Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

LSB #394



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;  
4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;  
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,  
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;  
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;  
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;  
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
Thou by all wilt be con - fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

“Thine The Amen, Thine The Praise”

LSB# 680



1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -  
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the  
 3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the  
 4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the  
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more



lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head  
 prom - ise let there be Thine the vi - sion Thine the tree  
 ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee  
 won - der full sur - prise Thine the ban - quet then the praise  
 dy - ing on - ly light Thine the riv - er Thine the tree



Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
 All the earth on bend - ed knee Gone the nail - ing gone the  
 Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the  
 Then the jus - tice of Thy ways Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
 Then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly Then the ho - ly ho - ly



sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the  
 rail - ing Gone the plead - ing gone the cry Gone the  
 sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the  
 sto - ry Then the wel - come to the least Then the  
 ho - ly Cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee Thine the



vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
 sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
 liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
 won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.  
 splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

Text and tune: © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005450

# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

May the Father bless us in His love,  
May Jesus lead us in the world to be His people, and  
May the Holy Spirit strengthen us and renew us.

People: **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN "Fight The Good Fight"

**LSB # 664**



1 Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your  
2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; Lift up your  
3 Cast care a - side, lean on your guide; His bound - less  
4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He chang - es



strength, and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and  
eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way be -  
mer - cy will pro - vide. Trust, and en - dur - ing  
not who holds you dear; On - ly be - lieve, and



it shall be Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.  
fore us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.  
faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.  
you will see That Christ is all e - ter - nal - ly.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

**THANK YOU** to all who assisted with our worship today.

### Acknowledgments:

*Divine Service, Setting One, from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission.*

*Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*