

EPIPHANY 5

FEBRUARY 7, 2021

**ORDER OF WORSHIP: Service of Word and Sacrament:
Page 26 in the front of the hymnal**

ORGANIST: Sandi Lietzau

HYMNS: 279, 451, 260

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN 279: O Word of God Incarnate

**1 O Word of God, incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky,
We praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

**2 The Church from you, dear Master, received the gift divine,
And still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that, all life's journey through,
Mid mists and rocks and quick-sands still guides, O Christ, to you.**

**3 Oh, make your Church, dear Savior, A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations your true light, as of old.
Oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see you face to face.**

**Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with you.**

Congregation: And also with you.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Congregation: Holy and Merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Pastor: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

Pastor: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

Congregation: Christ, have mercy.

Pastor: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

Congregation: O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love,

You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit;

You make us pure and holy in your sight.

You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, you came to live with us;

You made your Father known; you washed us from our sins in your own blood.

You are the King of glory; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him and do the things that are pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON: Job 7:1-7

1 “Does not man have hard service on earth? Are not his days like those of a hired man? 2 Like a slave longing for the evening shadows, or a hired man waiting eagerly for his wages, 3 so I have been allotted months of futility, and nights of misery have been assigned to me. 4 When I lie down I think, ‘How long before I get up?’ The night drags on, and I toss till dawn. 5 My body is clothed with worms and scabs, my skin is broken and festering. 6 “My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, and they come to an end without hope. 7 Remember, O God, that my life is but a breath; my eyes will never see happiness again.

THE PSALM: Psalm 103

Pastor: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

CONGREGATION: Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Pastor: Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.

CONGREGATION: Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Pastor: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

CONGREGATION: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Pastor: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

CONGREGATION: As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field.

Pastor: The wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children

CONGREGATION: Praise the LORD, O my soul.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

16 Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! 17 If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. 18 What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make use of my rights in preaching it. 19 Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. 20 To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as

to win those under the law. 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. 23 I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

THE VERSE

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Alleluia!

CONGREGATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE THIRD LESSON: Mark 1:35-45

35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. 36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" 38 Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else — to the nearby villages — so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." 39 So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons. 40 A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." 41 Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" 42 Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. 43 Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: 44 "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." 45 Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

CONGREGATION: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN 451: Precious Lord, Take My Hand

**1 Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

**2 When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

**3 When the darkness appears and the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.**

THE MESSAGE: Job 7:1-7

1 “Does not man have hard service on earth? Are not his days like those of a hired man? 2 Like a slave longing for the evening shadows, or a hired man waiting eagerly for his wages, 3 so I have been allotted months of futility, and nights of misery have been assigned to me. 4 When I lie down I think, ‘How long before I get up?’ The night drags on, and I toss till dawn. 5 My body is clothed with worms and scabs, my skin is broken and festering. 6 “My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, and they come to an end without hope. 7 Remember, O God, that my life is but a breath; my eyes will never see happiness again.

Are You Happy With God?

1. Ask Job.

What is going on in Job’s life?

How is he dealing with it?

2. Listen to God.

Why does Job find himself in this situation?

How does Job benefit from this process?

How do we benefit?

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed - Page 31 in the front of the hymnal

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

OFFERING

The offering will be received as you are ushered out after the service in the fellowship hall so that offering plates are not passed. The offering plate is located next to the bulletin table in the fellowship hall.

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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 SACRAMENT LITURGY - page 33 in the front of the hymnal

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

CONGREGATION: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

CONGREGATION: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

CONGREGATION: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

CONGREGATION: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory. You are my God, and I will exalt you. I will give you thanks for you have become my salvation. Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

CONGREGATION: Amen.

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your
peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

CONGREGATION: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev'ry-one what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pastor: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CONGREGATION: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

CONGREGATION: Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 260: Let All Things Now Living

1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving

**To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us; His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**2 His law he enforces; the stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine.
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving;
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bible Hour follows our worship this morning.
In adult Bible hour we are studying Paul's letter to Titus. Join us!
2. Confirmation meets on Monday, February 8th, 3:30-5:00 pm.
3. Online Bible Class Continues.

The Format:

I send out weekly study guides in a congregational email on Mondays. You have an opportunity to work through the study guides at home.

I post an online video in which I work through the weekly study guide on Wednesdays. This video is sent out as a congregational email, just like our weekly worship services.

This week, we continue our study of Peter's first epistle.

4. Thursday morning Bible class meets at 10:00 am. We are currently studying the book of Numbers.

