
✠ FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ✠

ORDER OF WORSHIP • FEBRUARY 4, 2024 • 9:00 AM

✠ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

✠ OPENING HYMN GOD, WHOSE ALMIGHTY WORD
LBW #400

✠ INVOCATION & VERSES *from Isaiah 60*

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

All: Amen.

WL: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

All: The glory of the Lord rises upon you.

WL: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

All: Proclaim God's praise among the nations.

✠ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Let us confess our sins to God. We come in boldness and confidence, not according to our merit, but according to God's grace towards us in Jesus Christ.

All: God of grace, you have called us to walk your path of love, all the way to the cross. We confess that we don't always trust in the power of love but rely instead on the power of worldly might and violence. You have called us to walk your path of healing. We confess that we don't always believe in the power of healing but instead rely on the power of revenge and retribution. You call us to forgive as you forgive, to share as you freely share, and to trust in you and your authority. We have fallen short. We have strayed from your path. We have failed to trust in you. Forgive us. Forgive us and turn us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. We pray in the name of Christ, our Light. Amen.

WL: Friends, God is for us and not against us. For that very reason God sent Jesus into the world—not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. Together, let us declare the good news of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. We are set free to live a new life in Him. We can walk as children of light. Thanks be to God!

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

WL: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 40:21-31

R: The First lesson for this Fifth Sunday after Epiphany is from the fortieth chapter of Isaiah.

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood since the earth was founded?

He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,
and its people are like grasshoppers.

He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.

No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root in the ground,
than he blows on them and they wither,
and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.

“To whom will you compare me?

Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these?

He who brings out the starry host one by one
and calls forth each of them by name.

Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

Why do you complain, Jacob?

Why do you say, Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord;
my cause is disregarded by my God”?

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.

He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;
but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 9:16-27

R: The Epistle is from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, the ninth chapter.

For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel.

Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. 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. 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. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Guide my feet while I run this race (3X)
'Cause I don't want to run this race in vain.

Guide my hands while I run this race (3X)
'Cause I don't want to run this race in vain.

Guide my heart while I run this race (3X)
'Cause I don't want to run this race in vain.

✠ HOLY GOSPEL

MARK 1:29-39

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

All: Glory to your, O Lord!

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

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. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ!

TODAY'S MESSAGE

✠ MESSAGE HYMN WE COME TO YOU FOR HEALING, LORD
TUNE: MARTYRDOM

- 1 **We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit's touch
we may again be whole.**
- 2 **As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
come, risen Christ, among us still
with pow'r to heal again.**
- 3 **You touch us through physicians' skills,
through nurses' gifts of care,
and through the love of faithful friends
who lift our lives in prayer.**
- 4 **When nights are long with wakefulness,
through days when strength runs low,
grant us your gift of patience, Lord,
your calming peace to know.**
- 5 **We come to you, O loving Lord,
in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days
your grace will heal, sustain.**

✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

WL: Let us boldly confess our faith, with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All: **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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

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SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

✠ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

WL: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: As Jesus taught His disciples to pray, so we pray together:

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.

✠ PAX DOMINI

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

All: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG

TAKE AND EAT

REFRAIN (sung by all)

**Take and eat, take and eat,
this is my body given up for you;
Take and drink, take and drink,
this is my blood, given up for you.**

The verses are sung by the Parish Choir

✠ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

All: Amen.

✠ CLOSING PRAYER

WL: God of blazing light, you are a healer. Send us out into the world to walk in your way. Give us courage and conviction, that we may joyfully follow you as healers and restorers, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

✠ BLESSING

WL: May the love of God uphold you; the light of ✠ Christ guide you; and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit fill you with joy, now and forever.

All: Amen.

✠ SENDING HYMN

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT HAS COME
TUNE: FESTAL SONG

- 1 **Arise, your light has come!**
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.
- 2 **Arise, your light has come!**
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.
- 3 **Arise, your light has come!**
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.
- 4 **Arise, your light has come!**
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

✠ SENDING

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God.

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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Liturgy from Lutheran Service Book.

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WE COME TO YOU FOR HEALING, LORD

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TAKE AND EAT

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ARISE, YOUR LIGHT HAS COME

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