



Messiah Lutheran Church

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023

The psalmist sings "Light shines in the darkness for the upright." The prophet Isaiah declares when we loosen the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, light breaks forth like the dawn. Jesus, the light of

the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Thru baptism we go into the world to shine with the light of Christ!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin...

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,
that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ☩ Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG:

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

ELW 853

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

Kallie Bachleitner

Brooke Brandt

Olivia Erickson

Owen Erickson

Josie Hanson

Griffin Lins

Hadley Peterson

Crosby Reese

Addison Schaan

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:6-11

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 112:1-9

¹Praise the LORD!

Happy are those who fear the LORD,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

**²Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.

**⁴They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

⁵It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

**⁶For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.**

⁷They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

**⁸Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

⁹They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Celtic Alleluia"

ELW Service Music #174



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 5th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the

lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks 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. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON SONG: “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” ELW 712

SERMON

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth,**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up political leaders to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Bring wellbeing to those afflicted in any way. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: “We Are an Offering”

ELW 692

Chorus 1

We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are Yours, We are an offering

Bridge

All that we have, All that we are, All that we hope to be
We give to You, We give to You

Chorus 2

We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering
We are an offering

OFFERING PRAYER:

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. We magnify and adore you through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

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 our thanks and praise.

*In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: "This Little Light of Mine"

ELW 677

DISMISSAL:

L: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God!



"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid ... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

