

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

First Lutheran Church, Lynn, MA

February 6, 2022



The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments
and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory.

"Who will go for us?" God asks.

A person of unclean lips,
a former persecutor of the church of God,
and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing.
More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

Welcome to worship!

Whether you are gathered in the sanctuary or at home by the Holy Spirit, it is a joy to worship with you today! Please remember to keep physical distance between yourself and others not from your household.

Masks are required indoors per the City of Lynn

The Mayor's Office has issued an executive order reinstating a mask mandate for all indoor public places regardless of vaccination status, including houses of worship. **Please wear a mask over your nose and mouth while at church** as an act of love toward those who may be more at risk of serious illness than you.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*We begin our worship
by freeing ourselves
from the baggage we
have carried around
this week.*

*It is liberating to admit
that we are not perfect
people, and to know
that we have a God
who loves and accepts
us unconditionally.*

*Variations on NICAEA
Piet Post*

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**
**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**
**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.**
**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.**
Amen.

The minister announces God's forgiveness, to which the assembly responds:
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

GREETING

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

During the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, our canticle of praise is the song of the angels from Luke's gospel on the first Christmas night: "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching, and song

FIRST READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

Through a vision in the temple, the eighth-century prophet Isaiah is called by God to announce judgment against Israel. Aware of his sinfulness and shortcomings, Isaiah is initially hesitant. But when God calls, Isaiah responds, "Here am I; send me!"

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of The Lord's robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above the Lord; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of the glory of the Lord."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM

Psalm 138

The psalms were the original prayer book of God's people and capture the full gamut of human emotion.

The choir sing the refrain, which is repeated by the assembly. The choir sings the verses.



1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart; you have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I praise you. I bow down toward your holy temple.
2. I give thanks to your name for your merciful love and your faithfulness. You have exalted your name over all. On the day I called, you answered me; you increased the strength of my soul.
3. All earth's kings shall thank you, O Lord, when they hear the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, "How great is the glory of the Lord!"
4. With your right hand you save me; the Lord will accomplish this for me. O Lord, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

***We stand** to welcome Christ, the living word of God, in the gospel reading.*



Verse: Speak, Lord, your servant is listening. Speak your words of wisdom, for the words you speak are everlasting life.

GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

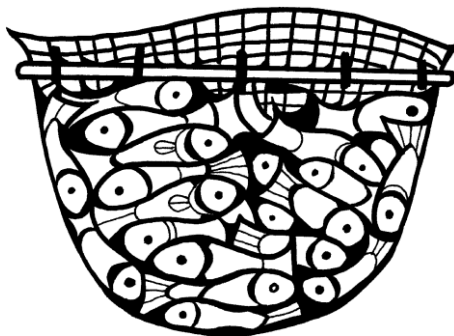
SERMON

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."

When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.



HYMN OF THE DAY

We stand to proclaim
the word of God in
song.

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -
1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther
3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing
4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo
nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly
trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my
love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's
long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.
ask - ing for me to fol - low.
fish nets and will for work - ing.
will - ing to go on lov - ing.
Friend, you have come to call me.



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,
Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi
you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.
small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Those being received into membership are invited forward and are introduced by the pastor.

...My sisters and brothers, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your own baptism among God's people in this place: to share in its worship and ministry, through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Those being received respond: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Then together let us confess our faith, the faith into which we were baptized:

**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.**

Let us receive our new sisters and brothers with joy.

We welcome you to this community of faith!

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God,
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

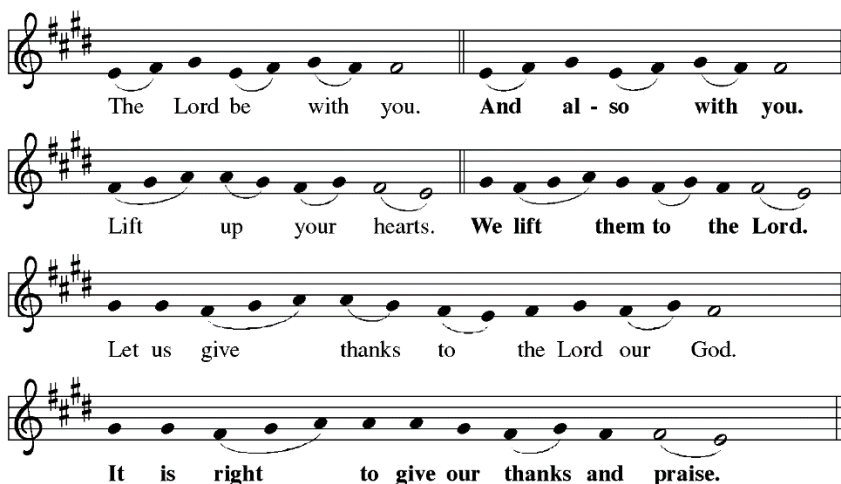
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

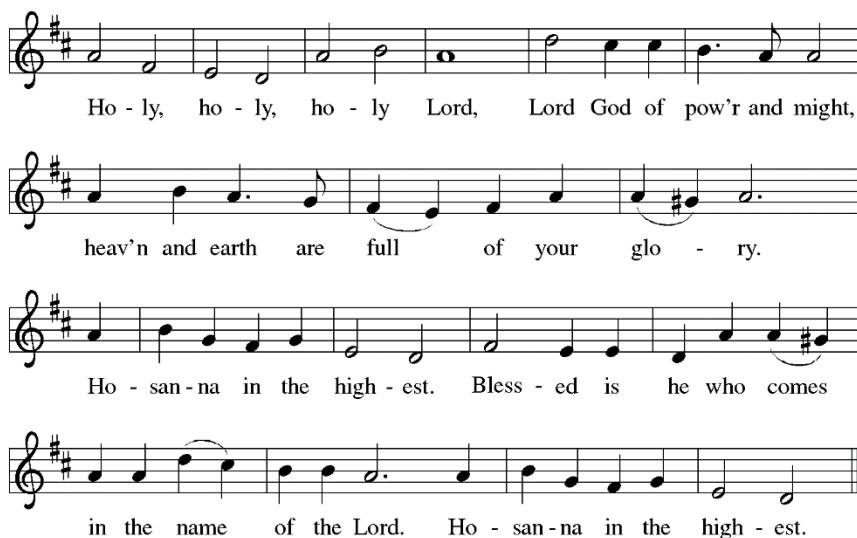
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presider gives thanks for God's faithfulness in every time and place and prays for the Spirit's presence in the meal we share.

You are invited to open and extend your arms along with the pastor as we pray, signifying our openness to and dependence on God.



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

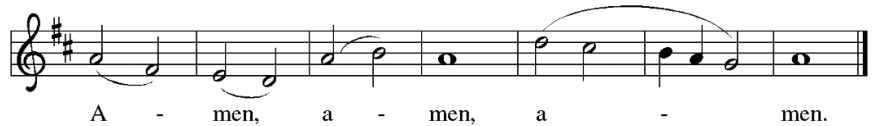


THE LORD'S PRAYER

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



...Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

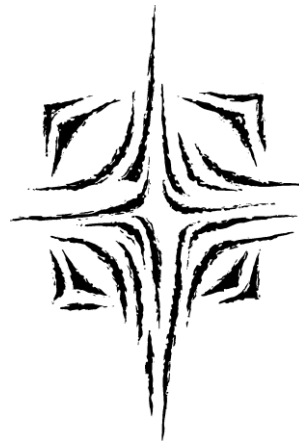


Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**



Welcome to God's table.

In the sacrament of Holy Communion, we are bound together in love as God's family as we receive the real presence of Jesus Christ in bread and wine. At this table we receive forgiveness, hope, and strength to live as Christians in the world. **God welcomes you to this feast, and so do we.**

For those worshipping from home:

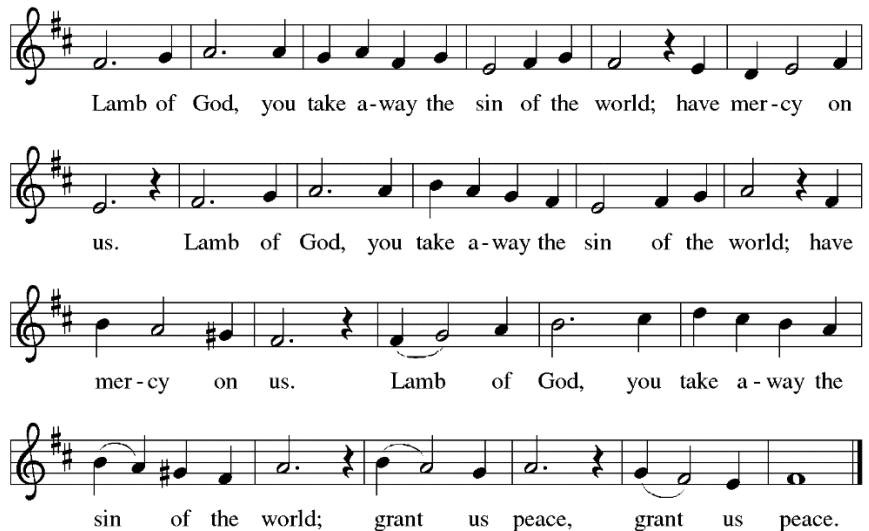
Just as the risen Christ knows no bounds, *you are included in this celebration*, and are one with the whole body of Christ across all time and space. You are invited to pray the following prayer:

Lord Jesus, I desire to experience your love as a guest at the heavenly feast you have prepared for your children on earth in the Sacrament of the Altar. As I am not able on this day to be gathered at your table, I receive you into my heart by faith, trusting the word of your promise. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope; and after this life grant me a place at your heavenly table, where we shall all eat of the eternal manna, and drink of the river of your pleasure forevermore.

I love you and adore you. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

To call Jesus the "lamb of God" is to identify him with the Passover lamb in the Jewish scriptures. In ancient temple worship, the lamb symbolically bore the sins of the people in sacrifice, and was then shared as a sign of God's forgiveness. In Holy Communion, we feast on the presence of Christ, who has freed us from sin and death.



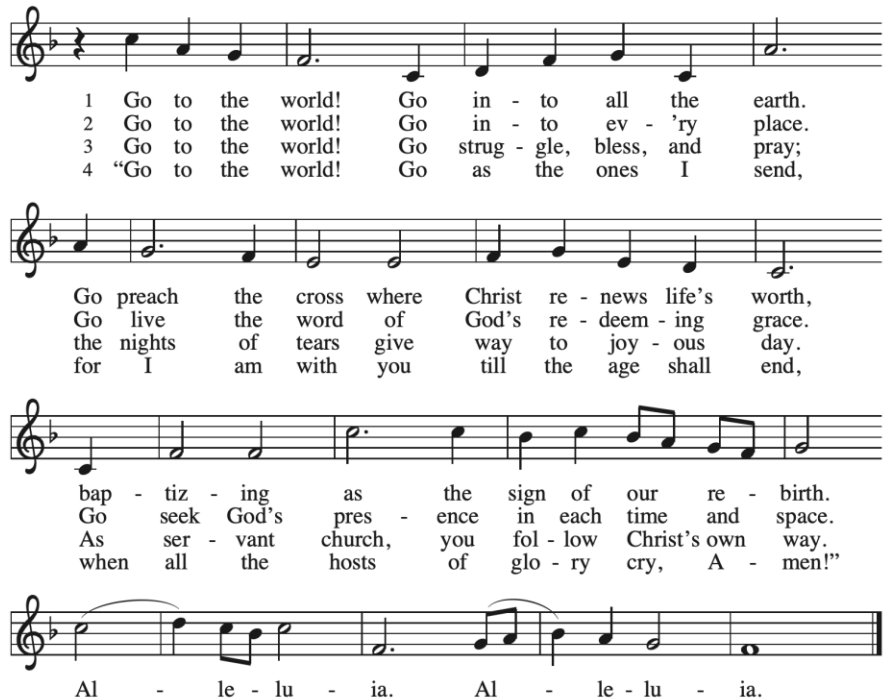
SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission for the world

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Go to the World



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
for I am with you till the age shall end,
bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"
Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Shine with the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Voluntary VIII
John Stanley

MUSIC NOTES

The prelude for today was written by Piet Post, a 20th century Dutch organist and composer is based on the melody of the gathering hymn, *Holy, Holy, Holy*. This hymn tune, which was written by John B. Dykes specifically to accompany this hymn text, is named after the Council of Nicaea (A.D. 325) at which the early church leaders affirmed and outlined the doctrine of the Trinity. The Postlude was written by John Stanley (1712 – 1786), an English organist and composer and is taken from his collection of 30 organ *voluntaries*, a generic term for an organ composition of moderate length. Though rendered nearly blind by a childhood accident, Stanley was extremely talented and studied “with great diligence” under Maurice Greene, the organist at St. Paul’s Cathedral in London. He was first appointed as the organist of All Hallows Bread Street (in London) when he was only 11 years of age, and, when he was 17, became the youngest person ever to obtain his Bachelor of Music degree from Oxford University.



Congregational Retreat: March 11-13

After a two-year hiatus, we are planning (God willing!) to return to Calumet this Spring for our annual congregational retreat!

Retreat is a time of relaxation, re-connection with nature (and with God!), and deepening friendships. From toboggan runs to campfire stories to thoughtful conversations and worship, there is a little bit of everything to fill our time.

If you are interested in helping brainstorm activities for this year’s retreat, contact Pr. Jon as we will be forming a **Retreat Planning Team!**

We are so blessed with the gift of the **Calumet Ministry Fund** which makes it financially possible for so many people to attend this retreat and other programs offered by Calumet. If you have been "on the fence" about going, talk to someone who went in the past so you can hear their experience first-hand.

Sign-up forms with all lodging options are available in the narthex.

Church Calendar—February 6, 2022

| THIS WEEK | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sun Feb 6 th | FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:00 AM Sunday School on Zoom 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM Coffee and Fellowship |
| Wed Feb 9 th | 6:30 PM Property Committee on Zoom |
| Thu Feb 10 th | 7:00 PM Council Meeting on Zoom |
| NEXT WEEK | |
| Sun Feb 13 th | SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:00 AM Sunday School on Zoom 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM Annual Congregational Meeting |

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***We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation,
welcoming and serving all people.***



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