

Peace Lutheran Church Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 5, 2023

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself.

Introduction to the day

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

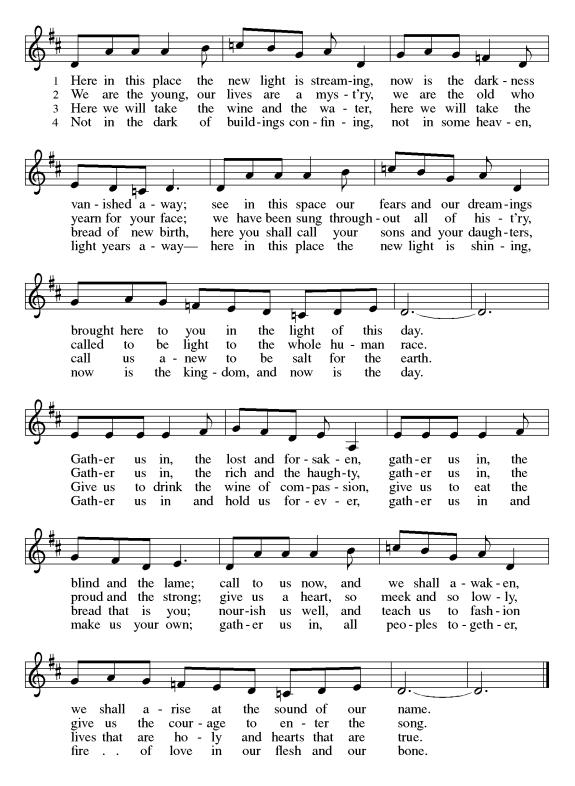
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN Gather Us In (ELW 532)

Gather Us In



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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.**

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

CHOIR ANTHEM Come, My Light

AK Organ

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. ³"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush. and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? 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. HOLY WISDOM, HOLY WORD **Thanks be to God.**

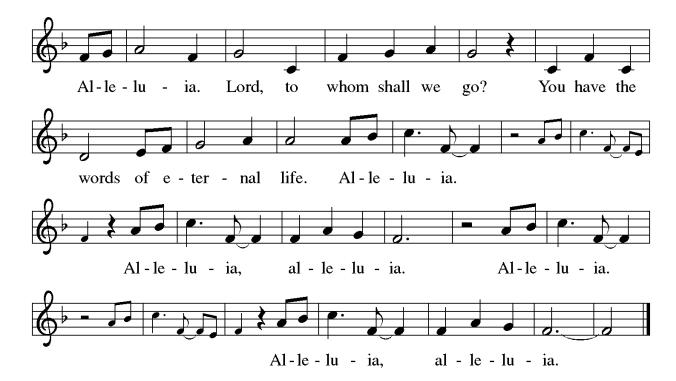
PSALM: Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

- ¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who [|] fear the LORD and have great delight in [|] God's commandments!
 ²Their descendants will be mighty [|] in the land; the generation of the upright [|] will be blessed.
 ³Wealth and riches will be [|] in their house, and their righteousness will [|] last forever.
 ⁴Light shines in the darkness [|] for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full [|] of compassion.
 ⁵It is good for them to be gener-[|] ous in lending and to manage their af-[|] fairs with justice.
 ⁶For they will nev-[|] er be shaken;
 - the righteous will be kept in everlast-¹ ing remembrance.
- ⁷They will not be afraid of any ¹ evil rumors;
 - their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.
- ⁸Their heart is established and [|] will not shrink, until they see their desire up- [|] on their enemies.
- ⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands [|] fast forever; they will hold up their [|] head with honor.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"-10these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. HOLY WISDOM, HOLY WORD

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Pastor Neil Brady

HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (ELW 712)

Θ Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need, 1 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread; 2 wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light 3 we As 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go, 1 • the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed: who up - on still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead. its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight, the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show; in to we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart; As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear, hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give, e 0 Ð con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part. by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole. stir-ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share. that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live. 0

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press. Art. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

CREED

Let us profess our faith using the words of the 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 OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

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.**

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. Satisfy those afflicted in any way. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, bless those who are ill and under doctors' care with your continued presence. Grant all your strength, healing, and love. We especially remember in our prayers ______ and all who we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. Be with your children in their time of need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We remember in our prayers those who join us in the ministry and in the proclamation of the Word of God, especially our Prayer Partners, Rev. Christopher Laughlin, and the people of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Allegan, Michigan. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**.

The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. 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.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING HYMN Praise and Thanksgiving (ELW 689) Verse 3

Praise and Thanksgiving



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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,

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. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

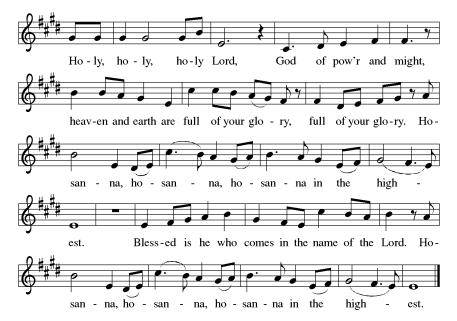
GREAT THANKSGIVING The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

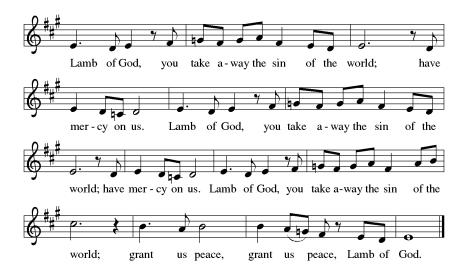
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION Come and taste the joy of God!

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



COMMUNION HYMN Bread of Life from Heaven (ELW 474)



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: ARCENTINE SANTO, BREAK NOW THE BREAD; Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas Text and music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Sisters and Brothers, may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray,

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

PASTOR'S PRAYER

Sisters and brothers, God enters our life in a smile and a hug, the beauty of nature and the sound of the wind. Let us open our eyes and our hearts to see him in the midst of our lives so we can share his awe and wonder with others.

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod + bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN This Little Light of Mine (ELW 677)

This Little Light of Mine



Text: African American spiritual Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935 Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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DISMISSAL Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Announcements:

Loads of Love February 11th from 8:00-noon at Quality Dairy. Volunteers are needed to help with this Community Action Team event. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, or contact any team member if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

Our Helping Hands Ministry Each month our Community in Action team will be collecting donations for our continued partnership with the Helping Hands ministry in Charlotte. February's donation is cereal.

Our Choir is looking for more voices to join us. We practice on Thursday evenings from 7:00pm-8:00pm. See Scott M. to let him know you are interesting and willing to share your gift of music with the congregation.

Charlotte Lions Eyeglass and Hearing Aid Recycling Challenge The Charlotte Lions Club is asking for help to meet their "Recycle for Sight" 2nd Challenge of collecting 2,000 pairs of eyeglasses and hearing aids by March 1, 2023. All the good glasses, pats and pieces are boxed separately and sent to the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Grand Rapids. At the recycling center they recycle every donated pair of glasses. Good glasses are used for Mission rips. The defective glasses are sent to ReSpecs (a recycling company in California), and they pay poundage for the glasses. This means those unusable glasses do not end up in a landfill. Money from ReSpecs is used to help pay for materials and shipping glasses for Mission Trips. These glasses may be the only pair of glasses a recipient ever receives. Please dig into your closets and drawers for your old eyeglasses and hearing aids and bring them to Peace. Place them in the basket provided in the entryway by the mailboxes.

<u>Our W</u>	orship/	Leaders
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Worship Leaders	February 5	February 12
Acolyte	Carson Clark	Kendall Jobson
Altar Guild	Kathy Cook	Kathy Cook
Audio/Visual	Scott Lumbert	Scott Lumbert
Choir Director	Scott Myckowiak	Scott Myckowiak
Fellowship		Rosalie Bazzett
Lector	Susie Moore	Susie Moore
Pastor	Pastor Neil Brady	Pastor Neil Brady
Musician	Bryan Guarnuccio	Bryan Guarnuccio
Ushers	Steve and Kathy Cook	Steve and Kathy Cook
Worship Assistant	John Thiel	John Thiel



Scan this QR Code for online Giving to Peace. **Prayers of Peace**...let us continue to hold up in prayer all those in need of God's comfort, healing, and peace in their lives.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

• Seeing the sun after so many cloudy days

Prayers for Healing and Health

- Tracy Anderson
- Linda Badlegy
- Sandy Brady
- Mike Bruce
- Tina Buckman
- Dan Cox
- Bev and Jack DeFord
- Julianna Eteo
- Lauralyn Gray
- Paul Hamilton
- Nancy Holtz
- Phil Kahl

Bob Leeser

• Jane LeBlanc

- Beverly and Del Leffler
- Chuck Leimbach
- Dolores McCoy
- Glen and Linda Meyer
- Mandy Norris
- Bobby Peterman
- Ron
- Edna Sprague
- Teia Zische

Prayers-"Just Because We Do"

- Compassion children and families
- Sisters and Brothers across the world who are in need
- Be with our military especially Tyler Irish entering the Marines
- Our military, our leaders, our firefighters and police/sheriff officers
- EMT's and Paramedics
- Family, friends, and yourself

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Office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 am -4:30 pm or by appointment. If you or someone you know is hospitalized or desires a pastoral visit please contact the church office at 517-543-1503