



**Sunday, January 15, 2023
The Second Sunday After Epiphany
Service of Holy Communion**

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.



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NOTE: If you wish to look at the music, # indicates hymns found in the back of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).

+GATHERING+

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

WELCOME PRELUDE

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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 HYMN *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!*
ELW #308

**1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's line, King David's son,
our Lord and Savior, you have won
our hearts to serve you only!
Lowly, holy!
Great and glorious,**

all victorious,
rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing!

- 2 Come, precious diamond, light divine,
and deep within our hearts now shine;
there light a flame undying!
In your one body let us be
as living branches of a tree,
your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily
earth's deep sadness
may perplex us
and distress us,
yet with heav'nly joy you bless us.
- 4 Almighty Father, in your Son
you loved us, when not yet begun
was this old earth's foundation!
Your Son has ransomed us in love
to live in him here and above:
this is your great salvation.
Alleluia!
Christ the living,
to us giving
life forever,
keeps us yours and fails us never!
- 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
our voices gaily blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation! Exultation!
Tell the story!
Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

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

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+WORD+

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

CHILDRENS' BIBLE STORY TIME

Children may leave worship with the teachers for Bible Story Time. They will return during the Hymn of the Day.

FIRST READING**Isaiah 49: 1-7**

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

- ¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
- ³And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- ⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,
and my reward with my God."
- ⁵And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says,

“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷Thus says the LORD,

the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,

“Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

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

Psalm 40:1-11 (*Read responsively by verse*)

¹I waited patiently up- | on the LORD,
who stooped to me and I heard my cry.

**²The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry
clay,**

and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to
our God;

many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in
the LORD.

⁴Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!

They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies.

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In
your plans for us, none can be com- | pared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they
are more than | I can count.

⁶Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;

**you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering
you have | not required.**

⁷And so I said, “Here I | am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

⁸I love to do your will, | O my God;

your law is | deep within me.’ ”

⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;
I have not restrained my lips, O | LORD, you know.

**¹⁰I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have
spoken of your faithfulness and | your deliverance;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from
the | great assembly.**

¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from
me;

may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep
me safe.

SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Alleluia In the | Word was life,* and the life was the light | of all people. **Alleluia** (John 1:4)

GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher),

“where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Christ, Be Our Light*

ELW #715

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

Refrain

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow’r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain***
- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain***
- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain***
- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,**

signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

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

... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
... revealed in Christ crucified... **Amen.**

SHARE THE PEACE

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

+MEAL+

God feeds us in the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING *An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. You may submit your offering electronically by using the secure URL: <https://goo.gl/a8YekB> (capitalization matters).*

CHOIR ANTHEM *Blessed Be the God of Israel* arr. H.Hopson

- 1 *Blessed be the God of Israel,
 who comes to set us free,
 who visits and redeems us,
 and grants us liberty.
 The prophets spoke of mercy,
 of freedom and release;
 God shall fulfill the promise
 to bring our people peace.*
- 2 *Now from the house of David
 a child of grace has come,
 a Savior who will lead us
 to our eternal home.
 Before him goes the herald,
 forerunner in the way,
 the prophet of salvation,
 the harbinger of day.*
- 3 *On all by death imprisoned
 the sun begins to rise,
 the dawning of forgiveness
 upon the sinner's eyes,
 to guide the feet of pilgrims
 along the paths of peace;
 oh, bless our God and Savior
 with songs that never cease!*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE **Now the Silence** **ELW # 460****Now the silence****Now the peace****Now the empty hands uplifted****Now the kneeling****Now the plea****Now the Father's arms in welcome****Now the hearing****Now the pow'r****Now the vessel brimmed for pouring****Now the body****Now the blood****Now the joyful celebration**

Now the wedding
Now the songs
Now the heart forgiven leaping
Now the Spirit's visitation
Now the Son's epiphany
Now the Father's blessing
Now
Now
Now

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

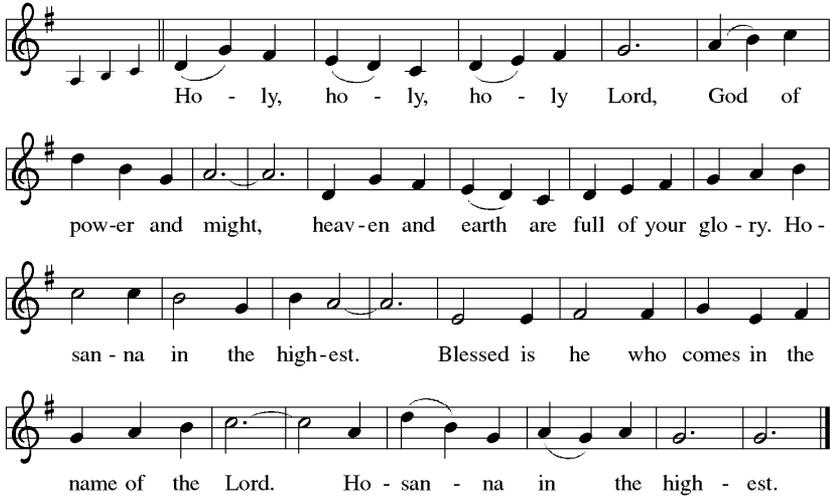
GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

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;
 who on this day overcame death and the grave,
 and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of
 everlasting life.
 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


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God,
 you alone are holy,
 you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
 beyond the stars;
 beneath the sea;
 within each cell;
 with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
 through the water;
 by night and day;
 across the wilderness;
 out of exile;
 into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
 at the heart of human life;
 near to those who suffer;
 beside the sinner;
 among the poor;
 with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us
 on the way,
 at the table,
 and to the end,
 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
 in our gathering;
 within this meal;
 among your people;
 throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
 to you, holy God,
 through Christ Jesus,
 by your Spirit,
 in your church,
 without end.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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

You are invited to come forward to the front of the nave to receive the Meal. The bread will be distributed by the Presiding Minister. Gluten free wafers are available. Please ask. The wine, served in small glasses, can be received on either side of the front. Also in each tray you will find glasses containing white grape juice as an alternative to the wine. Return to your seats via the side aisles, placing your empty glasses in the baskets provided along the way. In returning to your seats, pause to pray and give thanks for the life-giving graces you have received in this holy meal offered us by the crucified-risen Jesus.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 PRAYER FOR HOME COMMUNION VISITOR

(when necessary)

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread,

assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament

with those who are *sick or homebound*. In your love and care,

nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament,

and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through

the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

+SENDING+

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS**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 *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song* ELW #808

- 1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.
- 2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
- 3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.
- 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my
side.
And with all of the family you saved by your love,
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS for Sunday, January 15

The Rev. Leslie R. Swenson; Deacon Gwynne Hopko

Assisting Minister: Terry Gustafson

Lector: Bob Herold

Tech Team: Abigail Griffin, Ken Griffin, Kyle Galvin, Noah Galvin

Ushers: Denise Martin, Donald Zurell, Alan Rindfleisch

Altar Guild: Denise Martin, A.J. Trudel

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Seeing and Telling Who Jesus Is

The time after Epiphany is the church's time to invite us to come and see who this one born in a manger will be, and to discover what this one born to a young woman might mean for us and for the world. Today's gospel tells us that Jesus is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world," "the Son of God," and "the Messiah." These appellations show us that the coming of Jesus has meaning not just for those who follow him, but for all people and all the world. In the gospel, neither John nor Andrew can contain their testimony about who Jesus is. They have had an encounter with Christ that has had such an impact on their lives that they cannot help but tell others about it. John tells his disciples and everyone else within earshot about Jesus. Andrew runs to find his brother, Peter, and brings him to Jesus so that Peter might have the same life-changing encounter he himself has experienced.

We are invited to "come and see" who Jesus is. We are reminded that God's forgiveness and love proclaimed in Jesus Christ is meant to be good news for us and for all people. As we encounter Christ, our lives are changed. Like John and Andrew in today's gospel, we are called to share with others who we have seen Jesus to be.