The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 5, 2023

9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

Masks are optional but available in the narthex for anyone who feels more comfortable taking that precaution for themselves or on behalf of others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. C: Amen.

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

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: 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.

C: Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Rise, Shine You People

ELW # 665

GREETING

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





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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. C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a

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.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112:1-10 (read responsively)

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 generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

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.

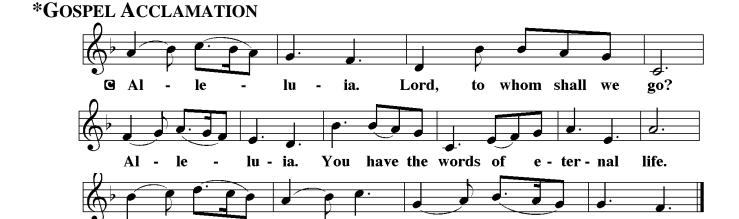
⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they 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. [¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.]

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.



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*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; 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."

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

HOMILY Pastor Traci

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ Be Our Light

ELW # 715

*The Apostles' CREED

A: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: 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 the Church

- A: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A: 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, C: receive our prayer.
- A: 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, C: receive our prayer.
- A: 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 politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.
- A: 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, C: receive our prayer.
- A: 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, *C*: **receive our prayer.**
- A: 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, *C*: receive our prayer.
- A: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

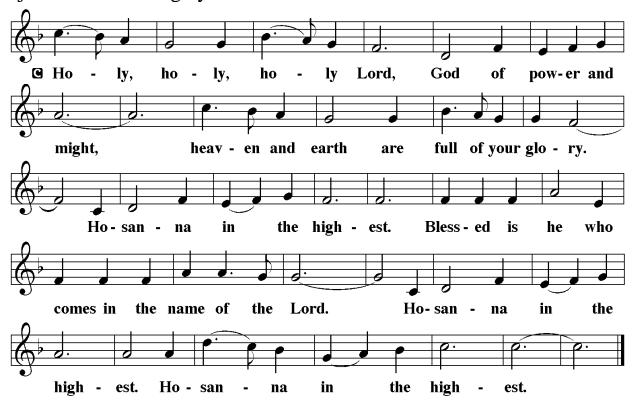
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

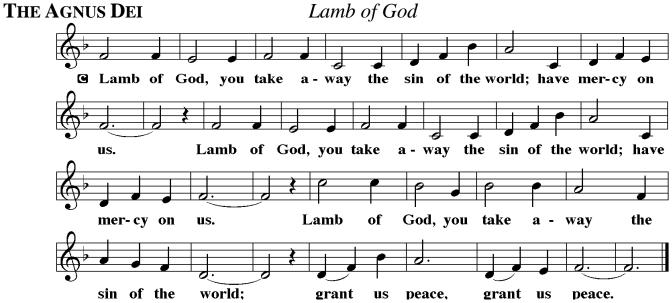
By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C** Amen

*LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

Note: White grape juice is available in the cups in the center of the trays. The Usher will invite the lectern side, then the piano side, then the back section forward for communion.

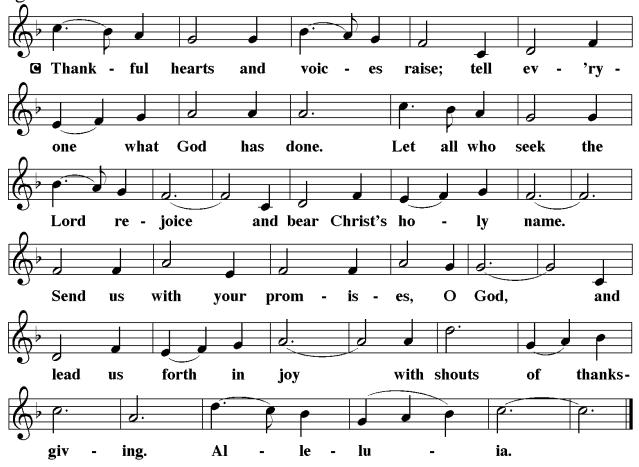
*COMMUNION HYMN

One Bread, One Body

ELW # 496

BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen.**

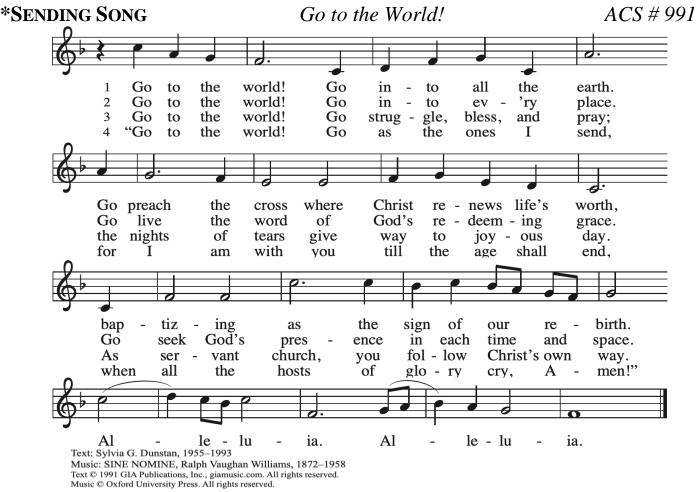


PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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. C: Amen.

BLESSING

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



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Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in memory of Stanley and Margaret Metz by Melissa Fetzer.

Altar Flowers: You can sponsor Altar Flowers by using the sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board. The cost is \$40.00 and there are still open Sundays.

Offering Statements: *ALL* 2022 Offering Statements are now located in the box in the Narthex.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Lector – Lori Tremmel

Our Acolyte – Jay Hoenstine

Our Assisting Minister – Stacy Kuster

Our Altar Guild – Jean Sinal

Our Usher – Steve Oswalt

Our Audio/Video Tech - Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from Salem United Church of Christ, along with the regular volunteers, will be assisting with the food distribution on Thursday, February 16 from 9:00 until 11:00a.m.

The Items most needed are: Sunny D Drink, Cereal, Canned Fruit, Canned Tuna, Ham, or Chicken and Paper Towels. *Linda K. Smith*

All 2023 Goals and Committee member names should be given to Lori in the Church Office by Monday, February 13, 2023.

Cake Pans and Cake Carrier: The cake pans and carrier are waiting to go home. Please take your item which is located in the Narthex on the table.

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413

Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Lori Tremmel – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today – Worship Service in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Monday – Worship & Music Meeting via Zoom 6:00 p.m.

Scout Meeting, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday – Yoga, Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.

Saturday - Fellowship Hall in use 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Sunday – Scout Sunday

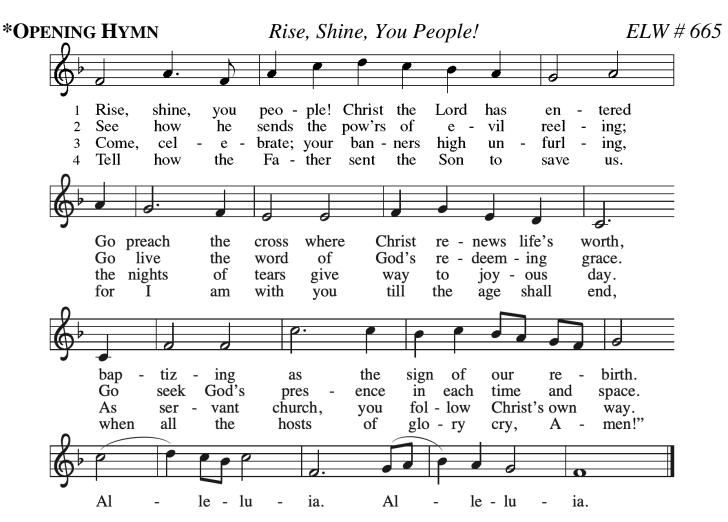
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Carl Alexy, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenberg, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.
Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Bonnie Brobst, Diane Cappel, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Sheryl Confeit, Terry & Cathy Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Lindsey Garrison, Bob Guyer, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Melissa Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Paul Ruth, Todd Slick, John Steele, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, John Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany), Melody Estep.

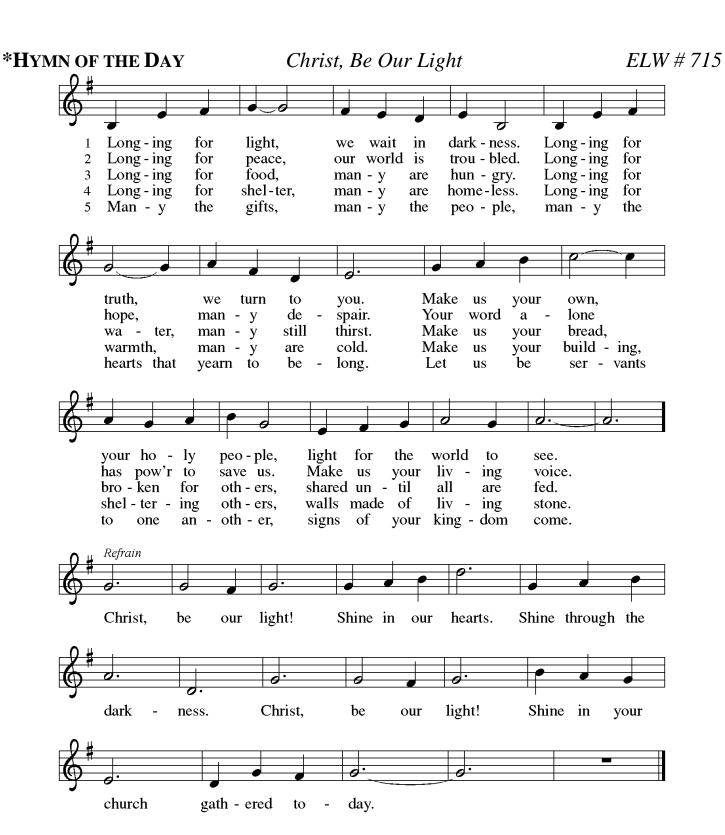


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Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Text: John Foley, sJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, stand music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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