

Worship in the Home

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, Year B

February 7, 2021



In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ.

While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

Prelude

Announcements

Greeting

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

Opening Hymn

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

ELW # 312



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

²**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

³The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

⁴**The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶**The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸**who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

⁹God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love.

^{20c} **Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹Jesus came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to Jesus all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you."

³⁸Jesus answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Homily

Reflection

Mark wants to say in every way he can that God’s salvation is hidden in the cross. This is what scholars have called “the messianic secret.” There are two instances of the secret in today’s text: Jesus silences the demons because they know who he is; and, after “the whole city” has been gathered at his door, he goes away alone to a deserted place. But this hidden Jesus then goes on to all the neighboring towns. In our day, the salvation that is in the cross is still hidden. But we proclaim that the crucified one is risen and goes on to all the world. He comes here to the house of our church and to our own homes. We are the weak ones, sick with a fever. In the power of the Spirit, Jesus is the presence of the God who strengthens the weak. Jesus is himself the gospel given away for free. We are healed now, so that we — like Peter’s mother-in-law — may rise to serve others.



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom,

I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.



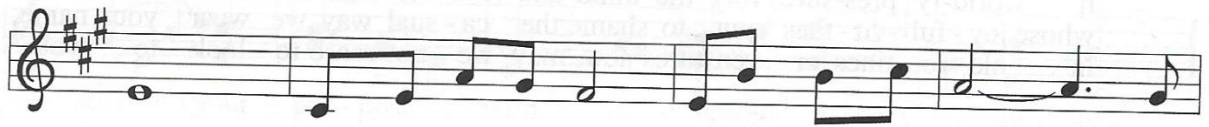
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. To stanza 2
 Come and rest in me. To refrain
 all will know my name. To refrain
 up, now walk and live! To refrain



Refrain
 Do not be a - afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



To stanzas 3 and 4
 love you and you are mine."

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's power to heal, let us offer our prayers for all who are in need.

We pray for the church's many ministries of healing; for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains; for those serving in prisons, camps, and institutions; and for bishops and pastors facing illness of which we are unaware. We pray to you, saving God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We pray for the health of the earth; for its myriad animals and their habitats; and for all created life that has been harmed by human misuse. We pray to you, provident God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We pray for the health of people around the globe, especially for the people of Ethiopia and India; for international health organizations; for local and national medical services; and for school officials and teachers facing the pandemic. We pray to you, benevolent God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We pray for wholeness in our nation; for the safety of our nation's elected leaders; for an end to domestic violence; for an end to prejudice; and for an end to civic terrorism. We pray to you, sovereign God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We pray for a halt to the pandemic; for all who have contracted Covid-19; for health workers; for the prompt distribution of vaccines; and for all who today will die from the virus. We pray to you, compassionate God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We pray for all who are sick and suffering; for those with chronic pain; for those experiencing despair; for infants born impaired and for the aged in decline; and for all whom we name here: . . . We pray to you, consoling God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We pray finally for ourselves; for steady trust in your power; and for health in our weakness. We pray to you, loving God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We praise you for the faithful departed and for their lives of service to others; and we pray that despite sickness and death, at our end we join with them to find our wholeness in you. We pray to you, eternal God: **We await your steadfast love.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Rise, Shine, You People

ELW # 665



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Benediction

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace. **Amen**

Postlude

Join us for fellowship on Zoom:

ID 596-621-1441

Passcode 8675309

Schedule

Sunday 9:30 AM Worship Livestream

Monday, Friday 9AM Hymn Devotion

Tuesday & Thursday 9AM Morning Prayer & 9PM Night Prayer

Wednesday 7PM Holden Evening Prayer w/Bible Study After on Zoom

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday Morning Kids' Bible Story Time

Chair Committee people, if you haven't sent Lori via email your 2020 Year End Reports, List of Committee people, and 2021 Goals; please get them to Lori by **TODAY, February 7.**

Serving God and Us Today

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Bill Brown

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Local Needs”

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Clyde Claycomb, Donna Gearhart, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, Audrey Hite, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Helena Bassler, Marsha Bookhammer, Diane Cappel, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Mary Creps, Brian Fleck, Jim Freyer, Donna Gearhart, Vinnie Gunning, Erika Hallam, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Joan Housel, Amber Itle, Jenny, James Kelly, Darren Kreutzer, Kristen Malloy, Rick McIntyre, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, Paul Ruth, Pstr. Scott Schul, Barbara Smith, Bill Stahl, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle’s Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Specialist Training in the Army: Nathan Smith

Ash Wednesday—February 17th

Virtual Ash Wednesday services will be on Facebook Live at 9AM and on Zoom at 12PM and 7PM. All three services will be the same, but you can have a fuller communal experience on Zoom if you choose. If you want to impose ashes at home as part of the liturgy, ashes will be available to pick up at the church Sunday, February 14th through Wednesday, February 17th, inside the door to the Fellowship Hall. (You may prepare your own ashes at home by burning palms from previous Palm Sundays. Ashes may stay on longer if you mix the dry ash with a little olive oil. Do NOT mix ashes with water; this will burn your skin.)



Lent-In-A-Bag

We will gather on Zoom for a time of devotion with music and crafts on Thursdays during Lent at 7PM. Materials for the crafts will be available for you to pick up at the church Sunday, February 14th through Wednesday, February 17th inside the door to the Fellowship Hall. Please take one bag per person in your household who wants to participate. We hope to see folks of all ages; very young children may need a little help with the crafts.

Lenten Journey for your Fridge



Post our map on your refrigerator to follow a Lenten journey of daily devotions. Each day has a recommended activity to go with a verse or story from scripture and questions for discussion or personal reflection. Find the maps, a magnet to track your progress, and the accompanying devotional material at the church Sunday, February 14th through Wednesday, February 17th, inside the door to the Fellowship Hall.

3 Things to Pick Up at St. Matthew

Sunday, February 14th through Wednesday, February 17th,
please drop by to pick up:

- Ashes for Ash Wednesday
- Lenten Devotional Journey Map & Materials
- Lent-In-A-Bag Devotional and craft supplies

Materials will be inside the door to the Fellowship Hall.

Readings for the Week:

Monday Psalm 102:12-28. **Tuesday** 2 Kings 8:1-6. **Wednesday** Mark 3:7-12. **Thursday** Psalm 50:1-6. **Friday** 1 Timothy 1:12-20. **Saturday** Luke 19:41-44. **Transfiguration of Our Lord** (commemoration of Cyril, monk, 869; Methodius, bishop, 885; missionaries to the Slavs) 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9.

Reflection text: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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