

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Jesus for All People
February 6 & 7, 2021

AS WE GATHER

In today's Gospel from Mark, Jesus says, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." His ministry and mission for this world was one for all people. Even as Jesus early on in His earthly ministry heals people, including Simon's mother-in-law, so He comes to us still with healing through the forgiveness of sins. Blessed by Him and His unending grace, we can be rejuvenated and strengthened on "wings like eagles" and serve all in His name and "become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some . . . for the sake of the gospel."

WELCOME

"Behold, my servant whom I have chosen,
my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased.
I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.
And in his name the Gentiles will hope." (Matthew 12: 18, 21, ESV)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #664 "Fight the Good Fight" Stanzas 1-4

Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be Your joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace;
Lift up your eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on your guide; His boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove
Christ is your life and Christ your love.

Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He changes not who holds you dear;
Only believe, and you will see That Christ is all eternally.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

People: **It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, . . . who stretches out the heavens like a curtain.**

Pastor: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

People: **The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.**

Pastor: He heals the brokenhearted

People: **and binds up their wounds.**

Pastor: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

People: **His understanding is beyond measure.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O God, you have come to call us to repentance and faith, to salvation and life. We come before you to confess and repent of our sins.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the times we have tried to keep our faith a private concern, failing to be all things to all people for the sake of your kingdom, instead seeking your blessings only for ourselves.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the times we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have neglected prayer and concern for the community in need around us and for people throughout the world.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the many faults and failings that are known only to you.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: We hear today in God's Word, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable." Therefore we run to our Savior in repentance and rely on Him to receive the crown of life He alone has earned. Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Feast"

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Refrain:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. **Refrain**

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, our loving Father, as we run and grow weary and walk and feel faint in this earthly life of trials, troubles, and temptations, raise us up by your grace that we be invigorated by your Word and the hope affirmed through Christ's empty tomb; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 40:21–31* (The Lord's understanding is unsearchable.) ²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³ who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 9:16–27* (Sharing the Gospel with all people)

¹⁶ For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. ¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.

4 continued

²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.
²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SONG **“Lord, Be Glorified”** AGPS #165

In my life Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In my life Lord, be glorified today.

In my song Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In my song Lord, be glorified today.

In Your church Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In Your church Lord, be glorified today.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:29–39* (Jesus, who came for all people, heals many.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹ And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed 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. ³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.” ³⁸ And he said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.” ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

SERMON HYMN #411 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

And show me the way to the Father.

In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart Lord Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

We shall know the joy of Jesus.

In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

SERMON

(Rise)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING Offering plates will be placed in the narthex and by the elevator room for gathering at the end of the service.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for all people of God and for all people in their need. For the Church of God everywhere, that the Lord Jesus would continue to work among His people to forgive sins, deliver from death and the devil, and strengthen and preserve them in the one true faith unto life everlasting, and that His people always remember why He has come as Savior from sin, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the kingdoms of this world, that God would guide rulers to act with justice and integrity in service to all those entrusted to their care, and that when surrounded by violence and uncertainty, His people might trust in His unsearchable wisdom and cling to His promises of rescue in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who grieve and those in need of healing and deliverance, especially Steve, Harold, Cindy, Rolland, Arlene, Margie, Junie, Don, Jan, Louis, Dawn, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Dennis, Diane, June, Jerry, Cindy, Shirley, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah, that God who heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds would grant them relief and preserve them in the hope of His steadfast love in Christ Jesus. For those who suffer from chronic illness and long-term suffering that, as Jesus healed the mother-in-law of Simon Peter, God would give power to the faint, increase the strength of those who have no might, and preserve them in patience and the faith that in Christ they will mount up with wings like eagles, run and not be weary and walk and not faint, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all people who are experiencing loneliness and isolation, especially caused by the pandemic. We pray that you would end this pandemic and give relief to all who are suffering as a result. Give them comfort and remind them of your abiding presence in each passing day. Use us, your church, to seek those who are weak. Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all of us to have hearts of compassion and service. Use your Holy Spirit to form us into the image of Christ, that we would serve the people you place into our lives, reflecting His love to all people. Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the mission of the church. That you would send us beyond our own walls and into our communities to show hospitality and carry the Gospel wherever we go. Bless our Together in Mission partners as they serve diligently. Bless our school in its constant ministry to students and families. Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION *Wait for the usher to direct you to come forward. Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.*

HYMN #849 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees’ the pris’ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev’ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert’s burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev’ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

HYMN #684 “Come Unto Me, Ye Weary”

“Come unto Me, ye weary, And I will give you rest.”
O Blessed voice of Jesus, Which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction, Of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending, Of love that cannot cease.

“Come unto Me, ye wand’rers, And I will give you light.”
O loving voice of Jesus, Which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness, And we had lost our way;
But Thou hast brought us gladness And songs at break of day.

“Come unto Me, ye fainting, And I will give you life.”
O Cheering voice of Jesus, Which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager, The fight is fierce and long;
But Thou hast made us mighty And stronger than the strong.

“And whosoever cometh, I will not cast him out.”
O patient love of Jesus, Which drives away our doubt,
Which, though we be unworthy Of love so great and free,
Invites us very sinners To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

HYMN #741 “Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense”

Jesus Christ, my sure defense And my Savior, now is living!
Knowing this, my confidence Rests upon the hope here given,
Though the night of death be fraught Still with many an anxious thought.

Jesus, my Redeemer, lives; Likewise I to life shall waken.
He will bring me where He is; Shall my courage then be shaken?
Shall I fear, of could the Head Rise and leave His members dead?

No, too closely I am bound By my hope to Christ forever;
Faith’s strong hand the Rock has found, Grasped it, and will leave it never;
Even death now cannot part From its Lord the trusting heart.

I am flesh and must return To the dust, whence I am taken;
But by faith I now discern That from death I shall awaken
With my Savior to abide In His glory, at His side.

Glorified, I shall anew With this flesh then be enshrouded;
In this body I shall view God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;
In this flesh I then shall see Jesus Christ eternally.

Then take comfort and rejoice, For His members Christ will cherish.
Fear not, they will hear His voice; Dying, they will never perish;
For the very grave is stirred When the trumpet’s blast is heard.

Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave And at death no longer tremble;
He, the Lord, who came to save Will at last His own assemble.
They will go their Lord to meet, Treading death beneath their feet.

O, then, draw away your hearts From all pleasures base and hollow;
Strive to share what He imparts While you here His footsteps follow.
As you now still wait to rise, Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We praise you, almighty God, for having fed us with your very body and blood, and for giving us the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Go with us, we pray, as we journey in the days ahead until we gather together in fellowship again. Protect us on our way, and let your holy angels watch over us, that the evil enemy may have no power over us; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #920 “Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go”

Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world’s true king.

King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
Kingship with Him His servants gain;
With Christ the Servant Lord of all,
Christ’s world we serve to share Christ’s reign.

Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
This world of time to consecrate,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ’s world in Christ to recreate.

Christ’s are our lips, His Word we speak;
Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim
Christ’s truth in love that we may be
Christ in the world, to spread Christ’s name.

We are the Church; Christ bids us show
That in His Church all nations find
Their hearth and home where Christ restores
True peace, true love to all mankind.

Preacher
Liturgist
Lector
Director of Parish Music

Pastor Noah Kegley
Pastor Harold Bender
Marc Stefanic
Michelle Prince

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Ash Wednesday Worship

February 17th

10:00am & 6:00pm

