+ Holy Cross Lutheran Church +

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Pastor Mark Huston

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Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 9, 2025

Divine Service, Setting One

As We Gather

Blessing abound in today's readings! Jeremiah laments the one who "trusts in man," but sees the one who "trusts in the Lord," to be like a tree planted with abundant water that "does not cease to bear fruit" (Jeremiah 17:5, 7, 8). Note that we are "planted,"—a passive verb, grace! Luke records another time Jesus preached using beatitudes. He concluded that we, his hearers, should rejoice and leap for joy, for our reward is great in heaven. Such grace! No wonder that Paul, in the Epistle, warns against those who doubt Christ's resurrection. Our Lord is only "the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Today our worship is full of rejoicing in the grace of God. It also gives us strength to produce fruit every day.

684 Come unto Me, Ye Weary



Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the

→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5; antiphon: v. 7

- I will praise you with an | upright heart,* when I learn your just and righ- | teous decrees.
- Blessèd are those whose way is | blameless,* who walk in the law | of the LORD!
- P Blessèd are those who keep his testi- | monies,* who seek him with their | whole heart.
- You have commanded your | precepts* to be kept dil- | igently.
- P Oh that my ways may be | steadfast* in keeping your | statutes!
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit;
- as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will praise you with an | upright heart,* when I learn your just and righ- | teous decrees.

Kyrie LSB 152

- **A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis LSB 154



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-8

R The Old Testament Reading is from Jeremiah, chapter 17.

⁵Thus says the LORD:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶He is like a shrub in the desert,

and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,

in an uninhabited salt land.

7"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

8He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:1–20

R The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 15.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel Luke 6:17–26

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

- P ¹⁷[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.
 - ²⁰And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:
 - "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
 - ²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.
 - "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.
- ²²"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.
 - ²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
 - ²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.
 - "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
 - ²⁶"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life

→ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, Your kingdom has been made manifest in the preaching and miracles of Jesus Christ. Gather together a great multitude from every Gentile nation and from Judea's remnant, that many may know Wisdom come in our flesh. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- P Grant, O Lord, that Your people may always hold fast to the Word that has been preached to them and not believe it in vain. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord God, You bestow favor and honor and withhold nothing from those who walk uprightly. Bless parents and those who teach children Your ways, that generations to come would love Your promises, walk in Your truth and dwell in Your house. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- P O Lord, preserve us from the ways of the wicked, and prosper us in Your paths. We commend to You all who bear office in our land and ask You to make them a blessing to those they serve. Grant to us every joy in the calling You have given to us, that we would render service to You in our works of love toward our neighbor. Remember those in need of honest labor and daily bread, and give them gainful employment according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Merciful God, hear our prayer for those who are troubled by any unclean spirit, memory or thought; for the sick; and for all who need Your healing [especially ________]. Send forth Your power in the name of Christ Jesus, that they would hear Your Word and be cured. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Bless all who trust in You and come to eat the holy body and precious blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins in the blessed Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- O Lord, Your Son is risen from the dead and has promised that He is the firstfruits from among those who sleep. Preserve us in Christ Jesus with hope beyond this life. Comfort those who mourn [especially ______] with the certainty of Christ's resurrection, and grant us to live in confident expectation. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Lord God, heavenly Father, plant us as trees by the stream of Christ, our Savior. Root us securely in His Word and wisdom. Do not let us turn from You, nor put our trust in man and this flesh, which fail. Preserve us from all anxiety, and take our fears away through right fear of You. Cause us, by Your Holy Spirit, to bear much fruit and, when affliction and persecution come, to stand firm and rejoice at the great reward that is laid up for those who trust in You; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

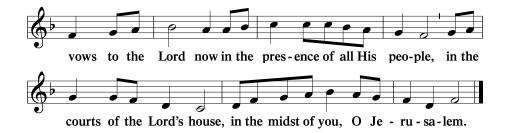
Offering LSB 729 sts. 1–5

Stand



I will pay my

tion and will call on the name of the Lord.



Welcome to our Visitors

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; and 1 Corinthians 11:17–34.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 160

- **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 Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 161





Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer LSB 162

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

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.

The Words of Our Lord

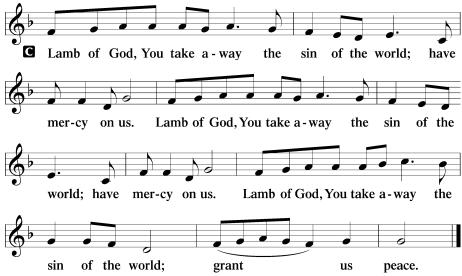
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

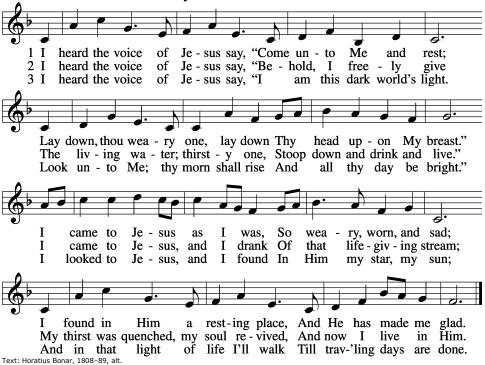
Agnus Dei LSB 163



Sit

Distribution





Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt. Tune: Amanda Husberg, 1940–2021

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821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

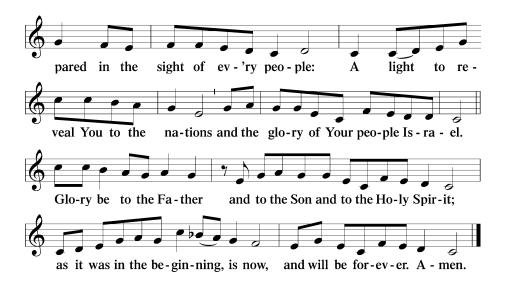


Stand



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-

LSB 165



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

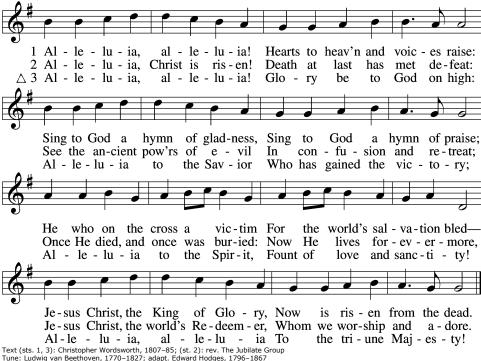
C Amen.

Benediction LSB 166

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.

 \mathbf{C} Amen.

477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven



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Announcements

Adult Sunday School at 9am on Sunday mornings is studying Deuteronomy.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory.

The Ladies Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 10am studying Ezra.

Church Council next meeting is Mar 16 at 8am.

The next Men's Breakfast and Bible Study is Sat. Mar 8 at 9am.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday Service Mar 5 at 6pm.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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