



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2021

Thought for the Day

*What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters
compared to what lies within us.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Welcome

Prelude *“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”* (Diane Bish)

Tower Bell

Introit

Call to Worship

L: How good is it to sing praises to our God.

M: **God is gracious and a song of praise is fitting.**

L: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.

M: **Make melody to our God on musical instruments.**

L: Our hearts will sing for joy to the living God.

M: **Blessed are those who dwell in your house.**

L: Let us Worship our God!!

M: **Come, Lord Jesus. May your loving Holy Spirit fill us in this time of Worship!**

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Dearest Lord, Jesus, we give you thanks that your Spirit has gathered us together today, to attend to your Word, sing your praises, and be nourished by your presence. Help us set aside the cares and worries of the day. Teach us to turn our hearts to you that we may leave this place refreshed, renewed, and restored, ready to serve you with joy.

O Holy One, we confess it is not easy for us to pray with the psalmist, *“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”*

We prefer our prayer to be comforting, not challenging or correcting; assuring, not inquiring or requiring. We confess the fear that in prayer the demons that lie in wait within and without may raise their voices against us, tempting us, accusing us, or falsely flattering. We wish to avoid this place of wrestling. Forgive us for failing to trust that you will keep us strong to resist, by your Spirit, firm in the trust that, in Jesus, the power of evil has been overcome, and that in him we, too, have victory. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

P: Hear the Good News! God has not left us defenseless! Though tossed by forces of temptation and condemnation, we are not helpless, for Jesus is our triumphant Saviour. The power of evil, sin, and death has been defeated in Christ, and we are free to walk strong and victorious in him. Thanks be to God! Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

M: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen!

***Gloria Patri**

(Creatorex)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Scripture From the Major Prophets of the Old Testament:

Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
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 live in;

²³ who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty 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 strengthens the powerless.
³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹ but those 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.

Anthem

"Shout to God"

(Joseph Martin)

Shout to God, sing a loud hosanna,
Shout to God with a song of joy!
Shout to God with a loud hosanna.

Glory to God! Come sing to God a song of joy.
Praise the Lord with the trumpet.
Praise the Lord with a shout.

Praise ye the Lord with the crashing cymbals.
Praise ye the Lord Amen!
Praise Him with Alleluia!

Scripture

From the Letters of Paul: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶ If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim 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 entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so 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 I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Offertory Invitation

It is well with those who deal generously, the psalmist tells us. They have distributed freely, and have given to the poor. Bring your tithes and offerings to participate in the joy of our Creator. Let your light shine so others may see your good works and give glory to God.

Offertory

"Bread of Life"

(Raney)

At this table, Lord, we lay our burdens down;
at your feet we humbly kneel to pray.
At the foot of the cross, we contemplate the cost
as we share this feast today.

Lord, break your bread of life for me;
feed my hunger, set my spirit free;
pour out your grace on me.
Lord, fill my cup from the fountain of your love,
Open my eyes that I might see;
Break your bread of life, Lord, for me.

Lord, we renew our strength;
from this cup we drink of boundless grace.
Teach us, Lord, how to share the bounty
of your care when we leave this holy place.

We worship you, Lord of might and majesty.
We pray for your guidance from above.
We remember the sacrifice on Calvary,
We thank you for your never ending love.

Scripture

From the Gospels: Mark 1:29-39

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

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And 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.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸ He 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." ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon

"It's A Moving Story" Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Celebrating God's Word in Sacrament

Today we are celebrating the Lord's Supper. We believe in an OPEN Table.

ALL persons who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior
are encouraged to participate in the Sacrament.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED (unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one holy universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer

Consecration of the Elements

Partaking of the Lord's Supper

Communion is Open to ALL: saint and sinner, lost and found, believer and seeker.

We partake of the bread together to symbolize our unity & community as God's people.

We shall partake of the cup individually to symbolize our solitariness

as we each stand alone before our God

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Hymn

*“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”
(see next page)*

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

“Come Thou Almighty King” (Albin Whitworth)

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness 93

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light.
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word.
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place.

Praise the One who frees the pris - oners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
Praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.

Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - ery dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand.
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.

calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
From this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - ery land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

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NETTLETON
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Today's Worship Leaders:

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Rose Wendling

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Thanks to all the musicians and to Michael Sullivan and Dobin Park for assisting with filming and to Dobin Park for film editing.

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