



God's love, Our service.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

INTRODUCTION

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The February Noisy Offering collection will go to the Olathe Food pantry, chosen by the 5th and 6th grade class.

The flowers today are from Larrie & Donna Nichols, in celebration of Valentine's Day. Happy Valentine's Day!



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**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.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare.”

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.

Amen.



PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 582

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

- 1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling
in the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding
o'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising
those of earth to thrones on high;
living, life-imparting Spirit,
you we praise and magnify.
- 2 Holy Spirit, ever living
as the church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving
through us in a ceaseless strife;

Holy Spirit, ever forming
in the church the mind of Christ:
you we praise with endless worship
for your gifts and fruits unpriced.

- 3 Holy Spirit, ever working
through the church's ministry;
quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,
setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding
age to age and soul to soul
in communion never ending,
you we worship and extol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939, alt.

Greeting page 120

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

KYRIE Pg. 120

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,

the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CARILLON RINGERS "Joy and Elation", arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The LORD sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that

I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 119:1-8

Happy are they who follow the teaching of the LORD. (Ps. 119:1)

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**

³who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.

⁴**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**

⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!

⁶**Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**

⁷I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

⁸**I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION page 124

Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 5th Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

[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.”



SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

CHILDREN’S SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 612

Healer of Our Every Ill

Refrain

Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.

1 You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain*

2 In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain*

3 Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain*

4 You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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APOSTLES CREED

**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 Intercession

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible (*especially*), empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Nurture all in need (*especially*). Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for res-

toration. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarrelling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

PEACE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy pg. 130

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG pg. 134



COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 515

Break Now the Bread of Life

- 1 Break now the bread of life,
dear Lord, to me,
as once you broke the loaves beside the
sea.
Beyond the sacred page
I seek you, Lord;
my spirit waits for you,
O living Word.
- 2 Bless your own word of truth,
dear Lord, to me,
as when you blessed the bread by Galilee.

Then shall all bondage cease,
all fetters fall;
and I shall find my peace,
my All-in-All!

- 3 You are the bread of life,
dear Lord, to me,
your holy word the truth that rescues me.
Give me to eat and live
with you above;
teach me to love your truth,
for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt.

ELW 758

You Are the Way

- 1 You are the way; to you alone
from sin and death we flee;
all those who search for God, you find
and by your grace set free.
- 2 You are the truth; your word alone
true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind
and purify the heart.

- 3 You are the life; the rending tomb
proclaims your conqu'ring arm;
and those who put their trust in you
not death nor hell shall harm.
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life;
grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to win,
whose joys eternal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

Amen.

SENDING

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod

✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 434, vs. 1, 2 & 5

Jesus Shall Reign

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;

his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

Barbara Strampe,
The Wackerla family,
Kathy Hinkle,
Ruth Ann Hackler,
Lisa Dahn,
Janet Nichols,
Chuck Vandenberg,
Susan & Bill Roberts,
Donna Nichols,
Donna Frenzl,
George McElroy,
Pete and Linda Cagle,
Shane Paulson,
Janet Schmidt,
Phyllis Dettmer,
Madison Young

Family & friends:

Quinn, granddaughter of Mike and Jane Scherrer,
Family of Lillian, niece of Tom Bryer,
Family of Sandy Hawk, niece of Bob Fetsch,
Family of Nan Wolfe,
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,
Michelle Ray, friend of Barbara Strampe's daughter,
Jane Fetters, Sister of Joni Benz,
Bill Benne, friend of Joyce and Louis Johnson,
Ron & Susan Laliberte, neighbors of Barbara Strampe,
Ed Colson, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Austin, Grandson of Jim & Mary Weeg,
Jean, Hackler family member,
Cindy Campbell, sister of Joni Benz,
Lynn, Dennis & Sharon Thee, relatives of Barbara Strampe,
John, brother of Ken Griffitt,
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,
Craig Aldag, Uncle of Ali Luin,
Manuel & family, friend of Jenny Wheeler's grandson,
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,
Juliana Marie McClelland, friend of Susan Roberts,
Andrew, friend of the Scherrers,
Craig Downing, Father of Joni Benz,

Suzie, Aunt of Nancy Bryer,
Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,
Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's sister-in-law,
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade Beck,
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stewart,
Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts,
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Families,
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,
All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,
Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan