St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 8618 Church Hill Drive, Lohman, Missouri 65053

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Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024

NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex for worship services. Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

*Gathering Song:



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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Remembering that Jesus the Christ died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and was raised on the third day giving us eternal life. We continue with confession and forgiveness.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin, in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for Reflection

God, our rock and refuge,

C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C: Amen.

* SHARING THE PEACE

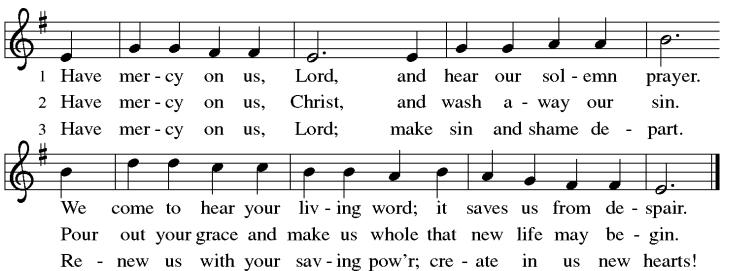
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

GREETING (Please be seated)

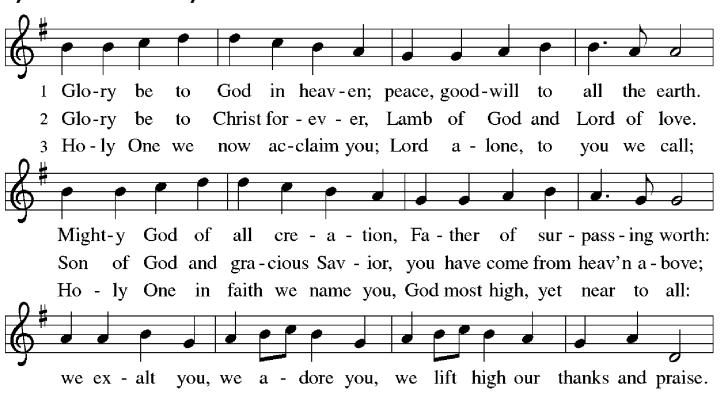
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie:



Hymn of Praise: Glory to God



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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. **C:** Amen.

Children's Bell Choir "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

Children's Sermon

Children's Sunday School

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Isaiah, the 40th chapter.

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? 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; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. 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. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. 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. 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"? 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. He gives power to the faint, strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; 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.

The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147 (Read Responsively)

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

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem and gathers the exiles of Israel.

The Lord heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

The Lord counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

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

The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

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

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

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

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

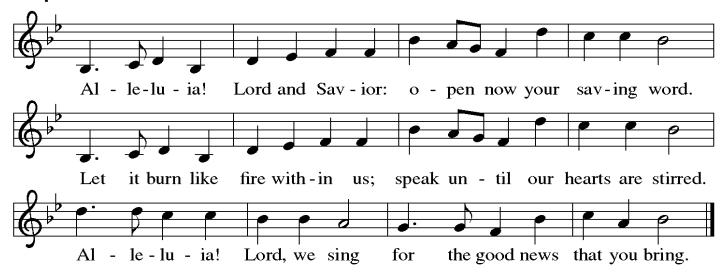
but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord, in those who await God's steadfast love. Hallelujah!

The 2nd lesson is a reading from I Corinthians, the 9th chapter.

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! 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation:



*The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. 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. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there

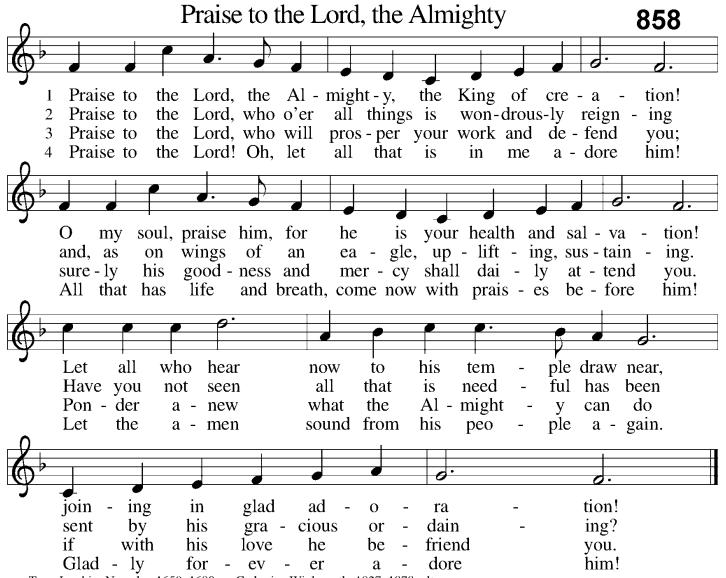
also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Not just here, but everywhere

Pastor David Viles

Hymn of the Day:



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

* Apostle's Creed - Please stand.

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.

THANKSGIVING

Offering: We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts.

*(Please Stand) Offertory: Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Offertory Prayer: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

* The Prayers of Intercession: The congregation's response to "God of grace." is "receive our prayer."

*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.

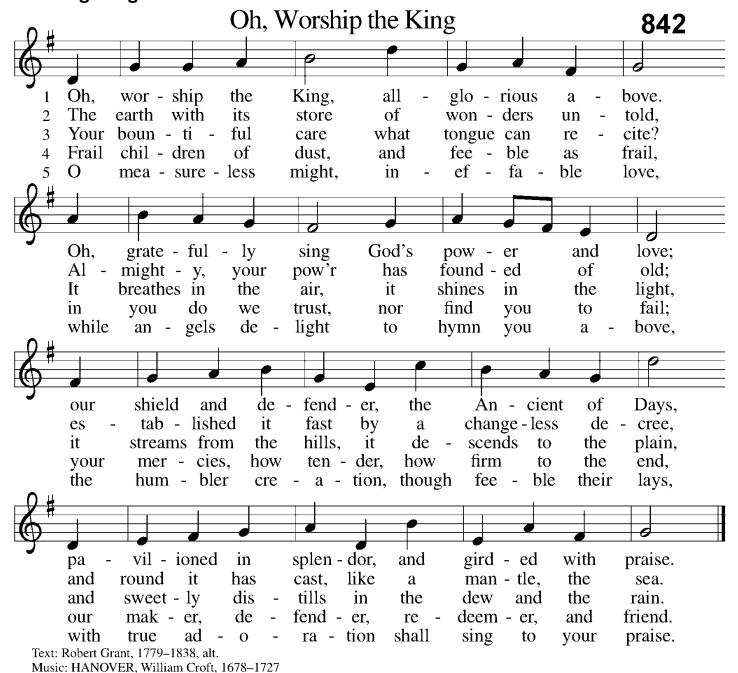
SENDING

*Blessing: (Please Stand)

Pastor David

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, \oplus bless you and remain with you always. **C: Amen.**

*Sending Song



P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Presiding Minister Pastor David Viles

Organist / Keyboard Zola Finch
Song Leader Kathy Meller

Acolyte Lucas Plochberger

Audio / Video Technician Dan Tschirgi Reader Trish Russell

Ushers Stacy Bubach & AJ Ferrell
Greeters Audrey Bunch & Gary Elliott

Altar Flowers Audrey Bunch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A thank you to Glen and Donita Stubinger for hosting the Fellowship Hour following worship service this morning. Glen and Donita Stubinger invite everyone to join them in celebration of their 51st wedding anniversary.

Margaret Circle will meet Tuesday, February 5, 6:30 PM at the church. Donita Stubinger will provide refreshments and Ruth Stubinger will lead the Bible study. Please RSVP to Erika Gerth at (573) 635-6681 or erikagerth329@gmail.com.

The Bell Choir will ring bells today. We will play "Go Tell It On the Mountain".

Souper Bowl Sunday: Let's kick this off in a big way. During the next two Sundays, February 4th and 11th, we will be collecting soup in cans or packages. Please put them in the narthex and they will be distributed to the Food Pantry to feed the hungry.

Our annual quilt making days are scheduled for February 14 and 19. We will begin about 8:30 or whenever you arrive. The good news is that lunch will be provided both days, thanks to Donita. There is a rumor that quite a few quilt tops have been constructed, so we will have plenty of work to do.

Jr. Lutherans plan to meet on Sunday, February 18 after church service. They will have lunch and do crafts before going to visit the Primrose Retirement Home. Lunch will be provided.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Hymn history – Three hundred and thirty-three years ago, Joachim Neander was battling tuberculosis. He had come to love walks through "Neander Valley" (named for him later) near Dusseldorf, where he wrote our hymn of the day "858 - Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" during that last year of his thirty-year life. Neander had been rebellious both in his youth and as the first hymn writer from the Calvinist branch of Protestantism in his church in Dusseldorf, where he was once suspended for 14 days for not involving the church leaders in his prayer meetings and not attending Holy Communion with the "unconverted". The hymn we sing today has stood the test of time to have been sung by millions of people in many different languages around the world.

Sources: "Then Sings My Soul" by Robert J. Morgan. Also hymnary.org

Schedule for Online Services:

Services are at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings on FaceBook Live:

https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill

All services can be viewed at any time on our St. Paul's website:

http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org just scroll down to the middle section and click on the service of your choice under "In Case You Missed It." Below that is another section for current and past bulletins.

Pastor David Viles