

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.

The Prelude

Basse et Dessus de Trompette (The Bass and Treble of the Trumpet Stop)

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

The Call to Worship

Leader: God said, "Let there be light."

People: And there was light.

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." **People: And the light shone in the darkness.**Leader: Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."

All: And the light shall not be quenched.

The Hymn No. 2236

Gather Us In

GATHER US IN

- 1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away, see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name
- 2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face, we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
- 3. Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
- 4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away, but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

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The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Eternal Light, shine into our hearts.

Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil.

Eternal Power, be our support.

Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.

Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us.

That with all our heart and mind and soul and strength we may seek your face and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Announcements

The Prayer of Illumination

The Psalter pages 833

Psalm 112

[The first response will be sung by the choir and then by everyone. All other responses will be sung by everyone.]

S T Kimbrough, Jr. (Ps. 112:4,5)



Response

- l Praise the Lord.
 - Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in God's commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- Wealth and riches are in their house, and their righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful and righteous.
- 5 It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- 6 For the righteous shall never be moved; they will be remembered for ever.

Response

- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, trusting in the Lord.
- 8 When they see their adversaries, their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid.
- 9 They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures for ever; their horn is exalted in honor.
- 10 The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

Response

- 1. This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 2. Everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine, everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine, everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. let it shine.
- 3. All through the night, I'm goin'a let it shine, all through the night, I'm goin'a let it shine, all through the night, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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The Homily Be These Dr. Matt Bates

The Invitation

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

The Confession and Pardon (in unison)

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

All pray in silence.

Leader: Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God's love towards us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

The Offertory Prayer

Barrie Cabena

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Ye are the light of the world.

A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Ye are the light of the world.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Alleluia. Amen.

Matthew 5:14-16

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The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts,

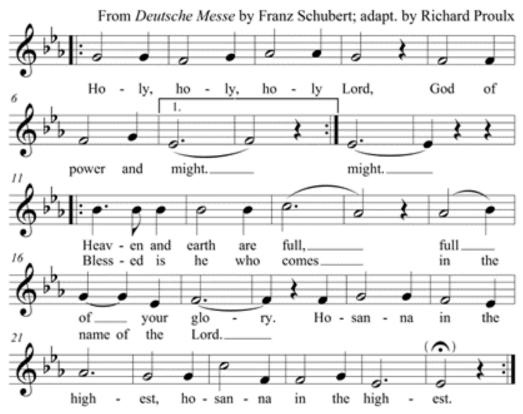
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion, remembering God's acts of salvation, and concludes:

And so,

with your people on earth and with all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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The pastor continues the thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes:

And so,

in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding: All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.



The Lord's Prayer No. 895

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 that 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. Amen.

The Giving and Receiving of Communion

The Communion Music

Lord, Speak to Me

Adapted from Robert Schumann

The Recessional Hymn No. 2237

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

BEACH SPRING

- 1. As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame, so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care, we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.
- 2. We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way. We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay. By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light. In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.
- 3. As a green bud in the springtime is the sign of life renewed, so may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued. As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone, may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.

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The Benediction

The Postlude He Touched Me John H. Hopkins, Jr.

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Reminder! Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning by signing the online attendance pad <u>here</u>.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning and throughout the week to make this worship possible.

Scripture

Matthew 5:13-20

Salt and Light

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. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In 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.

The Law and the Prophets

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For 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. ¹⁹ Therefore, 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. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Announcements

PUB THEOLOGY – Sunday, February 19 at Hardywood Brewery, 2410 Ownby Lane. Join us for a time of fellowship and discussion. The topic in February will be *What is Christian Community?* Questions? Contact Molly Monaghan – mollymonaghan1839@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Join us on Wednesday as we gather on Zoom to look at the scripture for the upcoming week. An email is out with all the details on Tuesdays. If you would like to be added to the Bible study email list, please contact the church office.

THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 – Join us immediately following the worship service in the social hall as we continue watching *The Chosen – Season 3*.

TRAVELING FRIENDS DAY TRIP TO RUDY THEATER – Join the fun on March 16, 2023, at the wonder Easter Jubilee Musical Show. Reserve your spot today! Contact the church office for more detailed information and the reservation form

Upcoming Events

THIS WEEK

February 5 11:30 am The Chosen

February 6 5:00 pm Change the World/RVA

February 7 Noon AA

February 8 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study

7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

February 10 10:30 am Friday Lunch Program

February 12 10:30 am In-person and Livestream Worship

11:30 am The Chosen

LOOKING AHEAD

February 19 4:00 pm Pub Theology – Hardywood Brewery, Scotts Addition