

# Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



**Sunday, February 4, 2024**

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ

2725 Concord Drive

Florissant, MO 63033

## PRELUDE

“Bread of the World”  
“As the Sun Doth Rise”

Todd Kendall  
Christina Beckett

## WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, Creator of darkness and light, Word of truth,  
Spirit hovering over the waters.

**C: Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection*

P: 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 and inspire us to proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

P: 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.**

### GATHERING HYMN

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

ELW#843

### GREETING

P: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY *(After the prayer, the assembly responds: Amen.)*

*Please be seated.*

### FIRST READING **Isaiah 40:21-31** *(The scripture is read aloud and on the screen)*

L: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalms 147:1-11, 20c**

L: <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

**C: <sup>2</sup>The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

L: <sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

**C: <sup>4</sup>The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

L: <sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

**C: <sup>6</sup>The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

L: <sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

**C: <sup>8</sup>who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

L: <sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

**C: <sup>10</sup>God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

L: <sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love.  
C: <sup>20c</sup> Hallelujah!

**SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 9:16-23** *(The scripture is read aloud and on the screen)*

L: Word of God, Word of life.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING** - *Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the gospel.*  
P: The holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter (verses 29-39)  
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*(The scripture is read aloud and on the screen)*

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**  
*Following the reading the assembly is seated.*

**SERMON** Pastor Matt

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "God Whose Almighty Word" ELW#673

**PROFESSION OF FAITH** – *The 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**

*Each portion of the prayer ends with these words:*

L: God of grace,  
C: **receive our prayer.**

L: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Share God's peace in whatever way you and/or neighbors are comfortable.*

*Following the sharing of the peace the assembly is seated.*

### **GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

#### **OFFERING AND PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and wine, you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive your faith, hope, love, and are inspired to follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

#### **COMMUNION LITURGY**

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 our thanks and praise. Hosanna in the highest!**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

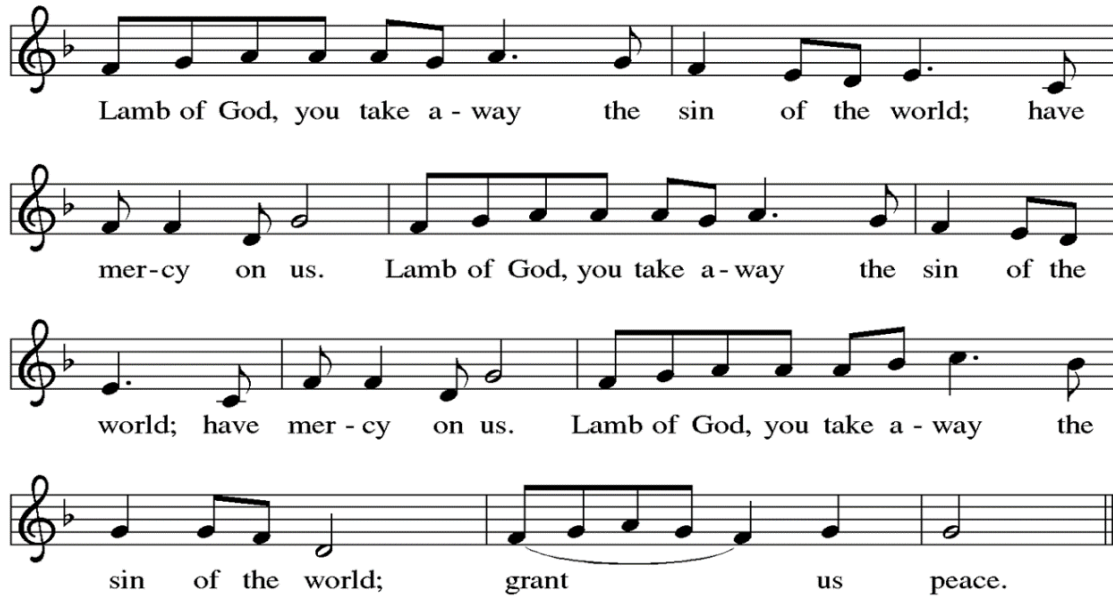
**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

**C: Amen.**

## Lamb of God



**DISTRIBUTION** *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine. Additional verbal directions will be given.*

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand ”

ELW#773

### BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God’s grace unto eternal life.

**C: Amen.**

### PRAYER

L: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus’ name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

*\*(ANNOUNCEMENTS – Please see announcements at the end of this bulletin.)*

### BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.

*(Num. 6:24)*

**C: Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

“Praise to the Lord”

ELW#858

### DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. God is at work in you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

“Recessionale”

Franklin Ritter

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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- 1. Contribution statements are ready to be picked up from the table in the Great Room.**
- 2. Lunch Bunch** will meet February 8 at the Ferguson Brewery at 418 S. Florissant Rd at 11:30 am. For reservations please contact Joyce Meyer at 314-374-4135 or jameyer46@charter.net. Judy Holmes is looking forward to returning as the lunch bunch coordinator when she finishes her treatments. All are welcome.
- 3. CVT meeting** 6pm ZOOM February 12th before Council Meeting.
- 4. Need recommendations** for a message to be placed on the white sign for February message to drivers on New Halls Ferry Road. Please contact Cathie Lehr or Marilyn Wiley with ideas.
- 5. February 21 at 10:30 am LCLC Lower Level** Enjoy pizza, salad, dessert, bingo and fellowship! No food charge to members and \$5.00 for guests. Please bring \$5.00 wrapped gift for bingo prizes. The sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board. Hope to see you there!
- 6. Living Christ & Girl Scout Troop 994 Quilt-making/service days.** Thursday, February 22 @ 6:30-8:00, Thursday, March 21 @ 6:30-8:00, and Thursday, April 25 @ 6:30-8:00. There will be "Create" days to make quilt tops and backs at Living Christ on several Friday mornings. See Kathy Endorf for more information on those dates. Thank you to everyone who has helped in this endeavor in the past, it has been a wonderful experience for the Girl Scouts and Living Christ!!!
- 7. Outreach-Crisis Nursery** - For the month of February, Living Christ will be supporting St. Louis Crisis Nursery. The St. Louis Crisis Nursery provides a short-term, safe haven for 4,000 children a year, birth through age 12, whose families face an emergency caused by illness, homelessness, domestic violence or overwhelming stress. Please mark your check "Crisis Nursery" in the memo line. Thank you for supporting this much needed ministry.
- 8. Girl Scout Troop 994** will have a Cookie Booth at Living Christ on Saturday, February 17 & Monday, February 19. Come and support the Girl Scouts.

### **FEBRUARY 4**

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt  
**Assisting Minister:** Randy Henning  
**Lector:** Bill Kaepfel  
**Live Streaming:** Erle Craig  
**Musician:** Greg Ott  
**Ushers:** Randy Henning & Dave Endorf  
**Greeter:** Levaughn & Sheila Smart  
**Altar Guild:** Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker

### **FEBRUARY 11, 2024**

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt  
**Assisting Minister:** Bill Kaepfel  
**Lector:** Randy Henning  
**Live Streaming:** Rod Wallace  
**Musician:** David Eggers  
**Ushers:** Jim & Doris Stoechner  
**Greeter:** Judy Holmes  
**Altar Guild:** Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer

**Joyful Giving Note** - Lutheran Church of the Living Christ needs your help in ensuring its future ministry. Please include the church in your will and/or other estate plans. You may want to at least tithe (give 10%) of your estate to the Lord. Remember to include the church's name and address along with the amount of your bequest. Should you wish, the pastor will provide you with the name of a caring and capable professional who can assist you.