

*At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,*

The Gospel of Christ.

**People** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Preparation Hymn # 59** *Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him*



*The wine, hosts, and bulletin today are in Loving Memory of Harold Pope from daughters Brenda & Charmaine*

**Hymn During Communion** *The Lord is My Light*

*The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion; in God I trust. In God I trust.*

**Sending Hymn # 502** *You Are Salt for the Earth*

**Piano Postlude:** *Minuet and Gigue from Partita no. 1 in Bb* - J. S. Bach



The African Nova Scotian flag is a symbol of the African Nova Scotian community and their contributions to Nova Scotia's culture. The flag was designed by Wendy L. Wilson and unveiled in 2021.

#### Colors and symbols

- **Black:** Represents the people
- **Red:** Represents blood and sacrifice
- **Gold:** Represents cultural richness
- **Green:** Represents fertility and growth
- **Incomplete circle:** Represents things that are absent but yet to come
- **Sankofa:** An ancient Adinkra symbol from West Africa that represents the importance of learning from the past
- **Wave:** Represents the ocean and the journey of Wilson's ancestors through the Middle Passage

## The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

~ African Heritage Month ~



*'You are the salt of the earth - You are the light of the world'*

**February 8, 2026**

**Piano Prelude:** *Nocturne in G minor* - Frédéric Chopin

#### Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement

**Opening Hymn: # 450** *You Call Us Lord to Be*

#### Children's Message



#### Collect

**O God of light,**  
**your Spirit reveals and illumines**  
**your presence in creation.**  
**Shine your radiant holiness into our lives,**  
**so that we may offer our hands and hearts to your**  
**work: to heal and shelter, to feed and clothe,**  
**to break every yoke and silence evil tongues. Amen.**  
*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.*

#### The Proclamation of the Word

**Reader:** Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.

**All:** Our hearts and minds are open.

**Reader** A reading from the prophet Isaiah (58:1-12)

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a

nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

**Reader** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church  
**People** Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 112:1-10



Hallelujah! Happy are they who / fear the Lord\*  
 And have great delight in / his commandments!

**Their descendants will be mighty / in the land;\***  
**the generation of the upright / will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches will be / in their house,\*  
 and their righteousness will / last forever.

**Light shines in the darkness / for the upright;\***  
**the righteous are merciful and full / of compassion.**

It is good for them to be generous in lending\*

and to manage their affairs with justice.

**For they will never be shaken;\* the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any / evil rumors;\*  
 their heart is right; they put their trust / in the Lord.

**Their heart is established and / will not shrink,\***  
**until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

They have given freely / to the poor,\*  
 and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
 they hold up their / head with honour.

**The wicked will see it and be angry;**  
**they will gnash their teeth and / pine away;\***  
**the desires of the wicked will perish.**

### Gospel Acclamation Arise, Shine!

*Arise shine for your light has come  
 and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you*



### The Gospel

*All stand, as able, for the Gospel.*

**Deacon** The Lord be with you

**People** And also with you.

**Deacon** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus

. Christ according to Matthew (5:13-20)

**People** Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

'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. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 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. 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. 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. 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. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.