

# Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023

*Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude by the Exaltation Ringers – "Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him,"*  
by Linda Scholes

## GATHERING

*\*Call to Worship – “Our God Is Here”* (piano)

1. **Here in this time, here in this place, here we are standing face to face.**  
**Here in our hearts, here in our lives our God is here.**  
**Here for the broken, here for the strong, here in this temple we belong.**  
**Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here. And we cry:**

*Refrain: “Holy! Holy! Holy are you!” We cry: “Holy! Holy! Holy and true!”*  
*Amen, we do believe our God is here. Our God is here.*

2. **Here in the Word, God is revealed, here where the wounded can be healed.**  
**Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here.**  
**Here we become what we receive, here in this Eucharistic feast.**  
**We are his body, living as one; our God is here. And we cry: Refrain**

**And we cry: “Holy! Holy! Holy are you!” We cry: “Holy! Holy! Holy and true!”**  
**Amen, we do believe our God is here. Our God is here.**

*\*Confession and Forgiveness*

P: We gather in the name of our + Triune God in whom we are baptized - the Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit - who is light to the world, washes us of our sins, and gives life to all.

**C: Amen.**

P: Remembering God's baptismal love, we step out in faith to confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God of glory,

**C: you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people:  
God has come among us  
in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.  
✠ In Christ your sins are forgiven  
and you are clothed in peace.

**C: Amen.**

*\*Sharing of the Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

*Children's Sermon*

*Hymn of Praise – “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” ELW 623*

*(organ)*

- 1 **Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.**
- 2 **Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.**
- 3 **Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.**
- 4 **While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.**

## WORD

\**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29      Readers: Carol Kilver & Pastor Adam

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. <sup>2</sup>For with the judgement you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. <sup>3</sup>Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? <sup>4</sup>Or how can you say to your neighbour, "Let me take the speck out of your eye", while the log is in your own eye? <sup>5</sup>You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye.

<sup>6</sup>Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.

<sup>7</sup>Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>8</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>9</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? <sup>10</sup>Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? <sup>11</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

<sup>12</sup>In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.

<sup>13</sup>Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. <sup>14</sup>For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

<sup>24</sup>Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. <sup>25</sup>The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. <sup>26</sup>And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup>The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!

<sup>28</sup>Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, <sup>29</sup>for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song – “The Church’s One Foundation” ELW 654

(organ)

- 1 **The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**
- 2 **Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.**
- 3 **Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**
- 4 **Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**
- 5 **Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.**

Sermon – “Under Construction”

Song of the Day – “City of God”

(piano)

1. **Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep!  
A new day is dawning for all those who weep.  
The people in darkness have seen a great light.  
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.**

*Refrain: Let us build the city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing!  
For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!*

**2. We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day.  
The one who has loved us has brightened our way.  
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be  
A light for his people to set their hearts free. *Refrain twice***

*\*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

*Stewardship Time*

"Firm Foundation," by Nancy Gordon & Jamie Harvill  
*sung by the Faith Singers*

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**P:** The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

**C:** **We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.**

*\*Words of Institution*

P: 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.

*\*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.**

*Communion Songs*

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" ELW 708 (*piano*)

*Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

- 1 **Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,  
master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain***
- 2 **Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race,  
neighbors are near us and far away. *Refrain***
- 3 **These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain***
- 4 **Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet:  
this is the way we will live with you. *Refrain***

"Build a Longer Table" (*ACS 1062*) (*organ*)

- 1 **Build a longer table, not a higher wall,  
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.  
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,  
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.**

- 2 **Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;  
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.  
For any place where justice is denied,  
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.**
- 3 **Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.  
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.  
When we embrace compassion more than fear,  
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.**
- 4 **When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,  
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.  
So must our tables welcome those who roam.  
None can be excluded; all must find a home.**

*\*Post-Communion Blessing*

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

*\*Closing Prayer*

## SENDING

*\*Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you  
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
C: **Amen.**

*\*Sending Song – “May the God of Hope Go with Us” (ACS 984) (piano)*

**May the God of hope go with us ev'ry day,  
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to ev'ry land and race.  
Praying, let us work for peace;  
singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

*Dismissal*

**P:** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Song Credits**

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**Worship Assistants**

Communion Assistant: Karen Sibert

Greeters: Debbie, Ethel, & Gayla

Reader: Carol Kilver

Ushers: Angie & Mike Fenner

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Pianist: Jean Welch

Organist: Sharon Zuiderveld

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Mindy Carlson & Kelly Hartz

Chancel Committee: Kris Roth

Coffee Host: Karen Sibert



**Singers:**

Marilyn Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Kris Roth

Carol VanderKloot

Kelly Hartz

Adam Krohe

Melissa Street

**Church Council Members:**

Malinda Carlson

Kelly Hartz

Patty Nelson

Monica Proefrock

Ken Devlin

Greg Kimler

Mike Oldenettel

Kelly Street

The plants at the altar today are donated by the Dichsen family  
in celebration of Benen’s 14<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 9



## What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, February 5, 10:45am: Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 8, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Sunday, February 12, 10:45am: Exaltation Ringer Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 15, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

10am: Discipleship Group

6pm: Women of Faith – Galentine's Gathering

## News Updates

### Music Rehearsal Time Changes

Our Exaltation Ringers and Chancel Choir are trying out a new rehearsal schedule to encourage more to be a part of the music program here at Faith.

**Chancel Choir will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays;**

**Exaltation Ringers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays; all from 10:45-11:15am**

Why should you consider joining us? How about free singing/ringing lessons, do something for yourself, and learn something new? Music is a gift of God... wouldn't it be a boring world without it? Making music together also relieves stress, stimulates the immune system, increases pain threshold, may help snoring, improves lung function, develops a sense of belonging and connection, enhances memory, helps with grief, improves mental health. (*Source: Healthline*)

I hope to see you **today for our Chancel Choir** rehearsal at 10:45am in the sanctuary!  
Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

### Women of Faith Galentine's Day

Join us on **Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm** in the Great Room for a Galentine's Day themed fellowship night. We'll have a waffle bar, chocolates, and a top-secret service project. RSVP to Monica at 217-737-0475 by Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Discipleship Group

Join us at **10am on Wednesday, February 15**, in the Faith Library as we meet for great conversation and fellowship time. If you haven't attended before, don't be afraid to join in! For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at [khartz@sompo-intl.com](mailto:khartz@sompo-intl.com).

## **Faith and Film – February 20**

Do you like the ways movies nurture and challenge our faith? Come check out this new small group as we gather for fellowship and lunch, then watch a movie and have discussion. We'll have a potluck at noon and then watch "The Intern" on **Monday, February 20** (President's Day). Please bring a dish to share and then stay for the movie and discussion.

## **Pancakes and Praise – Tuesday, February 21, 6:00pm**

Ancient church tradition includes fasting from excess during the season of Lent. To prepare for this fast, on Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday), families would remove all of the fat and sugar from their homes. What do you do with all of that excess goodness? Make pancakes! Join us in the Great Room for a delicious meal of pancakes, eggs, and sausage followed by some time for worship and praise. A free-will offering will be collected to go completely to the needs of the children at Pillars of Africa in Uganda where a team will visit in March.

## **Ash Wednesday – February 22, 7:00pm**

Lent is just around the corner! Join us for our traditional service of the imposition of ashes. The practice reminds us that we are dust and to dust we shall return... but also proclaims that we find life in the cross of Christ. Stay tuned for more about our Lenten midweek services.

## **Central/Southern IL Synod Assembly**

The schedule for the **2023 Synod Assembly** of our Central/Southern IL Synod is:

Session 1: Saturday, March 25 via Zoom

Sessions 2-6: Thursday-Saturday, June 1-3 in person in East Peoria

Faith is entitled to two (2) lay voting members, plus the pastor. If you are interested in serving as one of the voting members, please contact Pastor Adam.

## **Financial Statements**

2022 Financial Statements are available at the tall table outside of the office at church. If there is no envelope with your name on it, please let Pam Devlin know or contact the church office.

## **Faith Telephone Directory draft**

A draft of a new Faith Directory is available in the gathering area at church on the Coffee Sales counter by the Mission & Ministry Center — please make any

corrections/additions/deletions on that copy. A new directory will then be available later in February for all to take home (1 per household, please).

### **Contribution Envelopes for 2023**

will be available soon in the gathering area — the printing has been delayed, but the company will get them to us as soon as they can. After they come in, if you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office. There are no fees, and it saves you from remembering to write that weekly check!

### **Sign-Up Sheets**

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

### **Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea**

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf & flavored; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate—milk & dark; **\$5.50** coffee pods). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.