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Trinity Lutheran Church

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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.

President: Mr. Edwin Peeples

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY February 20, 2022

Our Epiphany Lord—Brightest

As We Gather

The season of Epiphany is one of the "accordion" seasons of the Church Year. The later Easter falls in March or April, the more Sundays after the Epiphany there are. This year's "Epiphany accordion" is stretched long enough to include eight Sundays. In an extended Epiphany season, the light of Christ burns brightest, as Jesus is revealed in action and in teaching through the Gospel writers. There is power when and where Jesus is among His people, as the hymn "Jesus Comes Today with Healing" teaches (*LSB* 620). May we welcome His presence among us!

PREPARATION

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Rubric

Hymn: "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing

Till earth and heaven ring,

Ring with the harmonies of liberty.

Let our rejoicing rise

High as the list'ning skies,

Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;

Facing the rising sun

Of our new day begun,

Let us march on till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod,

Bitter the chast'ning rod

Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat,

Have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our parents sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,

Out from the gloomy past,

Till now we stand at last

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years,

God of our silent tears,

Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Thou who hast by Thy might

Led us into the light,

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee;

Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;

Shadowed beneath Thy hand,

May we forever stand,

True to our God, true to our native land.

Text: James Weldon Johnson, 1871-1938

Text: Public domain

Opening Sentences

Psalm 30:10; 43:3; Proverbs 4:18; Isaiah 2:5b

- P Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me!
- C O LORD, be my helper.
- P Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;
- C let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!
- P The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
- C which shines brighter and brighter until full day. Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Confession and Absolution

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

- P Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our gracious heavenly Father.
- C Eternal God, we confess that by nature we are sinful people. We are given to sinful thoughts, sinful words, and sinful deeds. We have transgressed Your law in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We deserve Your punishment, now and

for eternity. Merciful God, in Your mercy, forgive our sin and restore us to a full and joyful relationship with You through the merits of Jesus, our Lord. Direct our days by Your Holy Spirit that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments as Your redeemed people, bringing the brightness of Your light to the darkened world.

- P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.
- C Thanks be to God. Amen.

WORD

Introit

Psalm 37:1-5; antiphon: vv. 7a, b

- C Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.
- ! Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers!
- @ For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.
- C Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
- ! Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.
- @ Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him, and He will act.
- C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.

Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 45:3-15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

⁴So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. 5And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. 9Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' 12 And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42

²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. . . .

³⁰Why am I in danger every hour? ³¹I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! ³²What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." ³³Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." ³⁴Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ³⁹For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

⁴²So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

- P Praise the LORD, all nations!
- C Extol Him, all peoples!
- P For great is His steadfast love toward us,
- C and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
- P Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
- C bring an offering, and come into His courts!

Holy Gospel Luke 6:27–38

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁷[Jesus said:] "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

³²"If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who do good to you,

what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. ³⁵But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn: "God Is So Good"

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

In holy conversation, we pray for the Church, the Bride of Christ, that through her the message of salvation be proclaimed and the gifts of God be shared, and we pray this day for all nations of the world, that there be an end to hostilities and that times of peacefulness everywhere prevail. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

We pray for our families and our neighbors. Embolden us to reach out in every direction with the joyful news of the Gospel that people may become part of the kingdom of God now and forever. We pray for the hospitalized and those who are shut-in during this season. We pray for the unemployed, those who are downcast or grieving, and for all those for whom our petitions are desired, [including . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As a community of God's well-loved people in Christ, we remember those who have shared the faith with us and now have departed this life in joyful hope. Confidently, we await the time when we shall rejoice together with all the saints eternally along with the angels and all the company of heaven. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

C Amen.

A greeting of peace may be exchanged in accord with local custom.

Offering

SACRAMENT

Preface

- 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 Him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, who in giving Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to accomplish our salvation has manifested Your grace and Your glory. We thank You for the sacrifice made by our blessed Lord for our salvation and for the blessed Meal set before us. Gather us now at Your holy Table as Your invited and beloved guests. Joined together in the name of our Lord and in the communion of saints, we pray You to send Your Holy Spirit upon us to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
- C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Distribution Hymn

Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees"

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Strengthen and support us, Your pilgrim people, so that we may continue to proclaim Your love to all the world. Keep before us the vision of the brightness of Your glory, and bring us at last to Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen.

Hymn: "Victory Is Mine"

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME – A warm welcome to everyone! If you are our GUEST, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. **BLESSINGS!**

PRAYER HOUR – Please join us each Saturday @ 11 a.m. for prayer. Dial 1/681-999-0264; Access Code 391959#. Also, I invite you to go on our website and view our monthly newsletters and other information. On there you will also see a complete listing of prayer requests/concerns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER — If anyone has news or information for the bulletin and/or newsletter, please email the information to Mrs. Veazey at dorothyveazey@outlook.com. Information for the bulletin should be submitted or emailed by Friday of each week.

VIRTUAL SERVICES – Worship services will now be available via Zoom for those of you that are unable to attend the in-person worship services. The following link will be used for every service: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87066538071. The meeting ID is 870 6653 8071. The bulletin for every worship service will be available on the church's website.

VERSE OF THE WEEK – Each week there will be a different verse in the bulletin. Members are encouraged to memorize and meditate on the verses.

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Ephesians 2:8-9

8) For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God: 9) Not of works, lest any man should boast.

"Happy Birthday"

20th Jeremiah Harrison

20th John Ratcliffe, Sr.

21st Roseanna Moore

22ndBetty Mosley

23rd Bertha Ambrose

23rd Kimberly Davis