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

President: Mr. Edwin Peeples

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY February 13, 2022

Our Epiphany Lord—Brighter

As We Gather

Throughout the season of Epiphany, we experience a sense of brightening. As we grow nearer to springtime, there is more daylight with each passing day. The world becomes brighter and brighter. As the weeks of this Epiphany season continue, we see our Lord Jesus more clearly, and we hear His words that speak to our hearts and lives. The well-loved hymn "Beautiful Savior" has the classic line "Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky" (*LSB* 537:3). God grant that brighter light shine forth in our lives as we reflect the wondrous light that is Christ, the Light of the world.

PREPARATION

964 Lift Every Voice and Sing

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

Invocation

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

C Amen.

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

- P Let us now make confession of our sins. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
- C Amen.

- P Assured of God's great mercy, let us confess together that we, by our darkened, sinful nature, are estranged from God, and by our thoughts, words, and deeds have sinned and deserve His condemnation now and eternally.
- C Almighty God, we repent of our sins in thought and in word and in deed. Although we deserve Your just punishment, we ask for Your unmerited blessing. Be merciful to us and for the sake of Jesus grant us Your forgiveness so that, as Your redeemed people, we may be made bright by Your presence in our lives, joyfully serving You in time and through eternity.
- 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

WORD

Salutation

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

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; 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

Jeremiah 17:5–8

⁵Thus says the LORD:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,

in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

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

Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:1–20

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

Holy Gospel Luke 6:17–26

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

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

²⁰And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

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

Hymn: "Oh, How I Love Jesus"

Sermon

Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

[&]quot;Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

[&]quot;Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

²² Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

[&]quot;Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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. Celebrating the presence of the Lord in our midst, we pray for an increase of the Word, asking that God's messengers may continue to speak with power among us, bringing us the Good News of sins forgiven in Christ alone. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.
- P Plant us like trees by living waters, that we bear the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. By Your Spirit, direct our lives that we live as God's holy people. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.
- P Grant that Your blessing of peace be experienced throughout the world and that we as Your peaceable people shine brighter with the light of Your love. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.
- P In this time of prayer, we also make our petitions for the sick, the shut-in, and all who this day are in need of our intercession, [<u>especially . . .</u>], that their prayers may be soon answered, and that they may be supported by God's people with care in the name of Christ. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.
- P Grant that we be numbered among the blessed who bring aid to the poor, food to the hungry, comfort to the sorrowing, and hope to the despairing. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

- P With gratitude, we remember those sisters and brothers in Christ whose earthly journeys are finished and who now enjoy the promised Sabbath rest. Grant that we be guided in ways that honor their earthly lives as we anticipate the heavenly life that is to come. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.
- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

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

Offering

Lord's Prayer

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.

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 T give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn: "Jesus Loves Me!"

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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.

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

Philippians 2:13

"For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him"