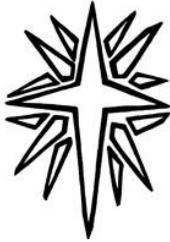


# FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*We are called to proclaim and celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we are nurtured,  
prepared, and sent to be the light of Christ in our world.*



February 7, 2021  
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor: Pr. Ryan Rouse

L = Leader; **C = Congregation**

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE “*Great is Thy Faithfulness*” by William Runyan arranged by Fred Bock

WORDS OF WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose voice is upon the waters,  
whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**C Amen.**

L Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

L Holy God,

**C you search us and know us.**

**You are acquainted with all our ways.**

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—  
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.**

**We distrust those who are not like us.**

**We exploit the earth and its resources  
and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone.**

**Even before the words are on our tongues,**

**you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

L How vast is God’s grace!

Through the power and promise of Christ Jesus,  
our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God’s own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven.

In the wake of God’s forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community  
living out Christ’s justice and the Spirit’s reconciling peace.

**C Amen.**

GREETING

**L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

**C And also with you.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**L** Let us pray: Everlasting God, ...

**C you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**WE HEAR GOD SPEAK TO US**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31**

*The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.*

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;

<sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,  
"My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.



## PSALM 147:1-11, 20c

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor | God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD re- | builds Jerusalem, and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.**

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

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

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and might- | y in power; there is no limit | to God's wisdom.

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

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

<sup>8</sup>**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds  
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains.**

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

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

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

## SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

*God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.*

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**GOSPEL READING Mark 1:29-39**

*Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.*

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY    *"Lord Speak to Us, That We May Speak"*    ELW#676 (Bulletin Pg. 7)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
    the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
    of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
    eternally begotten of the Father,  
    God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
    begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
    through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
    he came down from heaven,  
    was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
    and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
    in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven  
    and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
    and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

WE SHARE THE MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L O God, receive these gifts as you receive us:

**C like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.**

**Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service  
to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.**

WE SEND TO SERVE

SENDING

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

L God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter keep you in peace.

**C Amen.**

SENDING HYMN     *"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"*     ELW #310 (BULLETIN PG. 8)

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.     **C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE     *"O God of Light"*     tune: Atkinson arranged by H Barrie Cabena and Richard Lind

# My Faith Looks Up to Thee

759

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's  
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

# Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

676

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in  
 2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the  
 3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the  
 4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -

liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so  
 wan - d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that  
 pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that  
 til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and

let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.  
 we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.  
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - ya heart.  
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

310

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;  
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,