

Epiphany 5

February 9, 2025 + 9:00

Welcome to our worship of the living God on this **Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**! Today our readings continue to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who'll go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three anglers who couldn't catch a thing! More surprising still, perhaps, is that we too are called to God's service...

Congregational responses are printed in **indented boldface italics**.

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

GATHERING HYMN: "Holy, Holy,"

ELW 413

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee. Holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see, Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

INVOCATION, CONFESSION, AND FORGIVENESS:

We gather today just as God has gathered us into His family in our Baptism: in the Name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open, all desires known, and from You 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 Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth's not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who's faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. So let's confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

Hear the Good News, my brothers and sisters:

Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins.

So as a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority,

I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,

in the Name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Glory to God!"







GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY:

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

And also with you.

Then let's pray: Most holy God, the earth is filled with Your glory, and before You saints and angels stand in awe.

Broaden our vision to see Your power at work in the world, and by Your grace make us heralds of Your Son, Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD AND PRAYER

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 6.1-13

NRSVUE

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of His robe filled the temple. ² Seraphs were in attendance above Him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!" ⁴ The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! I'm lost— for I'm a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

- ⁶ Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed, and your sin is blotted out."
- ⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"
- ⁹And He said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but don't comprehend; keep looking, but don't understand.' ¹⁰ Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed."
- ¹¹ Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And He said: "Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; ¹² until the Lord sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. ¹³ Even if a tenth part remain in it, it'll be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it's felled." (The holy seed is its stump.)

This is holy wisdom; this is holy word.

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 15.1-11

NRSVUE

St Paul writes: Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you're being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you've come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. ⁶ Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles...

⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. ⁹ For I'm the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it wasn't *I*, but the grace of God that's with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim, and so you've come to believe.

This is holy wisdom; this is holy word.

Thanks be to God!

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

Luke 5.1-11

NRSVUE

See ELW 174 for the tune.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel according to St Luke, the fifth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord!

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on Him to hear the word of God, ² He saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then He sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

⁴When *Jesus* had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if You say so, I'll let down the nets." ⁶ When they'd done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break; ⁷ so they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I'm a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they'd taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you'll be catching people." ¹¹ When they'd brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed *Jesus*.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Stefanie Bauman

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Here I Am, Lord"

ELW 574

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"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?"

REFRAIN:

Here I am, Lord! Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if You lead me; I will hold Your people in my heart.

"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.

I have wept for love of them; they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My word to them! Whom shall I send?"

I will give My life to them! Whom shall I send?"

[refrain]

"I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame; I will set a feast for them— My hand will save! Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied;

[refrain]

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COMMISSIONING AND PRAYERS:

The following persons, having been elected to serve on our Congregation Council, they are asked to come forward as their names are read:

Kelly Shaak Tracy Hallman Gordon Bryan Aaron Shimalla

Rose Sutkins Sue Young Tina Young
Karen Roehner Patty Schumacher Stefanie Bauman

Together as disciples of Christ Jesus, let's confess our faith in the words of our baptismal 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 into hell. 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.

You stand among us as living gifts of God, called to stir us up and renew us in Christian faith, life, and ministry through service on our Congregation Council. Will you assume this ministry in the confidence that it comes from God?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the teaching and practice of the Lutheran Church?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you trust in God's care, seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the Gospel of God with a holy life?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

And you, people of God, will you support these fellow servants of Jesus Christ? Will you pray for them, help and honor them for their work's sake, and in all things strive to live in peace and unity in Christ? *We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.*

Then let's pray: Blest are You, O Lord our God, for You sent Your Son into the world to proclaim Your Reign and, by His death and resurrection, to reconcile all people according to Your gracious plan! Now bless Your servants in the work You've called them to do, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, they may build up and strengthen Your Church and glorify Your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

I now declare you commissioned as members of the Congregation Council in the Name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Our council members return to their seats.

And now let's boldly pray for the Church, the world, and all God has made:

Gracious God, we give You thanks, for in Your Son Jesus Christ, You've touched us with Your mercy, consuming our impurity in the fire of Your holiness and sending us to cast wide the net of Your love. Give us the boldness and skill to proclaim Your Good News with clarity and fervor, and to adorn it with love, compassion, wisdom, understanding, invitation, and welcome, that Your purpose may take its full shape in us. Merciful God, *receive our prayer.*

Let the light of Your Spirit guide those who are seeking to discern Your call on their lives, that they may have the wisdom and insight to know Your voice and the courage to follow Your call. Send each of us to where our gifts will serve those in need, fill us with joy in Your service, and don't let our labors be in vain. Merciful God, *receive our prayer.*

As you raise up leaders throughout the world to care for all people, fill their hearts with Your Spirit of justice and courage to advocate for what benefits all in their care, and especially the most vulnerable among us. Set us all free from hatred, fear, corruption, avarice, arrogance, and the demonic spirits of violence. Bring healing to those who are traumatized in body or spirit; and give us all the vision and the courage to pursue the ways of peace. Merciful God, *receive our prayer.*

Strengthen our congregation's partnerships with our community organizations and ministries, especially... Multiply our shared efforts, and bring joy to our relationships. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Your steadfast love endures forever; don't abandon those who look to You for hope and healing. Bless doctors, nurses, social workers, therapists, and all caregivers. Draw near to those who are scared, sick, grieving, or in pain, that they may be renewed in faith and life, hope and joy. We especially commend to Your mercy... Merciful God, *receive our prayer.*

Here other intercessions may be offered.

And as You've sent us Your Son to save us from sin and death, deliver us all from fear, and enable us to live in bold confidence born of the Good News of Christ's resurrection, so that all around us may come to experience Your death-defying grace. Merciful God, *receive our prayer.*

For into Your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord is with you always.

And also with you.

Reconciled to God and one another, let's share with one another a sign of God's peace.

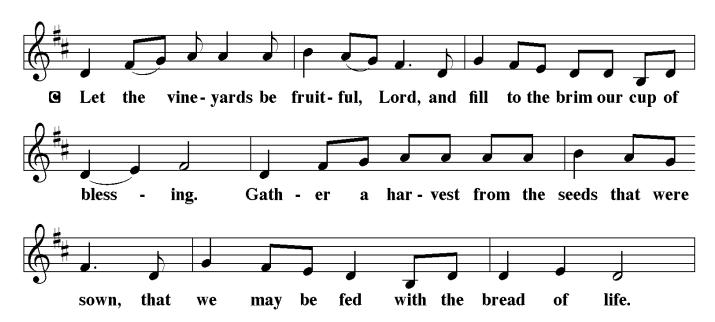
MEAL

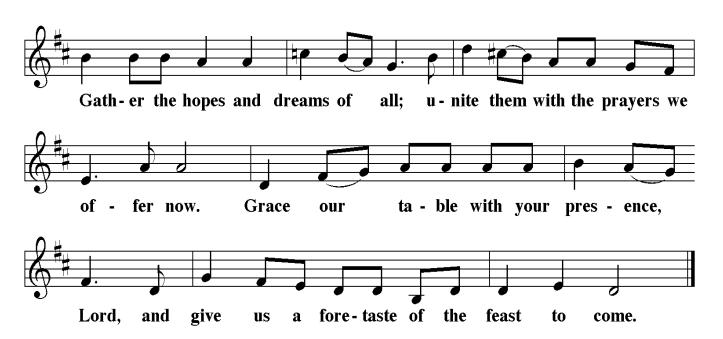
THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES, WITH ANTHEM:

"Blessed Shall They Be"

-- Arranged by Natalie Sleeth

OFFERTORY HYMN: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"





Gracious God, Your Incarnate Word brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these Your gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace and truth You offer at this table,
and renew in us the song of Your salvation through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord.

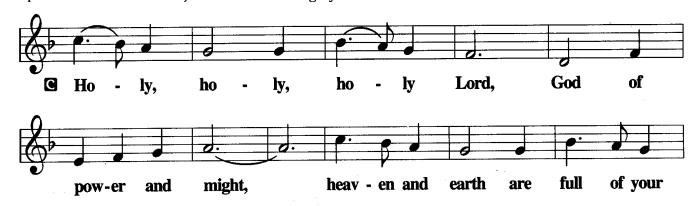
Amen.

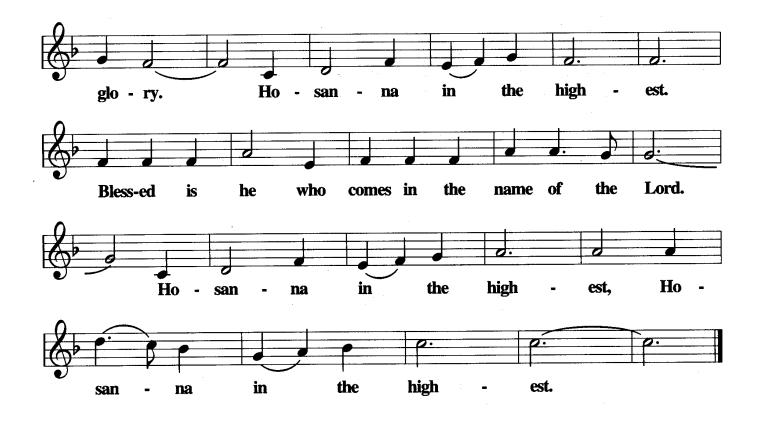
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord is with you.
Lift up your hearts!
Let's give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you. We lift them to the Lord! It's right to give our thanks and praise!

It's indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and everywhere give thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ Jesus our Lord! Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. And so with the Church on earth and the whole company of heaven, we praise Your Name and join their unending hymn:





In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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."

And so remembering His life and His death, His resurrection and His ascension, we await His coming in glory. Now pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all Your people in the body of Your Son, Christ Jesus our Lord. For through Him, with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, almighty Father, now and forever!

Amen.

Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

Arise, shine, for your Light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you! *Here's the body and blood of Christ, a place for us, and enough for all!*

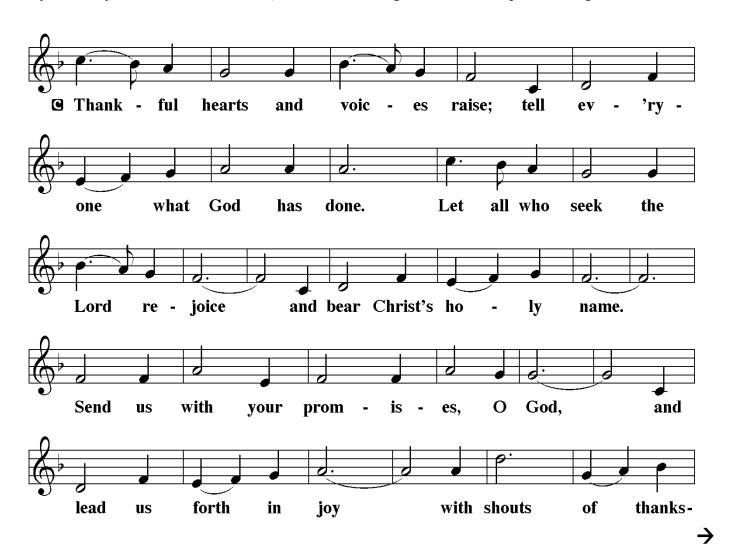
THE HOLY COMMUNION

Now we share God's consecrated gifts among God's consecrated people, knowing that our living Lord Jesus is fully present with us in His Supper, giving Himself to us in bread and wine and forgiving love. Today, we'll share the sacrament by "stations". Come forward via the left-hand aisle, take an empty glass from the tray by the front pew [or a glass of grape juice, if you prefer]; receive the bread from the pastor, receive the wine from our communion assistant [or drink the grape juice as s/he says to you, "The blood of Christ, shed for you"], and return to your seat, returning your glass en route. (We're not dipping the wafer into the wine). If you can't come forward, let the usher know and we'll bring the Sacrament to you! Those not receiving may come forward for a blessing. Once we've all shared in the body and blood of Christ, we continue in blessing and prayer:

SENDING

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER:

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace. *Amen.*





Let's pray: We thank You, wondrous God, for Jesus Your Son, Your Living Word incarnate in these gifts of bread and wine. As we've shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share Your love with the world through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION:

And now may God our Creator give you a vision of divine glory; may Christ Jesus touch you with the cleansing fire of mercy; may the Holy Spirit hear your prayers and renew your strength; and almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

"In Christ Called to Baptize"

ELW 575

We sing this hymn to the tune of "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

In Christ called to baptize, we witness to grace and gather a people from each land and race.
In deep, flowing waters we share in Christ's death,
Then, rising to new life, give thanks with each breath.

In Christ called to banquet, one table we share, a haven of welcome, a circle of care. Although we are many, we share in one bread; one cup of thanksgiving proclaims Christ, our Head.

In Christ called to witness, by grace we will preach the life-giving Gospel—God's love we will teach. By grace may our living give proof to our praise, in costly compassion reflecting Christ's ways.

Unite us, anoint us, O Spirit of love, for You are within us, around us, above. Equip us for service with gifts You bestow. In Christ is our calling; in Christ may we grow!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL:

God has a plan.
What's our part in God's plan?
Then let's go in peace, live in joy, and serve the Lord!

We're it!
Sharing God's love in joyful service!
Thanks be to God!