

# FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Faith Lutheran Church  
**Everyone Is Looking for You**  
February 4, 2024



**AS WE GATHER:** Living at a time when it seems the Church is under attack, we might long for a time when everyone was looking for Jesus. Whether they know or realize it, the world is looking for Jesus, that is, for an answer to sin, fear, loneliness, pain, and death. Jesus is that answer. For this reason, our Lord had to continue to preach at the next town and the next. For this reason, we continue to proclaim the unchanging Gospel year in and year out, for it is the only Gospel by which any can be saved. May the Lord grant us zeal for His house and His kingdom!

## PREPARATION

*Stand*

### Baptismal Hymn Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

#590 sts. 1-2



1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and  
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, here You take me To be hence-forth Your



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,  
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, here You make me



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and  
The fruit of all Your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,



*The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:*

**P** [Name], receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ forehead and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold [name(s)] according to Your boundless mercy and bless [him/her/them] with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in [him/her/them], which has been inherited from Adam and which [he himself / she herself / they themselves] [has/have] committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that [he/she/they] be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, [he/she/they] would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:*

## 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.

**P** The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even  $\text{†}$  forevermore.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

*The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:*

**P** [Name(s)], do you renounce the devil?

**R** *Yes, I renounce him.*

**P** Do you renounce all his works?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you renounce all his ways?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again

from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

**R** Yes, I believe.

**P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

**R** Yes, I believe.

**P** [Name], do you desire to be baptized?

**R** Yes, I do.

*The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:*

**P** [Name], I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:*

**P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

**C** Amen.

*The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:*

**P** Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

*The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:*

**A** In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you [a member / members] of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and [an heir / heirs] with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our [brother(s)/sister(s)] in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

**C** **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray.  
Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted [name(s)] the new birth in Holy Baptism and made [him/her/them] [a member / members] of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and [an heir / heirs] of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as [he/she/they] [has/have] now become Your [child/children], You would keep [him/her/them] in [his/her/their] baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure [he/she/they] may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all her members, and mercifully grant that by Your grace we may serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Peace ✠ be with you.

**C** Amen.

*All return to their places.*

## Baptismal Hymn Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

#590 sts. 3-4

3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly  
4 All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it all, O

will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er  
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;

If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I  
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I

come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.  
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

Text: Johann Jacob Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775. Text and tune: Public domain

## Reception of Members by Profession of Faith

**P** Today, we receive by Profession of Faith Mrs. GBelee TB Kpetay FahnBull, and Mrs. Jartu Ded Brisbane. I acknowledge publicly you are members of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

**P** The grace of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**C** Amen.

## Opening Versicles

### Common

LSB 260

**L** This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

**C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

**C** Teach me Your paths.

**L** Sanctify us in Your truth.

**C** Your Word is truth.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**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.

## Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261

*Refrain*

**C** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and





He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



With joy will you draw wa - ter from the



wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that



day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,



make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -



claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."



*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done




glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the



earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -



hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the



Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

*Refrain*



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



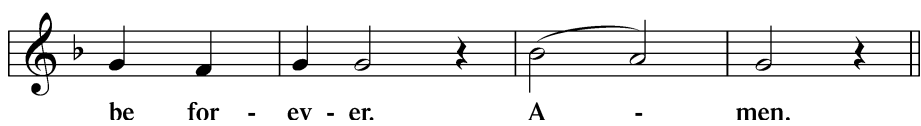
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son



and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will

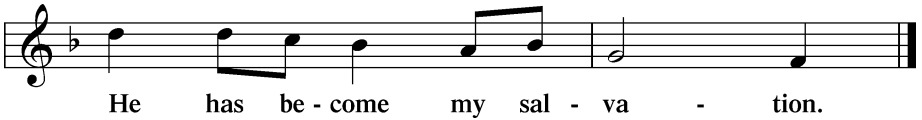


be for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



## ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

*Today is the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany of our Lord, in the season of Christ's self-revelation through word and works. Today we hear the promise of the prophet who promises strength and healing. The Epistle speaks of the love strong enough to serve and finish the race. In the Gospel, Jesus continues to heal the sick and bring the Kingdom to them.*

*Sit*

## Readings From Holy Scripture

**Old Testament Reading**    *Isaiah 40:21–31*    (He brings us out and calls us by name.)

- <sup>21</sup>Do you not know? Do you not hear?  
    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 dwell in;
- <sup>23</sup>who brings princes to nothing,  
    and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.
- <sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
    scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows on them, and they wither,  
    and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- <sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me,  
    that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

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

He who brings out their host by number,  
calling them all by name,  
by the greatness of his might,  
and because he is strong 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 to him who has no might he increases strength.

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

<sup>31</sup>but they 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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Epistle Reading**    *1 Corinthians 9:16–27*    (I do it all for the sake of the Gospel.)

<sup>16</sup>If I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!

<sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own

will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

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

<sup>24</sup>Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup>Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. <sup>26</sup>So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. <sup>27</sup>But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Reading**      *Mark 1:29–39*      (Everyone was looking for Jesus.)

<sup>29</sup>Immediately [Jesus] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. <sup>31</sup>And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered

together at the door. <sup>34</sup>And he healed 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>And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

<sup>36</sup>And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, <sup>37</sup>and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Responsory

### Common

*LSB 263*

**L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

**L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

*Stand*

## Ten Commandments

**C** You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
 Honor your father and your mother.  
 You shall not murder.  
 You shall not commit adultery.  
 You shall not steal.  
 You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.  
 You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
 You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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.

*Sit*

Sermon Hymn Preach You the Word #586 sts. 1-3, 6



1 Preach you the Word and plant it home To men who  
 2 We know how hard, O Lord, the task Your ser - vant  
 3 The sow - er sows; his reck - less love Scat - ters a -  
 6 Preach you the Word and plant it home And nev - er



like or like it not, The Word that shall en -  
 bade us un - der - take: To preach Your Word and  
 broad the good - ly seed, In - tent a - lone that  
 faint; the Har - vest Lord Who gave the sow - er



    dure and stand When flow'rs and men shall be for - got.  
nev - er ask What pride - ful prof - it it may make.  
all may have The whole - some loaves that all men need.  
seed to sow Will watch and tend His plant - ed Word.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. Tune: Rheinfelssisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, 1666, Augsburg. Text: © 1971 The Franzmann Family. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110006139  
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## Sermon “The Preaching of Christ” - Today’s three Readings

## Offering and Contemporary Song '10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)'

*Stand*

### Prayer

**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:



**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

### Collect of the Day

**L** O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Collect for the Word

**L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read,

mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Morning Prayer

**C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

### New Testament Canticle

LSB 266

*Refrain*

**C** Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He

lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to

sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Blessing

### Benedicamus

LSB 267

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

### Benediction

LSB 267

- L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** Amen.

**Closing Hymn** Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old #846



1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old  
2 Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health,  
3 O be our great de - liv - 'rer still,



Was strong to heal and save; It tri - umphed o - ver  
Gave speech and strength and sight; And youth re - newed and  
The Lord of life and death; Re - store and quick - en,



ills and death, O'er dark - ness and the grave.  
fren - zy calmed Re - vealed You, Lord of light.  
soothe and bless, With Your life - giv - ing breath.



To You they came, the blind, the mute,  
And now, O Lord, be near to bless,  
To hands that work and eyes that see



The pal - sied and the lame, The lep - ers in their  
Al - might - y as be - fore, In crowd - ed street, by  
Give wis - dom's heal - ing pow'r That whole and sick and



mis - er - y, The sick with fe - vered frame.  
beds of pain, As by Gen - nes - 'ret's shore.  
weak and strong May praise You ev - er - more.

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–91, alt. Tune: English; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

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