



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

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Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Prospect Heights, IL

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The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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As We Gather

The Son of God, Christ Jesus, Makes Us a New Creation

The Lord alone *“is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth”* (Is. 40:28). He *“sits above the circle of the earth”* and *“stretches out the heavens like a curtain”* (Is. 40:22). Yet, His almighty power is demonstrated chiefly by His mercy and compassion. *“He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength”* (Is. 40:29). The only begotten Son of the Father, the very Word by whom all things were made, becomes flesh and takes all the poverty and weakness of our sin and death upon Himself, bearing it in His body to the cross. As He dies for us there, He also raises us up, a new creation, in His resurrection from the dead.

Opening Hymn 664 Fight the Good Fight

sts. 1–3

- 1 Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Your joy and crown eternally.
- 2 Run the straight race through God’s good grace;
Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
- 3 Cast care aside, lean on your guide;
His boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove
Christ is your life and Christ your love.

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Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Isaiah 40:21–22, 28; Psalm 147:3, 5

- P 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?
C **It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, . . . who stretches out the heavens like a curtain.**
- P Have you not known? Have you not heard?
C **The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.**
- P He heals the brokenhearted
C **and binds up their wounds.**
- P Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
C **His understanding is beyond measure.**

Confession and Absolution

1 Corinthians 9:24–25

- P O God, You have come to call us to repentance and faith, to salvation and life. We come before You to confess and repent of our sins.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the times we have tried to keep our faith a private concern, failing to be all things to all people for the sake of Your kingdom, instead seeking Your blessings only for ourselves.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the times we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have neglected prayer and concern for the community in need around us and for people throughout the world.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the many faults and failings that are known only to You.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P We hear today in God's Word, "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. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable." As we run to our Savior in repentance and rely on Him to receive the crown of life He alone has earned, and upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our 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.**

Hymn Verse 664 Fight the Good Fight

st. 4

4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near;
He changes not who holds you dear;
Only believe, and you will see
That Christ is all eternally.

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Introit

Psalm 13:3–5; antiphon: v. 6

P I will sing to the LORD,

C **because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

P Consider and answer me, O LORD my God;

C **light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,**

P lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him,"

C **lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.**

P But I have trusted in your steadfast love;

C **my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.**

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.

P I will sing to the LORD,

C **because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

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.**

²¹Do 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?
²²It 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;
²³who brings princes to nothing,
 and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.
²⁴Scarcely 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.
²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
 that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
²⁶Lift 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.
²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
 and speak, O Israel,
 “My way is hidden from the LORD,
 and my right is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸Have 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.
²⁹He gives power to the faint,
 and to him who has no might he increases strength.
³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary,
 and young men shall fall exhausted;
³¹but 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 9:16–27

¹⁶If 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! ¹⁷For 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. ¹⁸What 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.

¹⁹For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰To 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. ²¹To 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. ²²To 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. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath,

but we an imperishable. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse for Epiphany 5

Mark 1:39

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

P Jesus went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:29–39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

³²That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And 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.

³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." ³⁸And 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." ³⁹And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day 398 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.
- 2 He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in His sight.
- 3 He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall fall down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—
That name to us is Love.

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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.
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 all people of God and for all people in their need. For the Church of God everywhere, that the Lord Jesus would continue to work among His people to forgive sins, deliver from death and the devil, and strengthen and preserve them in the one true faith unto life everlasting, and that His people always remember why He has come as Savior from sin, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the kingdoms of this world, that God would guide rulers to act with justice and integrity in service to all those entrusted to their care, and that when surrounded by violence and uncertainty, His people might trust in His unsearchable wisdom and cling to His promises of rescue in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For those who grieve and those in need of healing and deliverance, *especially* Hedy Beer, Kathleen, Alicia, Sallyann, Sheila, Lou, Jean Staffa, Dana, Kaylee, Leah, Terri, Rory, Jean, Ray Wirsing, Rod Isaacson, Sharlene, Fran, Doug, Paula, Wally Olson, and Pastor Barber and his family, that God who heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds would grant them relief and preserve them in the hope of His steadfast love in Christ Jesus. For those who suffer from chronic illness and long-term suffering that, as Jesus healed the mother-in-law of Simon Peter, God would give power to the faint, increase the strength of those who have no might, and preserve them in patience and the faith that in Christ they will mount up with wings like eagles, run and not be weary and walk and not faint, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C **Amen.**

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.**

Proper Preface

- P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (Spoken)

- C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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 T 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 T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood in this Sacrament, You lead us to remember all that You have done for us before we were born, to realize that You are with us today, and to await Your promised return one day to receive us into Your eternal kingdom. So remember us in Your kingdom now and teach us to pray:

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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in

fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benediction

Based on Mark 1:29-39

P As the Lord healed the mother-in-law of Peter, so He heals the wounds of our hearts.

C **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

P As Jesus sent away the evil spirits, so He gives us His Spirit of faith and love.

C **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

P As He preached the Gospel to all of Galilee, so He brings His life to us.

C **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

P In all we do for the sake of the Gospel, that we may share in its blessings.

C **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 920 Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go

- 1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
- 2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
Kingship with Him His servants gain;
With Christ the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
- 3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
This world of time to consecrate,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's world in Christ to re-create.
- 4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim
Christ's truth in love that we may be
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
- 5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show
That in His Church all nations find
Their hearth and home where Christ restores
True peace, true love to all mankind.

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