

True Love Made Known Through Christ

February 19, 2023



Seventh Sunday after
the Epiphany

WELCOME, GUESTS!!! We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS – The Savior's Sermon: Love your enemies! What could be more counterintuitive? Yet Christ calls his disciples to a love for our neighbor that models itself after Jesus' love for the world. As Luther said: *Christi sumus in nominativo et genitivo* (We are Christs—with and without the apostrophe). A heart like Christ's has no room for vengeance, but is filled with love for all.

MORNING PRAYER - Gracious Father, keep your family, the Church, always faithful to you, that we may lean on the hope of your promises and be strong in the power of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION— CW, p.15



OPENING HYMN:

#234

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

****Please Stand for last verse****



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
 5 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when
 fend you; Sure - ly his good - ness and
 dore him! All that has life and breath,



he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 heed - less - ly fall - ing, has stayed you.
 mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear Now to his tem - ple draw
 Have you not seen All that is need - ful has
 What need or grief Ev - er has failed of re -
 Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can
 Let the A - men Sound from his peo - ple a -



near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 been Sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 lief? Wings of his mer - cy did shade you.
 do As with his love he be - friends you.
 gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-80; tr. composite.

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN (14 14 478) *Ander Theil Des Erneuernten Gesang-Buchs*, Stralsund, 1665, alt.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: A - men.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD

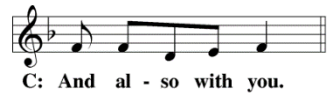
Gloria in Excelsis





sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;
you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Spirit,
are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, keep your family, the Church, always faithful to you, that we may lean on the hope of your promises and be strong in the power of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

FIRST LESSON:

Leviticus 19: 1, 2, 17, 18

This is the passage that Jesus references in the Gospel. However, some of the Pharisees had changed its interpretation by adding "but hate your enemy" to the phrase "love your neighbor." While that makes sense to our flesh, it is completely out of character with God. The standard for our life is the holiness of God, not our feelings or wants.

The Lord told Moses to speak to the whole community of the Israelites and tell them these things: You shall be holy, because I, the Lord your God, am holy. You shall not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. You must openly rebuke your fellow citizen so that you do not become responsible for his sin. You must not take revenge. You must not bear a grudge against the members of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 103



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.



Refrain

Praise the LORD, O my soul;*
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
He forgives all your sins*
and heals all your diseases;
he redeems your life from the grave*
and crowns you with love and compassion.

Refrain

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,*
slow to anger, abounding in love.
He does not treat us as our sins deserve*
or repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,*
so great is his love for those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain

As a father has compassion on his children,*
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
for he knows how we are formed,*
he remembers that we are dust.
Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;*
the wind blows over it and it is gone.
But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him*
from everlasting to everlasting.

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.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 3: 10, 11, 16 – 23

Paul could have borne a grudge against Apollos or Peter because of the divisions present in the church of Corinth. Instead, he models Christian love for our neighbor and Christian unity with his words and actions. Paul lives and speaks and loves like Christ, seeking only to serve.

In keeping with the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder, I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. But let each person be careful how he builds on it. In fact, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that has been laid, which is Jesus Christ. Do you not know that you yourselves are God’s temple, and that God’s Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and that is what you are.

Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this world, let him become a fool so that he may become wise. To be sure, the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God’s sight. For it is written, “He catches the wise in their craftiness,” and again, “The Lord knows the reasoning of the wise; he knows that it is worthless.” Therefore let no one boast about men. For all things belong to you— whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come. All things belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Alleluia. (Luke 6:36)



****Please Stand****

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 5: 38 – 48

Our flesh finds Jesus’ commands revolting. The human animal snarls when attacked and bites back when bitten. Jesus, however, tells us not to resist evil, to turn the other cheek, to love our enemies. Who would live like this? Only the Son of our heavenly Father. God demonstrated his love for us in this: when we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I tell you, do not resist an evildoer. If someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also. If anyone wants to sue you to take away your shirt, give him your coat too. Whoever compels

you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. Indeed, if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Even tax collectors do that, don’t they? If you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even the unbelievers do that? So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



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 fully 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 and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

*****Please Be Seated*****

HYMN OF THE DAY:

SON OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR

#492



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior,
 2 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us,
 3 Bind us all as one to - geth - er
 4 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers,

Source of life and truth and grace, Word made
 King of love and Prince of Peace; Hush the
 In your Church's sa - cred fold, Weak and
 So may we for oth - ers live. Free - ly

flesh, whose birth a - mong us, Hon - or
 storm of strife and pas - sion; Bid its
 health - y, poor and wealth - y, Sad and
 have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly

all our hu - man race, You our head,
 cru - el dis - cords cease. By your pa -
 joy - ful, young and old. Is there want
 may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold

who, throned in glo - ry, For your own will
 tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent
 or pain or sor - row? Make us all the
 and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of

ev - er plead: Fill us with your love and
 hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered thirst for
 bur - den share. Are there spir - its crushed and
 land and sea; We but stew - ards of your

pit - y; Heal our wrongs and help our need.
 plea - sure; Stem our self - ish greed for gain.
 bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
 boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.

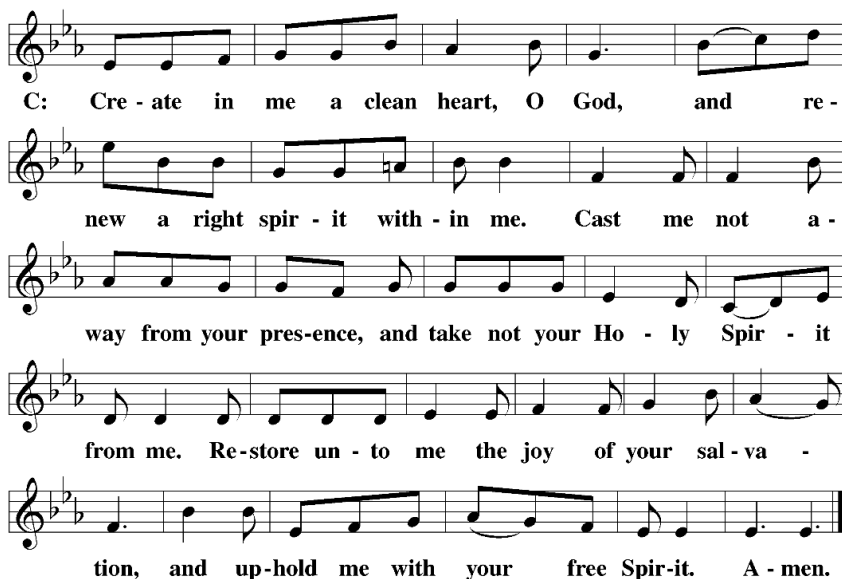
Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855-1932, abr., alt.
 Tune: LORD, REVIVE US (87 87 D) *The Revivalist*, Troy, NY, 1868.

SERMON: DESIRE TO REVOLT

SERMON TEXT

MATTHEW 5: 38 – 48

CREATE IN ME



****Please Be Seated****

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

THE PRAYER FOR EPIPHANY

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may

remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Please Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#403

I KNOW MY FAITH IS FOUNDED



1 I know my faith is found - ed On Je - sus
2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, For Sa - tan
3 In faith, Lord, let me serve you; Though per - se -

Christ, my God and Lord; And this my faith con -
seeks by night and day To rob me of this
cu - tion, grief, and pain Should seek to o - ver -

fess - ing, Un - moved I stand up - on his Word. Man's
treasure And take my hope of bliss a - way. But,
whelm me, Let me a stead - fast trust re - tain. And

rea - son can - not fath - om The truth of God pro -
Lord, with you be - side me I shall be un - dis -
then at my de - par - ture, Lord, take me home to

found; Who trusts in world - ly wis - dom Re - lies on
mayed; And led by your good Spir - it, I shall be
you, And let me there in - her - it All you have
shift - ing ground. God's Word is all - suf - fi - cient,
un - a - fraid. A - bide with me, O Sav - ior,
prom - ised me. In life and death, Lord, keep me
It makes di - vine - ly sure, And, trust - ing
A firm - er faith be - stow. Then I shall
Un - til your heav'n I gain, Where I by
in its wis - dom, My faith shall rest se - cure.
bid de - fi - ance To ev - 'ry e - vil foe.
your great mer - cy The end of faith at - tain.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. composite.

Tune: NUN LOB, MEIN SEEL (78 78 76 76 76 76 76) *Concentus novi*, Augsburg, 1540, alt.

****Please Stand****

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

C: A - men.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



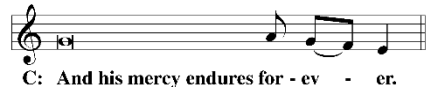
****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

****Please Stand****

SONG OF SIMEON



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

CLOSING PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it, you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

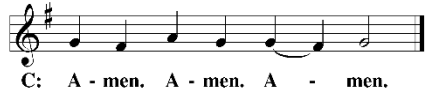


BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



****Please Be Seated****

CLOSING HYMN:

#531

CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, Come, O Lord
 3 Grant, we pray, to all your faith - ful All the gifts
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Praise and hon -



and cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 of hosts, and stay; Come with all your lov - ing-kind-ness,
 they ask to gain, What they gain from you for - ev - er
 or to the Son, Praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



Bind - ing all the Church in one, Ho - ly Zi - on's
 Hear your peo - ple as they pray, And your full - est
 With the bless - ed to re - tain, And here - af - ter
 Ev - er Three and ev - er One, One in might and



help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion Speak with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry Ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY (87 87 87) Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.

What We believe:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Morning Bible Study – What was happened after Jesus ascended into heaven? What was the mission of the church and the lessons for us? What are your questions about the book of Acts? Do you know who wrote Acts? I challenge you to bring me your questions. Come and go as you wish! We start around 9:00 am; reading is always voluntary; bring your questions.

Marriage Retreat – Fellowship, forgiveness, friendship, and freedom! Finally, these are our topics. Do you already have the ideal perfect marriage? Then you will be our guest speaker; please email the pastor your information. If not, then this might be something for you. Here is also an opportunity to share this with a friend, coworker, or neighbor.

LMSG Spiritual Retreat – PTSD does not mean you are broken or sick; instead, you have extra challenges. Wouldn't it be great to have an opportunity to talk to Lutheran counselors and other Lutheran Vets going through the same challenges you are? Here is just that opportunity: June 1 – 4, 2023, LMSG is hosting a spiritual retreat for you. This event will be at Ft. Worden State Park in Washington. Watch for more information to come.

Midweek Bible Study – Need a midweek spiritual pick-me-up? We bring you that opportunity. You don't have to say a word; you can even sit in the comfort of your home and just listen. Or you can come to the Port's home and enjoy Penny Port's fabulous baking and refresh yourself in God's Word (that is a win-win.) Have you tried reading Romans on your own? This opportunity is yours to look at the foundation of our Christian doctrine. 6 pm Tuesday, February 21, from your couch on zoom or in person at the Port's home, 1923 NW Nickernut Court, Redmond.

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