

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



Messiah Lutheran Church
February 7, 2021

(440) 331-2405
MessiahChurchFairview.org

To our Guests: Welcome!

Worship Patterns in Pandemic Days

God be praised for every person here this morning and for all who are with us in spirit as they watch and pray at home. God strengthen us all through his word and promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The continued threat of coronavirus infection requires us to change our habits during the time we spend together. Please follow these rules to keep each other safe:

On entering—

- Masks are required. Please be sure to wear one.
- Sit only in pews marked with a bow.
- Keep the spacing rod between you and your family and the person or family at the other end.
- Greet each from a distance.

During the service—

- Refrain from singing. Instead, listen to the singers in the balcony and follow the words in the bulletin.
- When we share the Peace, do not hug or shake hands except with members of your own family. Wave or bow to the people around you.
- Offering plates will not be passed. If you missed the basket on your way in, place it there when you leave.

During communion—

- Keep a safe distance from the person in front of you as you approach.
- Hold out your cupped hands for the host. The pastor will not place this in your mouth or extended fingers.
- For the wine, take a plastic cup from the top of the music stand, and hold it steady as the pastor fills it. Deposit the plastic cup in the receptacle as you return to your place.

As you leave—

- Unless you need the elevator, exit through front doors only.
- Feel free to gather on the front lawn for conversation, keeping safe distances.

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*The congregation is invited to participate at the places marked with **bold** type*

Prelude

“On Eagle’s Wings,” Charles Callahan

Stand as you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

L In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L “If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
But with You there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.”

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L Most merciful God, you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us. For his sake have mercy on us, forgive our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,” #858



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Greeting

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

C And also with you.

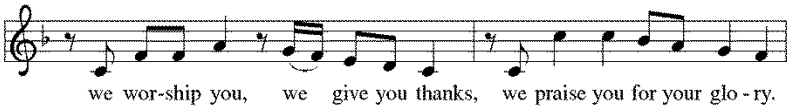
Gloria



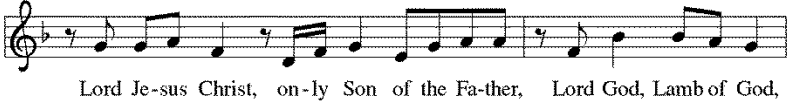
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



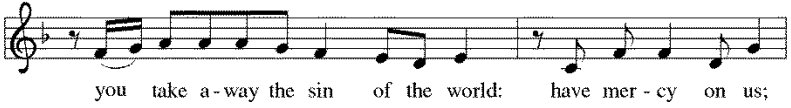
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



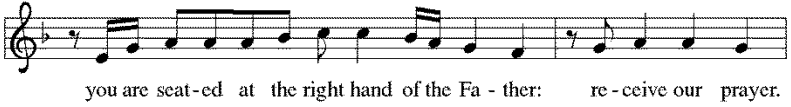
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



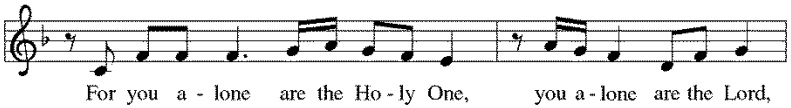
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Everlasting God, 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

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word of God

First Reading

Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have 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? 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 live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely 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.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift 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.

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 strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but 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.

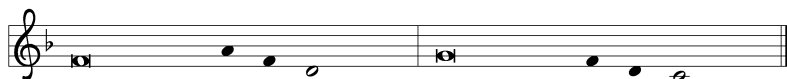
The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

147:5-11

By the Singers



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

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

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

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

⁹God provides food | for the cattle
and for the young ravens | when they cry.

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

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If 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! ¹⁷For 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. ¹⁸What 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.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so 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 I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To 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. ²²To 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. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise,” #310
stanza 3

Manifest in making whole
weakened body, fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee addressed,

At the announcement of the Gospel:

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And 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.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” ³⁸He 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.” ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated

Sermon

Pastor Burce

Hymn of the Day

“In Christ Alone

A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b/G

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

3 A^b E^b/G Fm⁷ A^b/B^b E^b A^b E^b A^b

light, my strength, — my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -
 world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 pow'r of Christ — in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal

6 B♭ E♭/G A♭ E♭/G Fm7 A♭/B♭ E♭ E♭/G

Ground, firm through the fier - est drought _ and storm. What heights of
-ness, scorned by the ones He came ___ to save. Till on that
Day, up from the grave He rose ___ a - gain! And as He
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

9 A♭ E♭/G B♭^{sus} B♭ E♭/G A♭ Cm7 B♭^{sus} B♭ A♭

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings cease. My Com - fort-
cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry
stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am
hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; Till He re -

13 E♭ A♭ B♭ E♭/G A♭ E♭/G Fm7 A♭/B♭

-er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ ___ I
sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ ___ I
His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood ___ of
-turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ ___ I'll

16 E♭ B♭m7 Fm7 E♭ E♭^{sus} E♭

stand.
live.
Christ.
stand!

Confession of Faith

P With the Church of every time and every place, we confess our faith.

A I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

C **Amen.**

A 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.

C **Amen.**

A 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.

C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord, in your mercy. . .

C **Hear our prayer.**

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Greet those around you with these or similar words, after which you may be seated in prayerful silence as the altar is prepared. Stand again as you are able at the pastor's invitation

Presentation of the Offering

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,"
Hermann Grabner

A Let us pray. Heavenly Father, you bless us with gifts beyond deserving. Accept these tokens of our thanks and use them for the saving purposes of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.

C **Amen.**

The Lord's Supper

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

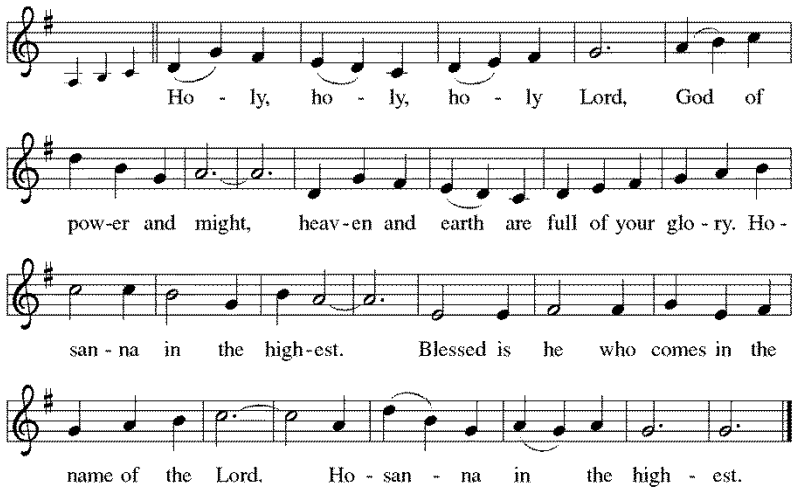
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

By the singers—



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy God, the Beginning and the End, . . . we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

P Gracious Father, fill us with your Holy Spirit . . . now and forever.

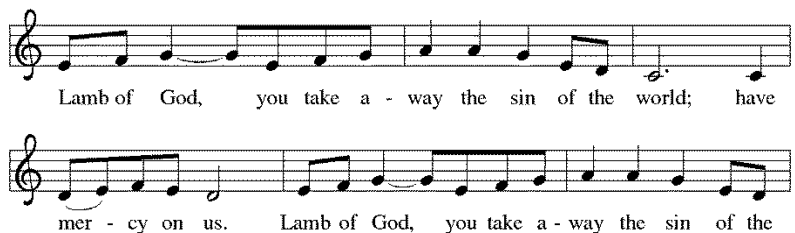
C Amen.

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

You may be seated

Communion

By the singers—



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

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

When all have communed, stand as you are able

A Let us pray.

We thank you, gracious Father, for this foretaste of the age to come when hunger is no more, and every heart is filled with joy. Send us now in the strength of this promise to spend our days as signs of hope for all creation, and as agents of your life-giving love in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Sending

Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Arise, Your Light Has Come! #314

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“We Are Marching,” Robert Schaffer

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Serving Today

Preaching Minister – Pastor Burce

Presiding Minister – Pastor Bridger

Assisting Ministers – Christa Turnbull

Acolyte – Noah Bridger

Singers – Allison and Brad Paton

Organist – Connie Triplett

Deacon – Frank Beodray

Welcome Team – Joe and Ruth King

Sound Technician – Jared Waugaman

Altar Guild – Debbie Luekens

Altar Flowers Are Given

In loving memory of Phil Neumann by his family

February 14

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for divine services.

Messiah Lutheran Church

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Messiah Lutheran School

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www.messiahfairview.org

+ + +

Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Senior Pastor – Jerome Burce

Associate Pastor – Seth Bridger

Minister of Youth – Adonai Henderson

Pastoral Assistant – Ruth Mortensen

Music Director – Connie Triplett

Messiah School Principal – Helen Casselberry

Administrator & Pierstorff Memorial Fund Director – Darlene Waugh



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Drawing in to Christ. Building up in Christ. Sending out for Christ.

To the glory of God, through the strength of the Spirit.