

Saturday, February 6, 2021 5:00 P.M.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

GATHERING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.

We turn inward, failing to follow

your outward way of love.

We distrust those who are not like us.

We exploit the earth and its resources

and fail to consider generations to come.

Forgive us, gracious God,

for all we have done and left undone.

Even before the words are on our tongues,

you know them;

receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

How vast is God's grace!
Through the power and promise of + Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved.
Indeed, we are forgiven.
In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

Amen.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The God of peace be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING –Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

Have 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,

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

they shall walk and not faint.

PSALM 147:1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise! ²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel. ³The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶The 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 heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making

and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon 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. ^{20c}Hallelujah!

GOSPEL – Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

The gospel according to Mark.

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON

Reverend Christina Garrett Klein

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in God's power to heal, let us offer our prayers for all in need, responding to each prayer with the words, "**Your mercy is great.**"

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. Hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, as we entrust to you the night. We rest securely in you, for you are our help, and you neither slumber nor sleep; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

MEAL

We practice two sacraments in the Lutheran tradition: baptism and holy communion. These are celebrated in community, in public worship, where we can all participate and remember together: God is known for using ordinary earthly things (like water, bread, and wine) to make extraordinary promises (like forgiveness, salvation, healing and new life) to creation.

Today is a good reminder that this simple meal nourishes God's community across time and space - this is why we call it communion. We would rather be with you in person for the sacrament today, but we trust Jesus to show up beyond our limitations, to meet us in this separation with a Spirit that unites, to feed us with the bread of life who is our source and strength.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

We don't serve ourselves communion because there's something holy about that promise coming from outside our own bodies, a perfect declaration from God spoken to us by our neighbor: This is the body of Christ, given for you. This is the blood of Christ, poured out for you. If you are gathered with others from your household, speak these words aloud when you serve each other. If you do not have someone in the room with you while you receive the sacrament, hear my voice as the external word of grace and invitation.

+ + Receive the Meal + +

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

We pause for prayer and reflection.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

Amen.

SENDING

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**



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Our Mission:

Transforming lives by sharing a saving faith in Jesus Christ and living the Gospel through service

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, connect with our ministries, meet with one of our pastors, or learn more about ELC and how to join, feel free to call or email us. You are always welcome here.

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See you next week for worship livestream at 5pm on Saturday and 8:45am & 10:45am on Sunday!

We continue sharing in communion. Please call/email the church office if you need elements brought to you.



Thank you for worshipping with us today as we seek to be in community with one another while minimizing physical contact. As a gentle reminder, please continue to wash your hands for the recommended 20 seconds, wear a mask and create safe boundaries through physical distancing.

We know that God is with us and God is at work, wherever we worship. With coronavirus cases on the rise, we will continue worshipping online at this time. Please be vigilant and check your email, Facebook, etc., for additional notifications and updates in the coming weeks, and contact the church council (council@edgebrooklutheran.org) with any concerns.

Stay safe and be well! God's peace to you!!