

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

For the Whole Wide World
4th – 8th Grade Special Service
February 8, 2014

AS WE GATHER

As if the lights are being raised ever-so-gradually in a dark room, the Gospel readings for each Sunday in Epiphany shed a little more light on Jesus and on us. Today, and for the next several Sundays, we hear Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount, and His words reveal Him to us, as well as teach us about ourselves. Today, Jesus tells us that we are the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." Salt seasons and preserves; as followers of Jesus we are called to season the world with the gifts of the Spirit and to preserve the ways of God in an often hostile world. Light shines; as followers of Jesus we are called to let the light of our good works shine to the glory of God. In a time when we are tempted to think that Jesus came to abolish all rules and laws, Jesus reminds us that He did not come to abolish the law, but to fulfill it. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

PRELUDE "Nearer My God to Thee" *Band*

WELCOME
"He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart." Isaiah 40:11"

WORD OF GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN "I Love to Tell the Story" *W & R #560*

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain: *I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

I love to tell the story, 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own Holy Word. *Refrain*

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. Refrain

(Rise)

INVOCATION, CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

SONG "Sing Ye Joyfully" *Jr. High Choir*

OLD TESTAMENT READING 2 KINGS 5:1-15 *7th Grade*
Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had

said. "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy." As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant."

MISSION PSALM PSALM 67

8th Grade

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will bless us. God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

SONG

"Once Again, Dear Lord, We Pray"

Children's Choir

"FOR THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD"

4th – 8th Grades

CHRISTIAN FLAG PLEDGE

I pledge allegiance to the cross, of our Lord Jesus Christ, And to the faith for which it stands, one Savior, eternal, with mercy and grace for all. So help me God.

SONG

"The Christian Flag"

School Children

"FOR THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD"

4th & 5th Grades

SONG

"A New Hallelujah"

School Children

(Rise)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:13-20 (*Salt and light*) "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Laurel Privatt

SERMON HYMN #578

"Thy Strong Word"

Rise for last stanza

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life breathing breath.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might; From the cross
forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.

Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

SERMON **“From Victory Unto Victory”** 1 Corinthians 15:51-16:4

SONG #660 **“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”**

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord in deed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; the strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle, The next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

BAND DURING OFFERING *“A Childhood Hymn”*

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Heavenly Father, you have appointed your Church to be a city on a hill, shining the light of your mercy into the world and gathering your own to receive your precious gifts of forgiveness, life and mercy.

People: Use us joyfully to invite and welcome our neighbors, co-workers and acquaintances to join us in receiving your gifts.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you have entrusted us with all that we call our own. Make us to be wise and prudent stewards of all that truly belongs to you.

People: Give us generous hearts and a willingness to offer our treasures for the furtherance of Christ's kingdom.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, your Son commanded us to pray to the Lord of the

harvest to send laborers into the field. In answer to that prayer, you raise up men to serve your people with your Word and Sacraments. You raise up teachers, deacons, deaconesses, directors of Christian education and others to catechize and carry out works of mercy in the world.

People: Bless all those who study for church vocations in our seminaries and universities. Build them up in the joy of your Gospel and prepare them to share your Word with confidence and love. Bless all missionaries, especially the Ferry family, as they prepare to serve the Lord in Indonesia.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, through the prophets you declare that the fasting you accept is to share our food with the hungry and our homes with the homeless. Guard us from self-absorption, gluttony and other vices that prevent us from extending your bounty to those less fortunate.

People: Grant shelter to those who have none, food to those who hunger and honest work to the unemployed. Fill us with the joy of sharing our daily bread.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, your mercies are new to us every morning, and yet we often know the pain of sickness, injury, sorrow and other frailties. In your never-failing mercy, remember those who have requested our intercessions, especially Rosalie, Betty, Karen, Dorothy, Ruth, Warren, Corinne, Virginia, Dorothy, Sarah and Joe,

People: Grant them healing and wholeness according to your will and grace to entrust themselves to your merciful hands.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, bless the mission and ministry of our congregation, filling with your Spirit those who serve in our midst. We ask a special blessing upon the Elizabeth ministry that has just begun and our parish nurse program that is beginning anew. We thank you for our faithful teachers and school staff and the education provided at our school.

People: Grant that all who serve would be filled with the joy of serving their Lord and that the body of Christ would be strengthened through their service.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, your Son came to perfectly fulfill your holy Law. Give us confidence and faith in His unfailing obedience as we approach your altar today, that we might receive His true body and blood for forgiveness, life and salvation.

People: Bless us to depart with joy and peace and a renewed love for our neighbors.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Be seated)

CONTINUOUS DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #810 "O God of God, O Light of Light"

O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:

To You in heav-en's glory bright The song of praise forever rings.

To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again,

Be all the glory He has won, All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

For deep in prophets' sacred page, And grand in poets' winged word,

Slowly in type, from age to age The nations saw their coming Lord;

Till through the deep Judean night Rang out the son, "Good-will to men!"

Sung once by first-born sons of light, It echoes now, "Good-will!" Amen.

That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in hate and scorn-

These all are past, and now above He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.

Lift up your heads, O mighty gates! So sang that host beyond our ken.

Lift up your heads, your King awaits. We lift them up. Amen, amen.

Then raise to Christ a mighty song, And shout His name, His mercies tell!
Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise prolong, And all on earth, your anthem swell!

All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain! Forever let the song ascend!

Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign, All glory, pow'r! Amen, amen.

HYMN #563 "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty, Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

HYMN #849 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;

Praise the One who frees' the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease, Calming
storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word; Praise the
One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword. Praise the One
who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place. Jesus died and
rose victorious That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done; Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One
who makes us one.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Father in heaven, compassionate for all of your oppressed, hungry, and weak children, we thank you that through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have given us the gift of the forgiveness of our sins and a foretaste of that day when your light shall break forth like the dawn on all creation and there will be no more oppression, hunger, or sin. As we await that great day, enable us to worship you in spirit and truth and to love and serve our neighbors in need; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: You are the salt of the earth. You are called to season what is bland and to preserve God’s ways in the world. You are the light of the world. Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven. The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #837 “Lift High the Cross”

*Refrain Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.*

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. *Refrain*

Let ev’ry race and ev’ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be; Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

POSTLUDE “To God Be the Glory” *School Band*

Preacher	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Liturgist	Pastor Harold Bender
Acolyte	Zander Maxwell
Organist	Kim Woller
Puppeteers	Laurel Privatt, Zander Mazwell, Abigail Fellenbaum, Macky Wessler, Abbie Moravec, Cassy Barry, Nik Mueller, Kelsey Koepke
Band Volunteers	Moriah Bagin, Darlene Land, Joseph Bender Jim Hutchinson, Robert Rothwell, Jim Rundel
Grades 4-8 Teachers	Pat Graf, Danielle Jackson, Bob Woller, Jack Burkee
St. Paul’s Music Teacher, Jr Choir & School Band Director	Shannon Wiegert
Music Coordinator/Accompanist	Kim Woller

The Missions Presented during this service are:

Groundwork Guatemala
Pastor Charles Ferry - Serving the Lord in Southern Asia
POBLO International Ministries
A Place of Refuge