

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Christ Is True Righteousness

February 15 & 16, 2014

### AS WE GATHER

The season of Epiphany continues, and the light of Christ shines ever more brightly—both revealing the depth of our sin and the wonders of God’s goodness and mercy to us in Jesus. Today’s portion of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount shines a penetrating, revealing light on the darkness of our sin. Anger against your neighbor incurs the same judgment as murder. The lustful look is as much of a curse as the act of adultery. Marriage is to be honored and cherished in every way. As we hear these words, our sin is exposed, and we turn again, with heavy and repentant hearts, to the only One who can restore us to life—our Savior, Jesus Christ. Forgiven by the cross of Christ, God frees us to live fully—to love the Lord, to obey His voice, to hold fast to Him now and forever.

### 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 #902 “Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”

Lord, Jesus Christ, be present now; Our hearts in true devotion bow.  
Your Spirit send with light divine, And let Your truth within us shine.

Unseal our lips to sing Your praise In endless hymns through all our days.  
Increase our faith and light our minds; and set us free from doubt that blinds.

Then shall we join in hosts that cry, “O holy, holy Lord Most High!”  
And in the light of that blest place We then shall see You face to face.

All glory to the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity, Be praise throughout eternity!

(Rise)

### INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: People of God, praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, all nations!

**People: Extol Him, all peoples!**

Pastor: For great is His steadfast love toward us,

**People: and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

Pastor: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;

**People: bring an offering, and come into His courts!**

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### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord of mercy and might, with heavy hearts we confess our sin to you. Our failure to obey your commandments,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

Pastor: Our giving attention to so many other gods,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

Pastor: Our giving into the temptation to hate, despise, or simply ignore our neighbor,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

Pastor: Our impure thoughts and actions,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

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.**

### HYMN #808

#### “O Sing to the Lord”

O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.  
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.  
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.  
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.  
For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.  
For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.  
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia! For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia! O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

### SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by your goodness to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

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**+ WORD +**

**OLD TESTAMENT** Deuteronomy 30:15–20 (*Choose life*) See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**EPISTLE** 1 Corinthians 3:1–9 (*Divisions in the Church*) Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly – mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men? For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere men? What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe – as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building.

**10:30 ANTHEM**

*“Speak, O Lord”* Lloyd Larson

Choir

*Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your Holy Word. Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory. O teach us, Lord, obedience, holy reverence, true humility. Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity. Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority. Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us: truth unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we’ll stand on your promises; and by faith we’ll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory. Amen, amen, amen.*

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 5:21–37 (*Our hope for salvation through Christ*) “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, “Raca,’ is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell. “Therefore, if you are offering your

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gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. “Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny. “You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. “It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery. “Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.’ But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one. (Be seated)

**SERMON HYMN #831 “How Shall They Hear, Who Have Not Heard”**

“How shall they hear,” who have not heard News of a Lord who Loved and came;  
Nor known His reconciling word, Nor learned to trust a Savior’s name?

“To all the world,” to ev’ry place, Neighbors and friends and far off lands,  
Preach the good news of saving grace; Go while the great commission stands.

“Whom shall I send?” Who hears the call, Constant in prayer, through toil and pain,  
Telling of One who died for all, To bring a lost world home again?

“Lord, here am I:” Your fire impart To this poor cold self-centered soul;  
Touch but my lips, my hands, my heart, And make a world for Christ my goal.

Spirit of love, within us move: Spirit of truth, in pow’r come down!  
So shall they bear and find and prove Christ is their life, their joy, their crown.

**SERMON**

(Rise)

**APOSTLES’ CREED** (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

(Be seated)

**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. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

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(Rise)

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*After each petition:*

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Pastor: . . . 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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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

**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.

*All are invited to put their Consecrated Stewards orange and blue cards in the box at the front of the communion line in the front of the sanctuary when coming forward for Holy Communion. Those who receive Communion at their seats may give their card (s) to a pastor at that time.*

**HYMN #830 “Spread the Reign of God the Lord”**

Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spoken, written, mighty Word;

Ev’rywhere His creatures call To His heav’nly banquet hall.

Tell how God the Father’s will Made the world, upholds it still,

How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.

Tell of our Redeemer’s grace, Who, to save our human race

And to pay rebellion’s price, Gave Himself as sacrifice.

Tell of God the Spirit giv’n Now to guide us on to heav’n,

Strong and holy, just and true, Working both to will and do.

Enter, mighty Word, the field; Ripe the promise of its yield.

But the reapers, oh, how few For the work there is to do!

Lord of harvest, great and kind, Rouse to action heart and mind;

Let the gath’ring nations all See You light and heed Your call.

**HYMN #865 “Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”**

Lord, help us ever to retain The Catechism’s doctrine plain

As Luther taught the Word of truth In simple style to tender youth.

Help us Your holy Law to learn, To mourn our sin and from it turn

In faith to You and to Your Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One.

Hear us, dear Father, when we pray For needed help from day to day

That as Your children we may live, Whom You baptized and so received.

Lord, when we fall or go astray, Absolve and lift us up, we pray;

And through the Sacrament increase Our faith till we depart in peace.

**HYMN #620 “Jesus Comes Today with Healing”**

Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing,

Off’ring pardon, grace, and peace. He Himself makes preparation,

And I hear His invitation: “Come and taste the blessed feast.”

Christ Himself, the priest presiding, Yet in bread and wine abiding

In this holy sacrament, Gives the bread of life, once broken,

And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy,

Blood and body, giv’n for me, Very Lamb of God from heaven,

Who to bitter death was given, Hung upon the cursed tree.

God descends with heav’nly power, Gives Himself to me this hour

In this ordinary sign. On my tongue His pledge receiving,

I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine.

Let me praise God’s boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor,

Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me,

With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.

Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation,

Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev’ry tremor,

Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

## **DEDICATION OF COMMITMENTS**

(Rise)

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Pastor: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank you that for His sake you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve you; 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: Love the Lord. Walk in His ways. Keep His commandments. For He is your life and length of days. 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 #496            “Holy Spirit, Light Divine”**

Holy Spirit, light divine, Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.

Let me see my Savior’s face, Let me all His beauties trace;  
Show those glorious truths to me Which are only known to Thee.

Holy Spirit, pow’r divine, Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;  
In Thy mercy pity me, From sin’s bondage set me free.

Holy Spirit, joy divine, Cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
Yield a sacred, settled peace, Let it grow and still increase.

Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this heart of mine;  
Cast down every idol throne, Reign supreme, and reign alone.

Preacher	Pastor Bud Palmer
Liturgists	Pastor Harold Bender & Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lectors	Russell Hurst, Bob Reynolds, John Ficken
Acolytes	Montana Wendt, Macky Wessler, Ana Gonzalez-Clark
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Choir Director	Nancy Hoelke
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller