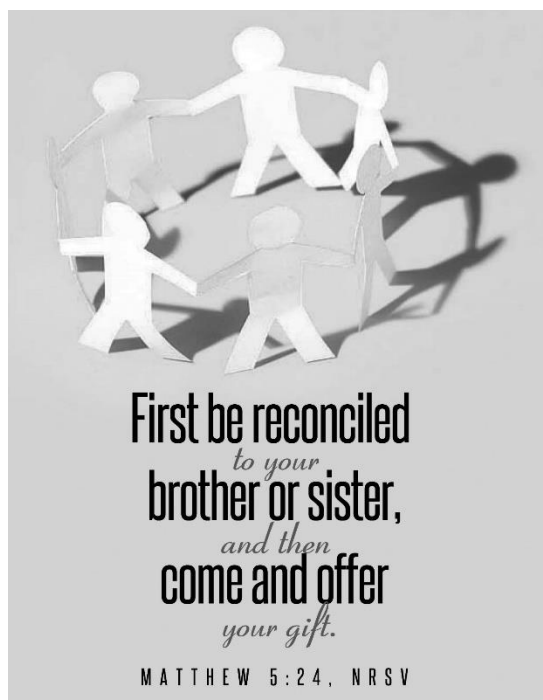


Sunday, February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



But I say to you...forgive and bring your heart in tune with Kingdom standards. “So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. It may be easier to follow a “black and white” rule than repair a relationship. Even so, Jesus came to repair our relationship with God. God who so loved the world...

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

P: God in Christ offers reconciliation -
Peace be with you.

C: And also with you!

Call to Worship

A: God sets before us blessing and curse.

C: God sets before us abundance and scarcity.

A: God has told us what God desires for us:

C: Blessing and abundance.

A: God has told us what God asks us to be for the world.

C: Blessing and Abundance

All: We come to choose to live with wisdom and compassion. We come to be blessing, love, abundance, and mercy.

Gathering Hymn – “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” ELW # 517

<https://youtu.be/iHIGardD4S4>

by Koine

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Litany

P: The commands of God are many.

C: But the times we have obeyed them are few. Forgive us, O Lord.

P: The Lord God reveals his love for us in what he commands us to do.

C: May we love as he first loved us, by following his will.

P: The Lord God desires that we live in harmony with one another.

C: May forgiveness and understanding dominate our days.

P: The Lord God wants us to respect ourselves.

C: May we treat our bodies and minds with those things that are most pleasing to him.

P: The Lord God want us to honor him above all else.

C: May all our words and deeds bring glory to him. Amen.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of god, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen and Amen.

Hymn of Praise – “Praise the Lord! O Heavens” ELW #823

<https://youtu.be/nNvoTbO8JFg>

by Martijn de Groot

Prayer of the Day

A: O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you.

C: Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Deuteronomy 30:15-20

But if your heart turns away and you do not hear...

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:1-8

I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching ¹ of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe ¹ your decrees and seek you with ¹ all their hearts,**

³who never do ¹ any wrong, but always walk ¹ in your ways.

⁴**You laid down ¹ your commandments, that we should ¹ fully keep them.**

⁵Oh, that my ways were made ¹ so direct that I might ¹ keep your statutes!

⁶**Then I should not be ¹ put to shame, when I regard all ¹ your commandments.**

⁷I will thank you with ¹ a true heart, when I have learned your ¹ righteous judgments.

⁸**I will ¹ keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.**

Epistle reading - 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

God gives growth

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel – Matthew 5:21-37
<https://youtu.be/SC8SQ-ukKGA>

The teaching of Christ: forgiveness

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children of God Time – “Say You’re Sorry”

<https://youtu.be/ZKNcF7HXwRI>

Homily – “You Have Heard That It Was Said...But I Say to You”

<https://youtu.be/8ReSSPGNeAc>

Hymn of the Day – “Healer of Our Every Ill” ELW #612

<https://youtu.be/hwBewCxunL0>

by Marty Haugen

Apostles’ Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead,
on the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible (*especially*), empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Nurture all in need (*especially*). Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration (*local restorative efforts may be named*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarrelling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

Offertory Hymn – “We Are an Offering” ELW #692

<https://youtu.be/bVC7F0Hechk>

by Chris Christian

(Offering Plates brought forward)

Offertory Prayer

A: O Lord, if it were not enough that you have given us all things

C: life, love, moments of laughter...

A: you have opened your heart to us as well.

C: We thank you for your holy law – a law of love.

A: United in your own love we bring these gifts before you today.

C: Accept them, not as requirements of your law, but as signs of our love.

A: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

In is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
 Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
 bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
 through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1	Gen - tile	or	Jew,	ser - vant	or	free,
2	Man - y	the	gifts,	man - y	the	works,
3	Grain for	the	fields,	scat - tered	and	grown,

Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, sr, b. 1939
 Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, sr
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Words of Institution

The 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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

A: At your table, O Christ, we witness the fulfillment of the Law –

C: your body given, your blood shed...for us.

A: Nourish us with this gift.

C: Make your will our own.

A: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction – from Numbers 6

Sending Hymn – “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

ELW #772

<https://youtu.be/F94gZlHy4Jw>

by Koine

Dismissal

A: True in heart we go to serve.

C: Thanks be to God who has given His love!

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston

HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY



By: Reynald Claudio – grade 11 student and a leader in the San Ildefonso Children's Choir