

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2021**



Call to Worship (from Psalm 147)

A: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

C: Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

A: Our Lord heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

C: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love. Praise the Lord!

Gathering Hymn – Gather Us In

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f44OvSt26TU>

Invocation

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: 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.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection

L: Holy God,

C: 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.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

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.

Hymn of Praise – What a Friend We Have in Jesus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hje9vyn5ki8>

Prayer of the Day

A: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.

C: Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation,

A: through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Word

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. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:1-11

¹Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

²The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

³He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

⁴He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

⁵Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

⁶The Lord lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.

⁸He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

⁹He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner; ¹¹but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love. Praise the Lord!

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. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel – Mark 1:29-39

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁹As soon as they 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 sundown, 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.”³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

Message – Tim Leitner, SAM

<https://youtu.be/kMkYcluiP0o>

Hymn of the day – Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNgrbgGafv0>

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

L: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

A: For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

L: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Offering Prayer

A: O God, receive these gifts as you receive us; like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.

C: Nourish us anew in your loving care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love,

A: through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Communion Music

Here is Bread - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9nOWL30EP8>

Now the Feast and Celebration -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1vkcvMHyuw&t=6s>

We Plow the Fields and Scatter - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ha628Pj_Rns

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

A: Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey.

C: Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve in your name. Amen

Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn – You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mFQ_5V_4yec

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.



**“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.”**

Mark 1:38, NRSV