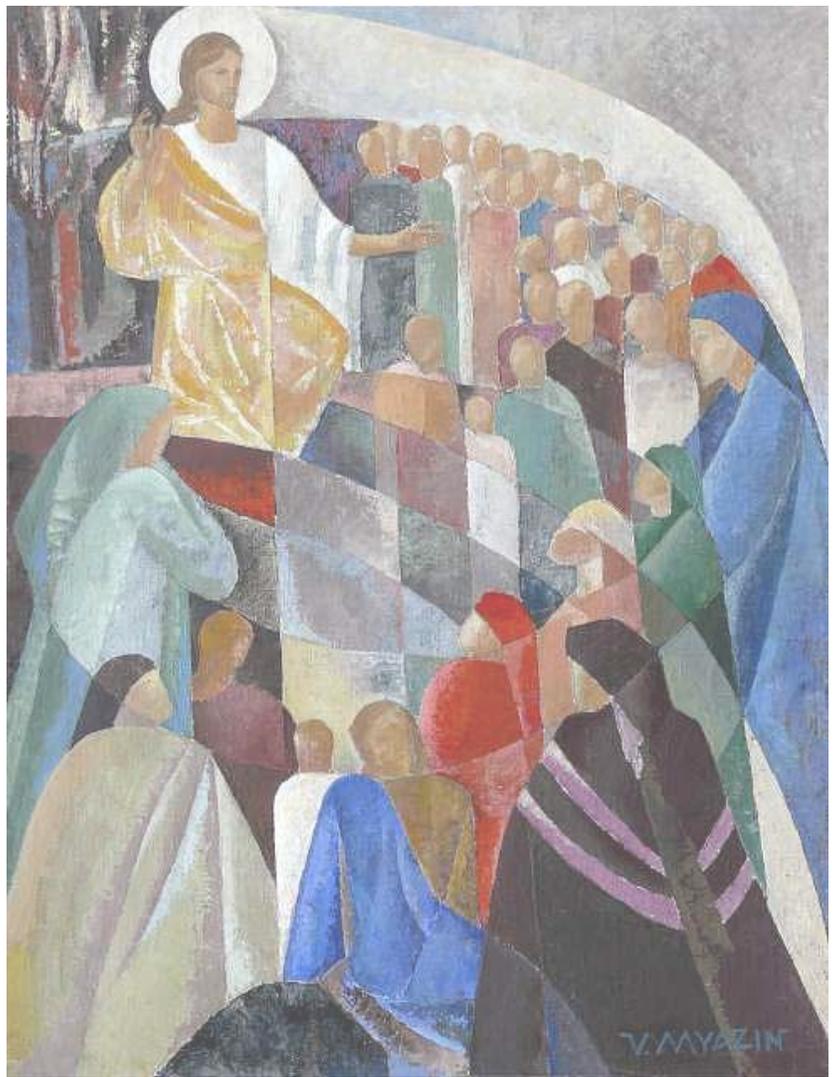


The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2025 — Setting Three

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely." Matt 5:11

The holy Christian people are externally recognized by the holy possession of the sacred cross. They must endure every misfortune and persecution, all kinds of trials and evil from the devil, the world, and the flesh (as the Lord's Prayer indicates) by inward sadness, timidity, fear, outward poverty, contempt, illness and weakness, in order to become like their head, Christ. The only reason they must suffer is that they steadfastly adhere to Christ and God's Word, enduring this for the sake of Christ. They must be pious, quiet, obedient, and prepared to serve the government and everybody with life and goods, doing no one any harm. No people on earth have to endure such bitter hate; they must be called heretics, knaves, and devils, the most pernicious people on earth, to the point where those who hang, drown, murder, torture, banish, and plague them to death are rendering God a service. No one has compassion on them; they are given myrrh and gall to drink when they thirst. All of this is done not because they are adulterers, murderers, thieves, or rogues but because they want to have none but Christ, and no other God. Wherever you see or hear this, you may know that the holy Christian church is there, as Christ says in Matthew 5:11-12, *"Blessed are you when people revile you... and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."* This too is a holy possession whereby the Holy Spirit not only sanctifies his people but also blesses them.

—Martin Luther
On the Councils & Church, 1539



Welcome

We are thankful you have joined us today!

Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word | 904

Entrance Psalm

[Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5; antiphon Psalm 119:7]

☞ I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your just and righteous decrees.

☞ **Blessed are those whose way is blameless
who walk in the law of the LORD!**

Blessed are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart.

**You have commanded your precepts
to be kept diligently.**

○ that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your just and righteous decrees.

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. [Matt 28:19b; 18-20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord, [Hebrews 10:22]

who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. [Psalm 32:5]

Quiet time for self-examination and confession.

○ almighty God, merciful Father, **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

Lord, Have Mercy

[Mark 10:47, Setting 3]

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Hymn of Praise

Praise the Almighty (1, 4)

*Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him!
Yes, I will laud Him until death;
With songs and anthems I come before Him
As long as He allows me breath.
From Him in my life and all things came;
Bless, O my soul, His holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia.*

*Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,
Pardon and peace from Him obtain;
Ever the wants of the poor supplying,
Their faithful God He will remain.
He helps His childrent in distress,
The widows and the fatherless.
Alleluia, alleluia.* [LSB 797]

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** [1 Timothy 4:22]

Let us pray...[silence for individual prayer] 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 that 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. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Jeremiah:

Thus says the LORD:
"Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the LORD.
He is like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see any good come.
He shall dwell in the parched places of the
wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.
"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.
He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit." [Jeremiah 17:5-8]

Time for reflection.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading is from 1 Corinthians:

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. [1 Cor 15:12-20]

Time for reflection.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse.

Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:

Glory to You, O Lord.

And [Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.
"Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you shall be satisfied.
"Blessed are you who weep now,
for you shall laugh.
"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.
"But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.
"Woe to you who are full now
for you shall be hungry.
"Woe to you who laugh now,
for you shall mourn and weep.
"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you,
for so their fathers did to the false prophets. [Luke 6:17-26]

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

Please be seated.

Children's Talk

[Mark 10:14-16; Matt 19:14; Luke 18:16-17]

The children are invited forward for a message based on today's Scripture readings led by Pastor Fitch.

Hymn If Christ Had Not Been Raised From Death | 486

Sermon

Please stand.

Our Confession of Faith

*Please stand to confess the **Apostles' Creed** printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Please be seated.

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay



Please stand.

Offertory Hymn Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet

*Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.*

*When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me,
And nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end. Refrain
I will not forget Your love me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
I will love You to the end. Refrain [LSB 973]*

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right so to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]

Musical score for 'The Holy, Holy, Holy' with lyrics: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.** [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

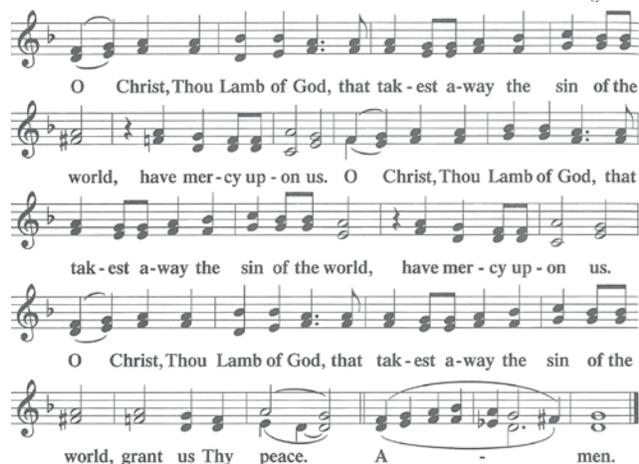
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." [Mt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** [Jn 20:19]

Lamb of God

[John 1:29]



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. **A - men.**

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, please inform an usher or the pastor. The pastor will bring the gifts to you in your seat.

Hymns Songs of Thankfulness and Praise | **394**
He's Risen, He's Risen | **480**
I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table | **618**

When all have communed please stand.

Post Communion Song

[Luke 2:29-32]



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. **A - men.**

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Announcements

[Galatians 6:10]

Please stand.

Benediction

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. **Amen.** [Numbers 6:24-26]

Hymn I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus | **729**

Postlude

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Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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