

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
February 5, 2023
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We are here,

All: in the name of Christ Jesus.

Leader: So ask right now,

All: and it shall be given to you.

Leader: Seek right now,

All: and you will find.

Leader: Knock right now,

All: and the door will be opened.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN**

Seek Ye First

175

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus, who came into the world to save sinners. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

We reflect silently on the ways we have fallen short.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Amen. Hear the good news: anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace. **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Matthew 7:1-14

“Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For the judgment you give will be the judgment you get, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye.

“Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.

“Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for bread, would give a stone? Or if the child asked for a fish, would give a snake? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

“In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

“Enter through the narrow gate, for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

The Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Feed Me Lord

MPC Choir
Paul Piller, euphonium

SECOND READING

Matthew 7:24-29

“Everyone, then, who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!”

Now when Jesus had finished saying these words, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as their scribes.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Rev. Ben Shaw

*HYMN

I Long for Your Commandments

64

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Declaration of Faith, 1977

Jesus came to set people free by the power of the gospel. In so doing he did not abolish, but fulfilled the law and the prophets. Through his teaching and the teaching of the apostles he showed what it is to be free and obedient.

We declare Christ has freed us from trying to save ourselves by obeying the law. He restores to us God’s law as a gift and delight. The law describes concretely the shape of our freedom. When we accept its discipline, it keeps our personal lives from being chaotic and increases our effectiveness in the church’s mission.

*THE CALL TO OFFERING

Now let us present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord. Freely you have received, freely give.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

... And now hear as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **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.**

Praise to you...we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Thank you, O God...in joy and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God...now and forever. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

As you are able, please wait to consume the bread and juice, that we might partake together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***HYMN**

My Life Flows On

821

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all this day, and unto your life eternal. Amen.

POSTLUDE