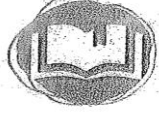


# Fifth Sunday After The Epiphany

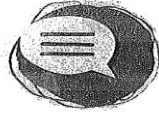
February 4<sup>th</sup> 2024 9:30am



Share



Read



Talk



Pray



Bless

**Preparation For Worship:** Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. *Psalm 147:1*

## Opening Song

## Cornerstone

**My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name**

**Christ alone cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord - Lord of all**

**When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil**

**Christ alone cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord - Lord of all**

## Interlude

**Christ alone cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord - Lord of all**

**Christ alone cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord - Lord of all**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne**

## Invocation

Pastor: We gather today in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: God the Father loved us so much that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever would believe in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

**People: The promised Messiah came! We celebrate the Epiphany of His coming. Emmanuel is God with us, and Christ will come again! He is the Prince of Peace, and Lord of all!  
God is good!**

Pastor: All the time!

**People: All the time!**

Pastor: God is good!

**People: Let us come to Him then with an honest heart to worship Him in spirit and truth.**

## Confession and Absolution

Pastor: We confess our need of forgiveness, and that God's forgiveness is the gift that leads to newness of life. Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, born in a manger, died on a cross, and risen from the grave: All to redeem us from sin, death, the devil, and our sinful self. As Paul wrote in Romans 3 "This was to show God's righteousness, because in God's divine forbearance God had passed over former sins; it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and that God justifies the one who has faith in Jesus." Acknowledging the promise and call of God to confess, repent and receive forgiveness, we join in the Apostle John's words:

**People: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned we make God a liar, and His Word is not in us.**

**Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**Forgive me of my sins, I pray. (Reflection for confession)**

Pastor: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called servant of Jesus our Christ, and by His authority, I announce God's grace to you, and the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. To all who believe on His name He gave power to become the children of God, and gave His Holy Spirit. Those who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this O Lord, unto us all.

**People: Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Daily Text

He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me?

*Isaiah 50:8*

Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, sire." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

*John 8:10-11*

Let us pray:

**People: Waymaker, thank You for making a way for me. You set me free. Help me to bask in the knowledge of this freedom today. Fill me with awe. Thank You for the mercy and love You so freely give to me. Help me walk in Your ways today. Thank You for sticking by my side. Amen.**

## Scripture Lessons *Read*

### First Lesson

*Isaiah 40:21-31*

<sup>21</sup> Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? <sup>22</sup> It 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 dwell in; <sup>23</sup> who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. <sup>24</sup> Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. <sup>25</sup> To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. <sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? <sup>28</sup> Have 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. <sup>29</sup> He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. <sup>30</sup> Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; <sup>31</sup> but they 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 Psalm

*Psalm 147:1-11*

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. <sup>2</sup> The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. <sup>3</sup> He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. <sup>4</sup> He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. <sup>5</sup> Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. <sup>6</sup> The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground. <sup>7</sup> Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre! <sup>8</sup> He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills. <sup>9</sup> He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry. <sup>10</sup> His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, <sup>11</sup> but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

### Second Lesson

*1 Corinthians 9:16-23*

<sup>16</sup> For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! <sup>17</sup> For if I do this of my own will, I have a

reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. <sup>18</sup> What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. <sup>19</sup> For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup> To 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 not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup> To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup> To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. <sup>23</sup> I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Reader: Please rise for the reading of the Gospel. God has given us Good News.

**People: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. You have the words of eternal life.**

*Psalm 119:105, John 6:68*

### Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:29-39

<sup>29</sup> And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup> Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. <sup>31</sup> And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. <sup>32</sup> That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city was gathered together at the door. <sup>34</sup> And he healed 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. Jesus Preaches in Galilee <sup>35</sup> And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup> And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, <sup>37</sup> and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." <sup>38</sup> And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." <sup>39</sup> And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

### Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin, Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Sermon Song**

**Open The Eyes Of My Heart Lord**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord - open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You - I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord - open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You - I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up - shining in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy holy holy**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord - open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You - I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord - open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You - I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up - shining in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy holy holy**

**Holy holy holy - Holy holy holy - Holy holy holy - I want to see You  
Holy holy holy - Holy holy holy - Holy holy holy - I want to see You**

**Sermon/Watchword**

*Talk --- New, Knew, Next*

Pr Knoll

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure

**Offering Song**

**Give Us Clean Hands**

**We bow our hearts we bend our knees  
Oh Spirit come make us humble  
We turn our eyes from evil things  
Oh Lord we cast down our idols**

**Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob**

**We bow our hearts we bend our knees  
Oh Spirit come make us humble  
We turn our eyes from evil things  
Oh Lord we cast down our idols**

**Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another**

continued on next page

**And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob**

**Prayers of the Church**      *Pray*

*The congregation is invited to join in prayers that include whole Church, the nation, those in need, the parish, additional petitions and special concerns.*

**Pastor:** Let's join together to pray with Jesus for all that He loves right here, and to the ends of the earth. Father, our Father in heaven, You are the present active, Creator, and Redeemer of our heart, soul, mind and body.

**People:** **Thank You Lord, that in You we are made a part of Your great salvation of all that You have created. You have made us Your redeemed children. We join today with all those throughout the world who follow You, and pray that Your kingdom would come, and Your will would be done among us as it is in heaven.**

**Pastor:** Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with these words...*

**Pastor:** You are our God, and we are Your people... Thank You that You hear our prayers, and work in all things for the good of those who love You. To You be all glory, honor, and praise.

**People:** **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Pastor:** Lord, remembering Your love and Your life we pray as You taught us to pray:

**People:** **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**

**Benediction**      *Bless*

**Pastor:** Now, may the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May He make His face shine on you, and be gracious unto you.  
May the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you His peace.

**People:**(Sung) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Blessing:** Child of God, trust in Him at all times. Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.

**Pastor:** Our worship continues,

**People:** **our service begins!**

**Closing Song**                      **The Lion And The Lamb**

**He's coming on the clouds - kings and kingdoms will bow down  
And every chain will break - as broken hearts declare His praise  
For who can stop the Lord Almighty**

**Our God is the Lion - The Lion of Judah  
He's roaring with power - And fighting our battles  
And every knee will bow before Him  
Our God is the Lamb - The Lamb that was slain  
For the sins of the world - His blood breaks the chains  
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb  
Every knee will bow before Him**

**So open up the gates - make way before the King of kings  
The God who comes to save - is here to set the captives free  
For who can stop the Lord Almighty**

**Our God is the Lion - The Lion of Judah  
He's roaring with power - And fighting our battles  
And every knee will bow before Him  
Our God is the Lamb - The Lamb that was slain  
For the sins of the world - His blood breaks the chains  
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb  
Every knee will bow before Him**

*Instrumental*

**Who can stop the Lord Almighty - Who can stop the Lord (Almighty)  
Who can stop the Lord Almighty - Who can stop the Lord (Almighty)  
Who can stop the Lord Almighty - Who can stop the Lord (Almighty)**

**Our God is the Lion - The Lion of Judah  
He's roaring with power - And fighting our battles  
And every knee will bow before Him  
Our God is the Lamb - The Lamb that was slain  
For the sins of the world - His blood breaks the chains  
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb  
Every knee will bow before Him**

**SHARING OF PEACE AS WE GO IN GOD'S PEACE**

**Welcome To Worship At Zion.** We are pleased to have you join us. *If you are a visitor* please check the shelf outside the office for our newsletter and brochure.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God.

**The 2024 Altar Flower Chart** is up in the hallway. You may sign up for one or two vases. The cost per vase is \$22.50 per vase or \$45.00 for both vases. Please indicate whether it is in honor or memory of an individual or special event.

**The Mission of the Month for February is the Lutheran Church of South Sudan.** See the article in the February newsletter found on the shelf outside the church office and on the tables across from the lounge and the Chapel. Mission of the Month envelopes are located there also to support this ministry.

**The February Newsletter** is available on the tables across from the Chapel and Lounge, on the shelf outside the church office and also on the desk in the library. *Please remember: We no longer have a way to find out if you have moved. Call the church office with new addresses and/or phone numbers.*

#### **Bible Studies/Small Groups**

**Wednesday 6:00pm G.I.F.T.**

#### **Worship at Zion**

**Wednesday 7:00pm Worship and Praise**

**Saturday 5:00pm Chapel**

**Sunday 8:00am Worship**

**9:30am G.I.F.T. Worship**

**11:30am Swahili-English Worship**

### **ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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