

Divine Service, Setting Three
The Fifth Sunday after The Epiphany
8 February 2026

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: □"HOLY SPIRIT, EVER DWELLING"

LSB 650

1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling
 In the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding
 O'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising
 Those of earth to thrones on high;
Living, life-imparting Spirit,
 You we praise and magnify.

2 Holy Spirit, ever living
 As the Church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving
 Through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming
 In the Church the mind of Christ:
You we praise with endless worship
 For Your gifts and fruits unpriced.

3 Holy Spirit, ever working
 Through the Church's ministry;
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,
 Setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding
 Age to age and soul to soul
In communion never ending,
 You we worship and extol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874–1939, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

- ¶ In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- ¶ Amen.
- ¶ 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,
 C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P 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. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

INTROIT

PSALM 119:9-16

Blessèd are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes! How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessèd are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes! With my lips I declare all the just decrees of your mouth. In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes I will not forget your word.

GLORIA PATRI

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

KYRIE

C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

C Glory be to God on high and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 58:3–9A

"Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?" Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'"

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ADULT CHOIR ANTHEM: *“JESUS THY BLOOD AND RIGHTEOUSNESS”*

LSB 563

EPISTLE

1 CORINTHIANS 2:1–16

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA

C. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 5:13-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C. Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come 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 \ddagger everlasting. Amen.

CATECHETICAL VERSE TO KNOW BY HEART

The First Petition

C Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean?

C God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy?

C God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

Sit

- 1 **Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;**
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

- 2 **Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,**
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

- 3 **Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;**
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

- 4 **From the cross Thy wisdom shining**
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

- 5 **Give us lips to sing Thy glory,**
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

△6 **God the Father, light-creator,**
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76 Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005097

SERMON: "NOTHING BUT CHRIST CRUCIFIED"

By Pastor John Schmidt

1 CORINTHINAN 2:1-16

Stand

¶ The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
C Amen.

OFFERTORY

¶ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

OFFERING HYMN: "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN"

LSB 781 V. 1-2

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

- 2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823-97 Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Sit

1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
 Great David's greater Son!
 Hail, in the time appointed,
 His reign on earth begun!
 He comes to break oppression,
 To set the captive free,
 To take away transgression
 And rule in equity.

2 He comes with rescue speedy
 To those who suffer wrong,
 To help the poor and needy
 And bid the weak be strong;
 To give them songs for sighing,
 Their darkness turn to light,
 Whose souls, condemned and dying,
 Were precious in His sight.

3 He shall come down like showers
 Upon the fruitful earth;
 Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
 Spring in His path to birth.
 Before Him on the mountains
 Shall peace, the herald, go;
 And righteousness in fountains
 From hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall fall down before Him
 And gold and incense bring;
 All nations shall adore Him,
 His praise all people sing.
 To Him shall prayer unceasing
 And daily vows ascend;
 His kingdom still increasing,
 A kingdom without end.

5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
 He on His throne shall rest,
 From age to age more glorious,
 All blessing and all-blest.
 The tide of time shall never
 His covenant remove;
 His name shall stand forever—
 That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

 Collect

 Amen

BENEDICTION

 The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

 Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY*

LSB 427

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,**
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,**
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming**
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure**
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872 Text: Public domain

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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