

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4 and 5, 2023



Please remember to place your offering for the work of the Lord at Emanuel in the offering plate as you leave.

THE WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. David O. Stecker
Lector: Seminarian Joshua Gerken
Organist: Lynne Eifert
Acolytes: Madeline Reddinger (8:00)
Ava Werling (10:30)
Elder: Mike Sweet (5:00)
Mark Schuller (8:00, 10:30)
Ushers: Group 2 (Ben Koeneman) (8:00)
Group 1 (Sam Bender) (10:30)
Communion Assistant: Jay Melcher (5:00)
Nick Gehl (8:00)
Dave Van Spankeren (10:30)



Emanuel Lutheran Church

www.emanuelnh.org

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Central Lutheran School

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Vision Statement

Emanuel Lutheran Church is a united and growing family of Christians joyfully dedicated to furthering God's Kingdom.

† The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany †
Divine Service I with Communion – LSB page 151

WELCOME to those visiting us this Lord’s Day. It is our joy to have you worshipping with us. We invite you to come again and worship the Lord.

FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY ~ Everyone, please sign in! If you are a guest today, please include your address and zip code so that we may acknowledge your visit.

AS WE GATHER ~ The Epiphany season continues to illuminate the miracle of Christmas shining its light forward to the goal and purpose of Christ’s coming to us in the flesh. That purpose is the salvation of the world through the forgiveness of our sins. That forgiveness can and will happen only through the sacrifice on Christ’s cross. As often as we Christians have heard this Gospel and believe it, however, the more often we tend to forget that this knowledge, this faith, remains a hidden mystery to the world, which ignores, rejects, or explains away “Jesus Christ and Him crucified.” Many really don’t get it! Yet, here through the Divine Word and Sacraments, God the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, enlightens minds and hearts to a spiritual epiphany.

PRELUDE *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* (Warner)

GREETING AND RINGING OF THE BELLS

♪ **OPENING HYMN** ↓ *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* **LSB 873**
Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise; triumph o’er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day’s return till Thy mercy’s beams I see,
Till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

INVOCATION - Page 151 ↑

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.** (Matthew 28:19)

CONFESSION - Page 151 ↑

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:8-9)

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. (John 20:19-23)

People: **Amen.**

INTROIT FOR THE DAY ↑

Pastor: Blessèd are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! (Psalm 119:12)

Pastor: How can a young man keep his way pure?

People: **By guarding it according to your word.**

Pastor: With my whole heart I seek you;

People: **let me not wander from your commandments!**

Pastor: I have stored up your word in my heart,

People: **that I might not sin against you.**

Pastor: Blessèd are you, O Lord;

People: **teach me your statutes!**

Pastor: With my lips I declare

People: **all the just decrees of your mouth.**

Pastor: In the way of your testimonies I delight

People: **as much as in all riches.**

Pastor: I will meditate on your precepts

People: **and fix my eyes on your ways.**

Pastor: I will delight in your statutes;
People: I will not forget your word. (Psalm 119:9-16)
All: 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.
 Pastor: Blessèd are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! (Psalm 119:12)

KYRIE - Page 152 ↑ (Luke 17:13, Luke 18:38-39, Psalm 123:2, 3)

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, have mercy.
 Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, have mercy.
 Pastor: 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.
People: Lord, have mercy.
 Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, have mercy.
 Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.
People: Amen.

♪ HYMN OF PRAISE - Page 155 ↑ (Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

COLLECT OF THE DAY ↑

Pastor: The Lord be with you. (Ruth 2:4)
People: And also with you. (Luke 1:28)
 Pastor: 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.
People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING ↓

Isaiah 58:3-9a (ESV)

³“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.
⁴Behold, 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.
⁵Is 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?
⁶“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?
⁷Is 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?
⁸Then 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.
⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
 you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING ↓

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (ESV)

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet 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. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, 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”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For 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. ¹²Now 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

♪ VERSE ↑

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
 Alleluia, alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL READING ↑

Matthew 5:13-20 (ESV)

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³[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.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In 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.

¹⁷“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. ¹⁸For 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.

¹⁹Therefore 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. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Lector: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

♪ HYMN OF THE DAY ↓

Thy Strong Word

LSB 578

**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!**

**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!**

**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!**

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!

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!

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!

SERMON ↓ *The Wisdom of Christ Crucified* 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

NICENE CREED - Page 158 ↑
 I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH ↑ (1 Timothy 2:1-4)



We welcome the opportunity to explain what we believe, teach and confess regarding the Lord's Supper. In order not to impose those beliefs on you, we ask that if you are not a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, you would speak with a Pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

PREFACE - Page 160 ↑

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right and salutary....evermore praising you and saying:

♪ SANCTUS - Page 161 ↑

(Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING ~ Page 161 ↑

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER ~ Page 162 ↑

(Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4)

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach 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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD - Page 162 ↑

Pastor: 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; do this 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."

PAX DOMINI - Page 163 ↑

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

(John 20:19)

♪ AGNUS DEI "Lamb of God" - Page 163 ↑**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.****Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.****Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

(John 1:29)

♪ DISTRIBUTION ↓ *Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service* LSB 848**Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,****Who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed,****We, Your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,****Consecrating to Your purpose ev'ry gift that You impart.****Still Your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;****Still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.**

**As, O Lord, Your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.**

**As we worship, grant us vision, till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness, dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.**

**Called by worship to Your service, forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom may Your mercy know and live.**

Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed LSB 560

**Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed with healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in Thee my life, my rest, Christ crucified, I come.**

**Thou knowest all my griefs and fears, Thy grace abused, my misspent years;
Yet now to Thee with contrite tears, Christ crucified, I come.**

**Wash me and take away each stain; let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing, though it be through pain, Christ crucified, I come.**

**And then for work to do for Thee, which shall so sweet a service be
That angels well might envy me, Christ crucified, I come.**

Your Table I Approach

LSB 628

Your table I approach; dear Savior, hear my prayer.**Let not an unrepentant heart prove hurtful to me there.**

**Lord, I confess my sins and mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find forgiveness at Your hands.**

**Your body and Your blood, once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord, in blest reality.**

**Search not how this takes place, this wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more than what we think could be.**

**O grant, most blessed Lord, that earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament raise doubt within my mind.**

**Oh, may I never fail to thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.**

BLESSING – Page 164 ↑

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in
body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

People: **Amen.**

♪ POST COMMUNION CANTICLE - Page 164 ↑

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST COMMUNION COLLECT - Page 166 ↑

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through
this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would
strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love
toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION - Page 166 ↑

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

(Numbers 6:24-26)

♪ CLOSING HYMN ↑

God Has Spoken by His Prophets

LSB 583

**God has spoken by His prophets, spoken His unchanging Word;
Each from age to age proclaiming God, the one, the righteous Lord.
In the world's despair and turmoil, one firm anchor holds us fast;
God is king, His throne eternal; God the first, and God the last.**

**God has spoken by Christ Jesus, Christ, the everlasting Son,
Brightness of the Father's glory, with the Father ever one;
Spoken by the Word Incarnate, God of God, before time was;
Light of Light, to earth descending, He reveals our God to us.**

**God is speaking by His Spirit, speaking to our hearts again,
In the ageless Word declaring His own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations one sure faith yet standing fast;
God abides, His Word unchanging; God the first, and God the last.**

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune (Johnson)