

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 7 and 8, 2026



THE WORSHIP LEADERS

- Preacher: Rev. David O. Stecker
- Lector: Seminarian Juston Lantrip
- Organist: Lynne Eifert
- Choir: CLS Cherubim Choir (10:30)
- Acolytes: Eli Fink (8:00)  
Lilly Herman, Isaac Pranger (10:30)
- Elder: Ben Oberlin (5:00)  
Paul Niccum (8:00, 10:30)
- Ushers: Group S3 (Jay Melcher) (5:00)  
Group 2 (Ben Koeneman) (8:00)  
Group 1 (Sam Bender) (10:30)

Emanuel Lutheran Church

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

# † The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany †

The Order of Vespers ~ Page 229 (5:00)

The Order of Matins ~ Page 219 (8:00, 10:30)

**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** ~ Although the work of composers of church music and writers of hymn texts are often observed and even celebrated, the faithful and thoughtful work of text translators is rarely noted. One of the most gifted translators, whose work brought into English many historical and doctrinally powerful German hymns, was an Englishwoman named Catherine Winkworth. The contributors’ index in *Lutheran Service Book* (p. 1002) lists forty-six hymns included in the hymnal that she translated from the original German. Her chosen words have both beauty and depth of meaning. In the second stanza of Johann Mentzer’s hymn “Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices” (*LSB* 811), she phrases the call to all powers to praise God with these simple words: “Your noblest work is to adore.” As we gather for worship and bring our praises in adoration to our gracious God, we are fulfilling our purpose as the crown of His creation. We are called in our worship to be joyfully carrying out the “noblest work.” It doesn’t get any better than that!

**PRELUDE** *Rise, Shine, You People* (Blersch)

## WELCOME AND RINGING OF THE BELLS

♪ **OPENING HYMN** ↑ *Rise, Shine, You People* *LSB* 825  
Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered  
Our human story; God in Him is centered.  
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

See how He sends the pow’rs of evil reeling;  
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.  
All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,  
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.  
To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus’ glory.

2

**Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us.**

**Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.**

**Tell how the Spirit calls from ev’ry nation His new creation.**

## ♪ **OPENING VERSICLES** – page 219 ↑

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips;

**People: and my mouth will declare Your praise.** (Psalm 51:15)

Pastor: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**People: make haste to help me, O Lord.** (Psalm 70:1)

**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.  
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

## ♪ **ANTIPHON** – page 220 ↑ (8:00, 10:30)

Pastor: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**People: O come, let us worship Him.**

## ♪ **VENITE** ~ *O Come, Let Us Sing* – page 220 ↑ (8:00, 10:30)

(Psalm 95:1-7)

**People: O come, let us sing to the Lord,  
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving,  
Let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.**

**For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.  
The deep places of the earth are in His hand;  
The strength of the hills is His also.**

**The sea is His, for He made it, and His hand formed the dry land.  
O come, let us worship and bow down,  
Let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.**

**For he is our God, and we are the people of His pasture  
And the sheep of His hand.**

**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.**

## ♪ **ANTIPHON** – page 221 ↑ (8:00, 10:30)

Pastor: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**People: O come, let us worship Him.**

**PSALM 112:1-9 ↑**

**Pastor:** Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments!

**People:** **His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

**Pastor:** Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.

**People:** **Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

**Pastor:** It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice.

**People:** **For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever.**

**Pastor:** He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord.

**People:** **His heart is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.**

**Pastor:** He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever; his horn is exalted in honor.

**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.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING ↓****Isaiah 58:3-9a (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup>“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.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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?

<sup>6</sup>“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?

<sup>7</sup>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?

<sup>8</sup>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.

<sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

**Lector:** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM ↓ (10:30) *Everywhere I Go (Sleeth)***

Everywhere I go, the Lord is near me, if I call upon Him, He will hear me, Never will I fear, for the Lord is near everywhere I go.

In the dark of night should things alarm me, ever in His sight, no ill may harm me, I will be of cheer for the Lord is near everywhere I go.

He is with me day by day, He will be my strength and stay; From His path I will not stray but follow in His way.

In the coming days of joy or sadness, I will praise His name with songs of gladness, For to me it's clear that the Lord is near everywhere I go.

**EPISTLE READING ↓****1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (ESV)**

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

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

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

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL READING ↑

**Matthew 5:13-20 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup>[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.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>“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. <sup>18</sup>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.

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

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### ♪ RESPONSORY – page 231 ↑ (5:00)

(Psalm 86:11; 119:105)

Pastor: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.

**People: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

Pastor: Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.

**People: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**People: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

### ♪ RESPONSORY – page 221 ↑ (8:00, 10:30)

(Psalm 119:89; 26:8; Luke 11:28)

Pastor: Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**People: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Pastor: Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**People: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**People: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

### ♪ 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 hop 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 *It's a Different World for the Christian* 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

♪ CANTICLE ↓ *O God of God, O Light of Light* *LSB 810*

O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:  
To You in heaven's glory bright the song of praise forever rings.  
To Him who sits upon the throne, the Lamb once slain but raised again,  
Be all the glory He has won, all thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

For deep in the prophets' sacred page, and grand in poets' winged word,  
Slowly in type, from age to age the nations saw their coming Lord;  
Till through the deep Judean night rang out the song, "Good will to men!"  
Sung once by first-born sons of light, it echoes now, "Good will!" Amen.

That life of truth, those deeds of love, that death so steeped in hate and scorn--  
These all are past, and now above He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.  
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates! So sang that host beyond our ken.  
Lift up your heads, your King awaits. We lift them up. Amen, amen.

Then raise to Christ a mighty song, and shout His name, His mercies tell!  
Sing, heav'nly host, your praise prolong, and all on earth, your anthem swell!  
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain! Forever let the song ascend!  
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign, all glory, pow'r! Amen, amen.

♪ KYRIE – page 227 ↑

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord have mercy. (Mark 10:47)

LORD'S PRAYER – page 227 ↑

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. (Matthew 6:9-13)

COLLECTS – page 227 ↑

Pastor: O Lord, hear my prayer.

People: And let my cry come to You. (Psalm 102:1)

COLLECT OF THE DAY ↑

Pastor: 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH ↑

COLLECT FOR PEACE – page 233 ↑ (5:00)

Pastor: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,  
give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our  
hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being  
defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through  
Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

COLLECT FOR GRACE – page 228 ↑ (8:00, 10:30)

Pastor: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely  
brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your  
mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any  
kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may  
be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives  
and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

♪ BENEDICAMUS ↑

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

♪ BENEDICTION ↑

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

## ♪ CLOSING HYMN ↑

*May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill**LSB 698*

May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill and do on earth our Father's will  
As angels do above; still walk in Christ, the living way,  
With all Thy children and obey the law of Christian love.

So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess,  
From sin and strife to flee. One is our calling, one our name,  
The end of all our hopes the same, a crown of life with Thee.

Spirit of life, of love and peace, unite our hearts, our joy increase,  
Thy gracious help supply. To each of us the blessing give  
In Christian fellowship to live, in joyful hope to die.

## POSTLUDE

*O God of God, O Light of Light (Ore)*

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