

Sunday, February 5, 2023  
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, 3A  
Pastor Kim Swenson



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## GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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## Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who makes all things new,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,  
and cannot free ourselves.  
We have not practiced your righteousness.  
Our hearts have turned away from you.  
For the sake of the world you so love,  
forgive us,  
that we may be reconciled to one another  
for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass  
and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## Prayer of the Day

God who sent the Light into our world,  
God who shone in the Bethlehem manger,  
God who spreads the Spirit's rays,  
be with you all. **And also with you.**

Lord God, **with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## Choir: The Lord is My Light

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*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**WORD**

### **First Lesson:** Isaiah 58:1-9a(9b-12)

<sup>1</sup>Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous  
judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

<sup>3</sup>“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs 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 them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the  
glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9a</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

<sup>9b</sup>If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.

<sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many  
generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of  
streets to live in.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 112:1-9 (10)** (read responsively by verse)

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in God's commandments!

**<sup>2</sup>Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.

**<sup>4</sup>Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

**<sup>6</sup>For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**<sup>8</sup>Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

**<sup>10</sup>The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

**Second Lesson:** 1Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)

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

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, 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 human heart conceived, 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 what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [<sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup>"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"  
But we have the mind of Christ.]

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** *Bright and Glorious is the Sky* v6 **Cranberry #301**

*As a star, God's holy word  
leads us to our King and Lord;  
brightly from its sacred pages  
shall this light throughout the ages  
shine upon our path of life,  
shine upon our path of life.*

**Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, 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 in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks 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."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



## Sermon

### Hymn

*O God of Light, May Our Light Shine*

### Insert

## **O God of Light, May Our Light Shine**

CANONBURY 8.8.8.8 ("Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak")

O God of light, may our light shine  
In ways that serve and honor you.  
May we be loving, just and kind,  
Proclaiming Christ in all we do.

God, where your people are oppressed  
And where they cry out in despair,  
Make us your light — to heal, to bless —  
A witness, Lord, that you are there.

Christ, when your way is pushed aside  
By those who trust in wealth and might,  
Make us your lamps that we may guide  
A searching world to your love's light.

O Spirit, in this world of doubt,  
We often sin and drift away;  
When our own faith is flickering out,  
Shine on our path and light our way.

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## **Affirmation of Faith from prepared by children for the World Council of Churches' Assembly in Canberra**

**We believe in God who loves us And wants us to love each other.  
This is our God.**

**We believe in Jesus who cared about children  
and held them in his arms. He wanted a world where everyone could live  
together in peace.  
This is Jesus Christ.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit who keeps working with us until  
Everything is good and true.  
This is the Holy Spirit.**

**We can be the church which reminds people of God because we love each  
other.  
This we believe.  
Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

For what else do the people of God pray?  
*Silent and spoken prayers are invited*

The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

God makes peace within us. **Let us claim it.**

God makes peace between us. **Let us share it.**

*Please share a sign of the Lord's peace with those around you.*

## **MEAL**

**Hymn** *As With Gladness Men of Old* **Cranberry #302 vs 3**

*As they offered gifts most rare  
at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.*

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray, Glorious God,

**You led the magi to seek Jesus, your Holy Child.**

**Overjoyed in the presence of his radiant light,  
they knelt down and offered him precious gifts  
of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

**We too offer our gifts in gratitude, reverence,  
and thanksgiving for the birth of your child,  
whom you called to lead the world into fullness of life.**

**Receive and bless our offering as a joyful sign  
of the boundless love and abundant life  
we share in Christ. Amen.**

## 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star, he was shown forth to all nations;  
in the waters of the Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son;  
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of  
heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

On that night when he gave himself up for us, as he sat at the table and broke bread with his friends, he said: "Take and eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Remember me each time you do this."



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

After they had eaten, he took the cup, and said: "Remember me as you drink from this, for it is my life, poured out for you—the beginning of a new relationship with God."

Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, O God, that we may experience the presence of the Word-made-flesh—Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit in us that we may be one body with him—living out his ministry in the world today and every day. This we pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## Communion Hymns



Hymn

Come, Let Us Eat

Cranberry #491

Leader or All



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
 3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
 come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
 in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
 rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
 in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.

Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;  
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light  
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:  
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,  
 to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;  
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,  
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.  
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.  
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.  
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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# SENDING

## Announcements

## Benediction

God the Creator who delights in you,  
Jesus the Savior who is born for you,  
and the life-giving Spirit who shines on you,  
✠ bless you and keep you in hope and peace. **Amen.**

## Hymn

*This Little Light of Mine*

**Cranberry #677**



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**The Bethel Weekly**

**Annual Meeting** Please stay for the annual meeting after worship, today.

**NEW Shelter Meal** Sunday, February 12. Please see sign-up sheet in the hallway.

**Easter Flowers** Order forms for Easter flowers are available in the lounge or church office. Please return by Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Ash Wednesday Service** is Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30 pm. Sign up sheet for Worship Assistants in the hallway.

**Aebleskiver Fest** Saturday, February 25, 2023. We need people to please sign up to volunteers and donations. Especially pie makers are needed. Sign up on bulletin board.

**Congratulations** To Debbie K on the arrival of her first grandbaby Wesley.

Worship Assistants  
**Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**  
9:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister:	Doug Hanson
Reader:	Christin Jaworski
Altar Guild:	Pat Petzel
Communion Assist	Sheila Greenwood
Ushers:	Ken Jaworski & Bonnie Peterson
Video Tech:	Yvonne Pamperin

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*Great Thanksgiving written by Moira Laidlaw, and can be found at  
[www.liturgiesonline.com.au/](http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/)*

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