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January 18, 2026

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

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Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

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## Prelude

### Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Just As I Am without One Plea”

- ♪ Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am, though tossed about With many\_a conflict, many\_a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev’ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 570 -Text: Charlotte Elliott 1789-1871; Public domain*

## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 28:19b*

**Amen.**

I will go to the altar of God,

**To God my exceeding joy.**

*Psalm 43:4*

You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified

**In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

*1 Corinthians 6:11*

## Confession and Absolution

Called by God “to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”, let us give rightful praise and honor God, who calls sinners to repentance and bestows saving faith in our hearts by His Word and Spirit. Behold, the Lamb of God!

**Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, mercifully hear our confession. We are sinners and have sinned against You. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors with our whole heart. We cannot free ourselves from our sin. Hear our prayer of confession and let us hear Your call and gift of forgiveness, salvation, and life.**

*A Time of Silence*

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Hymn of Praise** *Please Be Seated*

“Lamb of God”

♪ Your only Son, no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod, And to become the Lamb of God.

~O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!

O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

♪ Your Gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died:  
The humble King they named a fraud, And sacrificed the Lamb of God. ~O Lamb...

♪ I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side  
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God. ~O Lamb....

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 550—Text: Twila Paris, 1958;*

*Text: © 1985 Straightway Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005255*

### **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 49:1–7

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar.

The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.

<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

<sup>4</sup>But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my right is with the Lord, and my recompense with my God.”

<sup>5</sup>And now the Lord says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—  
for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—

<sup>6</sup>he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel;

I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,

to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers:

“Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;

because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

<sup>1</sup>Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— <sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

♪ Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee.

Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;

As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

~Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

♪ Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ~Great...

♪ Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! ~Great....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 809—Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960; Text: Public domain

## Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

John 1:29–42

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes

away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with

water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup>And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to

baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup>And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

<sup>35</sup>The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they

followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” <sup>39</sup>He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with

him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). <sup>42</sup>He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Nicene Creed**

## **Children's Message** *Please Be Seated*

## **The Hymn**

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

- ♪ My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.  
Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away; O let me from this day  
Be wholly Thine!
- ♪ May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and changeless be,  
A living fire!
- ♪ While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away, Nor let me ever stray  
From Thee aside.
- ♪ When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above,  
A ransomed soul!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 702—Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87; Text: Public domain*

## **Proclamation of the Word**

"The Lamb Over Me"

John 1:29–42

## **Offering and Musical Offering**

## **Admonition to Communicants**

## **Lord's Prayer**

## **Agnus Dei Hymn**

"The Lamb"

- ♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain  
~Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!
- ♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. ~Worthy...

♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. ~Worthy...

♪ He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. ~Worthy...

♪ He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. ~Worthy....

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 547—Text: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953–2023;  
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## Words of Our Lord

### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### Distribution Hymn

“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”

♪ I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole:  
~Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

♪ Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see  
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee. ~Lord...

♪ Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,  
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art: ~Lord...

♪ Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden My heart, for I am now Thy guest. ~Lord...

♪ What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. ~Lord...

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 618—Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.;  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005255*

**Prayer of the Church** *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

### Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.

**Amen.**

*Numbers 6:24–26*

## Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“In Christ Alone”

- ♪ In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.
- ♪ In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.
- ♪ There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ.
- ♪ No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life’s first cry to final breath. Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home — Here in the power of Christ I’ll stand.

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## Postlude