



February 12, 2023

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

♪ My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;

No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

~On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

♪ When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;

In ev’ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. ~On Christ,...

♪ His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;

When ev’ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. ~On Christ,...

♪ When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,

Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne! ~On Christ,....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 575- Text: Edward Mote 1797-1874;
Tune: John Stainer 1840-1901; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Invocation

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word.

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Confession and Absolution

As God’s baptized people, therefore, let us repent of our sins that we may arise to live.

A Time of Silence

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment.

But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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.

The Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; 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*

“Renew Me, O Eternal Light”

- ♪ Renew me, O eternal Light, And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace That issues from Your holy face.
- ♪ Remove the pow’r of sin from me And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will Temptations of the flesh to still.
- ♪ Create in me a new heart, Lord, That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire, And with new life my soul inspire.
- ♪ Grant that I only You may love And seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 704 -Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp 1672-1708; tr. August Crull 1845-1923.
Tune: As hymnodus sacer, Leipzig, 1625; Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 3:1–9

¹But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *Please Stand*

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

♪ Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross. Lift high His royal banner;
It must not suffer loss. From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord indeed.

♪ Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The trumpet call obey; Stand forth in mighty conflict
In this His glorious day. Let all His faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.

♪ Stand up, stand up for Jesus; Stand in His strength alone. The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own. Put on the Gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer.
Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.

♪ Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The strife will not be long; This day the din of battle,
The next the victor's song. The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 660 -Text: George Duffield, Jr. 1818-88; Tune: George J. Webb 1803-87;
Setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:21–37

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in

his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles’ Creed

Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

♪ Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David’s stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

♪ Manifest at Jordan’s stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in pow’r divine, Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

♪ Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil’s might;
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

♪ Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav’ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.

♪ Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 394 -Text: Christopher Wordsworth 1807-85; Tune: George J. Elvey 1816-93;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Proclamation of the Word

“In the Heart”

Matthew 5:21–37

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Each petition is concluded with the following:

Grant us wisdom,

Grant us courage, for the living of these days.

Lord's 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 upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

- ♪ God of grace and God of glory, On Your people pour Your pow'r;
Crown Your ancient Church's story; Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour, For the facing of this hour.
- ♪ Lo, the hosts of evil round us Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days, For the living of these days.
- ♪ Cure Your children's warring madness; Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal, Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.
- ♪ Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore, Serving You whom we adore.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 850-Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick 1878-1969; Tune: John Hughes 1873-1932;
Setting: Henry V. Gerike b.1948, ©2006 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Postlude