

Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

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February 5, 2023 – Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Welcome in Jesus' name.

We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.



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WELCOME TO WORSHIP

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Prelude/Procession/Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness:**

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

C: Amen.

L: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.
(Silence for Private Confession)

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**C: 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.**

L: 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.

C: Amen.

***Opening Hymn:**

“Gather Us In”

ELW #532

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

- 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

***Apostolic Greeting:**

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

And also with you.

***Hymn of Praise: “Glory be to God in Heaven”** Setting 10, page 204

1 Glory be to God in Heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.

Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;

We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

2 Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

3 Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;

Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all;

Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.

For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

***The Prayer of the Day:**

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.

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 58: 1-12

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. ²Yet 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. ³“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. ⁴Look, 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. ⁵Is 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? ⁶Is 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? 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 them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then 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. ⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. ⁹If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if 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. ¹¹The 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. ¹²Your 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm Reading:

Psalm 112: 1-10

L: Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

C: Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

L: Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

C: Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

L: It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

C: For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

L: They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

C: Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see until they see their desire upon their enemies.

L: They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

C: The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

Scripture Reading:

1 Corinthians 2: 1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶Yet 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. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, 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 human heart conceived, 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 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. ¹²Now 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. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴Those 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. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. ¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

***Gospel Acclamation:** "Alleluia" Setting 10, page 205, ELW
Alleluia! Lord and Savior; open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

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

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³"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 under foot. ¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, 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 in heaven. ¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For 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. ¹⁹Therefore, 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. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn: "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

ELW #726

1 Light dawns on a weary world
when eyes begin to see
all people's dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world:
the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

2 Love grows in a weary world
when hungry hearts find bread
and children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world:
the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain*

3 Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn,
find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain*

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

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***Apostle's Creed:**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Prayers of the People**

***Peace:**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C:** **And also with you.**

Offering: (children may bring offerings forward)

***Offertory Hymn:** "Arise, Your Light Has Come"

ELW #314 (v. 1 & 2)

1 The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

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***Offertory Prayer:**

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and
shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **Amen.**

***Great Thanksgiving:**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

Setting 10, page 207, ELW

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

***Words of Institution**

***The Lord's Prayer:**

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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns:

“Lamb of God” Setting 10 page 208, ELW

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save; have mercy now, we pray.

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and gave; have mercy now we pray.

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
Eternal peace with God you made; give us your peace, we pray.

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW #781

1 Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.

2 God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.

4 Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958

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“Eat This Bread”

ELW #472

"Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst."

Text: Taizé Community

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1 What feast of love is offered here,
what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life,
what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!

2 What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!

3 What wine of love is offered here,
what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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***Communion Blessing**

***Post Communion Prayer:**

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

***Benediction:**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✠ bless,
strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn:** "This Little Light of Mine"

ELW #677

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

***Dismissal:**

L: Go in peace. Follow in the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.