



St. George Lutheran Church

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February 5, 2023 11:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion

**Welcome! We are glad you're here! A warm welcome is extended to all!
Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.**

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk- Gideons

Sharing the Peace

Centering Prayer

God is with me, but more, God is within me.

**Let me dwell for a moment on God's life-giving presence
in my body, in my mind, in my heart,
as I am here, right now.**

(silent prayer)

Youth Message

Opening Song:

Let The Praises Ring

Oh Lord, my God, in You I put my trust.

Oh Lord, my God, in You I put my hope.

Oh Lord, my God, in You I put my trust.

Oh Lord, my God, in You I put my hope.

In You, in You I find my peace.

In You, in You I find my strength.

In You I live and move and breathe.

Let everything I say and do be founded by
my faith in You.

I lift up holy hands and sing: Let the praises
ring!

Oh Lord, my God, in You I give my hands.

Oh Lord, my God, in You I give my feet.

Oh Lord, my God, in You I give my
everything.

Oh Lord, my God, in You I give my life.

In You, in You I find my peace.

In You, in You I find my strength.

In You I live and move and breathe.

Let everything I say and do be founded by
my faith in You.

I lift up holy hands and sing: Let the praises
ring!

CCLI Song # 3685747 CCLI License # 3054064

Holy Water

God I'm on my knees again
God I'm begging please again
I need You Oh I need You
Walking down these desert roads
Water for my thirsty soul
I need You Oh I need You

Chorus: Your forgiveness
Is like sweet sweet honey on my lips
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears
Like holy water (on my skin)

Dead man walking slave to sin
I wanna know about being born again
I need You Oh God I need You
So take me to the riverside
Take me under baptize
I need You Oh God I need You oh

Chorus

I don't wanna abuse Your grace
God I need it ev'ry day
It's the only thing that ever really
Makes me wanna change (4x) *Chorus*
Your forgiveness
Is like sweet sweet honey on my lips
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears
Like holy water

Your forgiveness
Is like sweet sweet honey on my lips
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears
Like holy water on my skin
Like holy water on my skin
It's like holy water

CCLI Song # 7136448 CCLI License # 3054064

Confession and Forgiveness

Almighty God, You have set before us the path but we have wandered on our own to try to find our way.

Sometimes we are like toddlers and we hear Your call and come back.

Other times, we are children testing boundaries, ignoring Your call until it benefits us to come back.

And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion, demanding to be cut loose and set free, not knowing how much we still need to seek Your wisdom and guidance.

Often we think we are adults and have figured it all our and know our own way, only to stumble and stray.

Help us to seek You every day, to acknowledge that we need Your wisdom and guidance, and help us to return to the path and walk with You.

In the name of Christ, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God rebuilds our lives, repairs our mistakes, fills our emptiness with hope and joy. God will show us the way. Gracious, merciful, and righteous is our God of salvation!

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9

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.

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 want God on their side.

“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.

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.

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?

Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the straps of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?

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?

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.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

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 being destroyed. But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 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"—

God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human 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. 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.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

"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. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 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.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 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. 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. 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

Song

You Say

I keep fighting voices in my mind That
say I'm not enough Ev'ry single lie that
tells me I will never measure up

Am I more than just the sum of
Ev'ry high and ev'ry low
Remind me once again just who I am
Because I need to know oo oh

Chorus: You say I am loved when I can't
feel a thing You say I am strong when I
think I am weak You say I am held when
I am falling short And when I don't
belong oh You say I am Yours

And I believe oh I believe
What You say of me I believe

The only thing that matters now Is
ev'rything You think of me In You I find
my worth In You I find my identity

Chorus

Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at
Your feet You'll have ev'ry failure God
You'll have ev'ry victory *Chorus*

Oh I believe yes I believe
What You say of me I believe

CCLI Song # 7071357 CCLI License # 3054064

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, and 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 Church

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Communion

Benediction:

As people of faith we have gathered for worship.

As people of faith we now return to the world.

All your ways and all your hours are in the hand of God.

Therefore, go out with confidence.

May Christ's light so shine, that all may see your loving deeds
and glorify our God whose love is everlasting.

As you go out to give a living witness, as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world, go knowing that God goes with you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, sharing all of your life.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song:

Let The Praises Ring (See Page 1)

Go in peace, serve the Lord

Thanks be to God

Announcements

Bible Study: Thursdays at 10:00 at the Parish House and via Zoom.

Senior Worship/Luncheon: Tuesday, February 21st at 11:00 AM.

Needleworks: Thursday, February 16th at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Friends and Family Breakfast: Sunday, February 12th at 10:00 AM.

Friday Night Cabaret: Friday, February 3rd at 7:00 – 9:00 PM.

St. George Book Club: All are invited. The first book is *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. The first meeting is February 16th at 6:30 PM in the Parish House.

Love Inc: We are collecting laundry soap for this month's Buckets of Blessings.

BHS Musical Theater: You are invited to a St. George group outing on Sunday, March 19th for the 6:30 PM performance of *Guys and Dolls*. If interested, please sign up on the list in the Fellowship area by Feb. 12th. Tickets are \$22.00. Speak with Cindi Brach for more info.

Prayers of Grace & Support

Please pray for:

- Mary Anne Eppley, Linda Walton's sister-in-law, recovering from brain surgery.
- Lynne Morris, Michele Hirschman's friend, for a successful February surgery outcome.
- Karen Hedden, Colene's daughter-in-law, recovering from surgery.
- Susan Zaske recovering from a liver transplant.
- Bryan Rush for a successful court date coming soon.
- Bill Foster in assisted living.
- Kathy Boyes recovering.
- Melissa Alofalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue, beginning with MS and COVID.
- Bob Lusky, father of Bob and Lorna's son-in-law David, who has cancer.
- Ray, Alia's older brother, who has COVID along with severe RA and heart problems.
- Dottie Woodman, recovering.
- Arlene, Alia's friend, suffering persistent pain in her neck, shoulder and arm.
- Margaret Doane, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.
- Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.
- Nancy Briggs, Douglas Turner's sister, for healing.
- Dan Lindberg, cousin of Kathy and Keith Boyes, has pancreatic cancer.
- Family and friends of Dr. Laura Tinning Reister, Douglas and Arlene Turner's niece, following her passing on January 8th.
- Barb Gienapp with health concerns.
- Ethan and his mom, Marianne, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles. From Linda Walton.
- Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.
- Joan Richardson, dealing with health concerns.
- Cindy Brach with health issues.
- John Brach with health issues.
- Prayers for all those suffering in Ukraine.
- Charlie Davis, Marylou's husband, with cancer.
- Jon Brach and his family with health and life difficulties.
- Pan Norton, Cindy Brach's son's mother-in-law.
- Jackie (Gail's piano student) diagnosed with throat cancer.
- Theresa Pope, fiancé of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.
- Niece of Elaine McIntyre, Patsy McIntyre Costin, diagnosed with colon cancer.
- Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother -in-law, with auto-immune disease.
- Vicki, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.
- Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.