

**Fifth Sunday After Epiphany  
February 5, 2023—8:30am**



**Grace Lutheran Church**

521 Providence Road  
Chesapeake, VA 23325  
757-420-4704

[www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org](http://www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org)



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>

Pastor—The Rev. Leslie D. Weber (she/her/hers)  
Minister of Music—Morgan Hatfield (they/she)

**Our Mission Statement:**

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany—February 5, 2023—8:30am**

Page numbers (p.) are in front half of the hymnal.  
Hymn numbers (#) are in back half of the hymnal.  
Everyone is invited to join in **bolded responses**.  
+ Please stand as you are able.

**+ Gathering +**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Prelude**      “Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)” *arr. Melody Bober*

**+ Confession and 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.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.**

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**+ Gathering Song**

“Salt and Light”

Oh the beauty of a King  
You make righteous those who seek  
You have written and redeemed my story

**Refrain:** Let my eyes see Your kingdom shine all around  
Let my heart overflow with passion for Your name  
Let my life be a song, revealing who You are  
For You are salt and light

Oh the love that set me free  
You bring hope to those in need  
You have written and redeemed my story

For You are salt and light, You are love's great height  
You are deep and wide, A consuming fire  
You are salt and light, You are love's great height  
You are deep and wide, A consuming fire

You are salt and light, for You are salt and light,  
You are salt and light

Lauren Ashley Daigle | Leslie Jordan | Paul Mabury  
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**+ Prayer of the Day**

ELW p.24

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.**

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### +Word+

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

#### First Reading

Isaiah 58:1-12

A reading from Isaiah.

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

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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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

A reading from First Corinthians.

<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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

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+ Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.171



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

+ Gospel Reading

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 under foot. <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.**

Young at Heart Message & Sermon

The Rev. Harry Griffith

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**+ Song of the Day**

“Stir Us, Lord”

**Refrain:** Stir up in our hearts, oh, Lord, what you want us to do.  
You showed your love up upon the cross.  
We want to give of our lives to you.

Show us the faces of all of those in need.  
Move us to action, giving with a joyful heart, loving is the place  
to start.  
Let your spirit plant the seed.

With gifts we've been given, help us see where we fit in.  
We're part of one family, knowing that we have a place, serving  
by your gift of grace.  
Keep your spirit stirred within.

Hans Peterson   Meg Sander © 1991 Dakota Road Music
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**+ Apostles Creed**

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With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' 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.**

\* universal



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**+ Prayers of Intercession**    sung refrain: “Open the Eyes of My Heart”  
Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

**Refrain:**    **Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart; I want to see You, I want to see You.**

Paul Baloché © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

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.

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.

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.

### **Refrain**

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. We pray especially for those listed on our prayer list and those we name now aloud or silently (*pause for names*).

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.

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

### **Refrain**

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+ Peace

+Meal+

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Offering

Thank you for supporting the mission of the church as you are able! Electronic donations can be made at

[https://tithely.com/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/475611](https://tithely.com/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/475611).

Checks can be also be sent to church:  
521 Providence Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23325



+ Offering Prayer

Please stand as you are able.  
Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

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

ELW p.172

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.**

+ Thanksgiving at the Table

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**+ Lord's Prayer**

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Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

**+ Invitation to Communion**

Come and taste the joy of God!

***Notes about Communion Distribution at Grace***

*When we're gathered around the table, there is enough food, drink, blessing, space and time for all to share in Holy Communion! GLC practices Eucharistic hospitality since we trust that God welcomes all who come to the table where Christ is both host and meal.*

*Wine (red) and grape juice (white) are distributed in individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

*If you prefer to stay in the pew, there are prepackaged kits (wine, juice, and gluten free options) available at the sanctuary doors. If you prefer not to receive the wafer and wine/grape juice, you may kneel or stand at the rail with arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.*

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Communion Song

“ELW #341

Now Behold the Lamb



1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who  
2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why  
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -



bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.  
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.  
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

Text: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970

Music: NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB, Kirk Franklin

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**+ Sending +**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**Blessing**

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

**Announcements**

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**+ Sending Song**

“Build Up”

**Refrain:** Build up, prepare the way.  
Remove obstructions from my people’s way.  
Build up, prepare the way.  
God is near, God is here today.

Break the chains of injustice. Let the oppressed go free.  
Share our homes with the homeless, and our bread with the hungry.

God sees all our destruction; how we get in love’s way.  
Still God comes and meets us, with a steady healing embrace.

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing  
will break into song.

Hans Peterson and Larry Olson © 1996 Dakota Road Music

**+ Dismissal**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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