Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

PO Box 843 Granby, CO 80446 (970)887-9252

Ministers: All God's People Pastor: Brian Bergum

LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, February 5th, 2023 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Announcements

Call to Worship – Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: We worship as we live, in the Grace of God, the Compassion of Jesus Christ, and the Healing Hope of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: We have come to praise God, who has done wonderful things among us.

All: In Jesus Christ, God has shown us love, giving light for our darkness, and strength for all our days.

Leader: We come remembering Christ's life and ministry, and the life we are called to live.

All: We come as people yearning, searching for ways to live out our faith. We come, seeking direction and strength to carry on our journey.

Leader: Come, you are welcome here. Christ is with us, calling us now to life and love.

ALL: Let us celebrate life. Let us worship God.

Leader: In Jesus Christ, the Light of God is made known to the world. As we gather we confess to God and to each other the ways in which we deny and refuse to live by the Light of Christ in our lives.

(A Time of Silence for Personal Reflection and Confess)

Leader: O God of Radiant Light and Endless Love,

ALL: We confess to you the truth of our broken lives. We have not trusted your promises or walked in your ways. We have hoarded and squandered the gifts of creation. We have failed to welcome the stranger and the outcast, and make room for those in need. We have neither worked to release the oppressed nor admitted our own captivities. We have failed to let your light shine through us in the world in which we live. Forgive our sin, heal our lives, and set us free, that we might live with your whole creation in joy and hope. Amen

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Upon them, upon us, the light of Christ shines. Fear not! For behold I bring you good news of great joy: God loves you, and in and through this love God forgives you of all your sins. Embrace this day, for God has come to you, to abide in you. Arise! Your Light has come.

ALL: Amen. Thanks be to God!!!

Tree of Life

Gathering Song "Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life"



Leader: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

Kyrie



"Within the Reign of God" Song of Praise (The congregation sings the verse response and the refrain) Verse Response ... with -God. in the reign of Refrain Bless-ed are they who will feast the reign of God. Bless-ed who will they are share the bread of life. Bless - ed are reign of God; they who are the least in they shall re - joice at the feast of life.

Verse: Come now, the feast is spread; in Jesus' name we break the bread, Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**All you who seek God's face are welcome in this holy place; Join in the feast of grace, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**(Refrain)

Verse: Welcome the weak and poor, the sinner finds an open door, None judged, and none ignored **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD** Here shall the weary rest, the stranger be a welcome guest. So shall we all be blest, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD** (*Refrain*)

Verse: One earth, one holy band, one family as our God has planned, All share the promised land, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**Come now, the feast is spread, in Jesus' name we break the bread; Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**(*Refrain*)

Prayer of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray,

ALL: 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.

Bible Readings

Isaiah 58: 1-9a [9b-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. 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 judgements, they delight to draw near to God. '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. 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. 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 thongs 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 rearguard.
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,[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, 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.

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.

Your 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.

1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 [13-16]

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. 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 not with plausible 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 doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; 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'—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 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. 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.[And 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.

Those 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 discerned spiritually. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

'For who has known the mind of the Lord

so as to instruct him?'

But we have the mind of Christ.]

Gospel Reading

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 hidden. 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. 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.

The Law and the Prophets

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. 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.

Sermon

Children (K – 5th) are dismissed to Sunday School

Sermon Hymn "You are the Light of the World"

You are the light of the world You are the light of the world So, shine, shine, shine where you are You are the light of the world

You are a city on a hill You are a city on a hill So, shine, shine, shine where you are You are the city on a hill

You are a candle in the dark
You are a candle in the dark
So, shine, shine, shine where you are
You are a candle in the dark

You are the light of the world You are the light of the world So, shine, shine, shine where you are You are the light of the world

Affirmation of Faith "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.

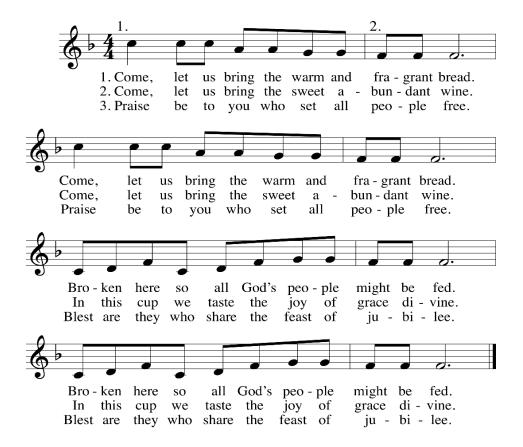
Prayers of the People

(Today's prayer response.)

Leader: Merciful God, **ALL: receive our prayer.**

Offering

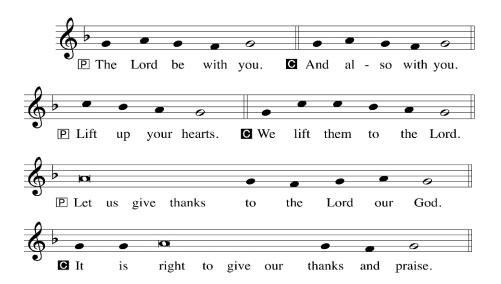
Offering Response "Come, Let us Bring"



Leader: Let us pray. Merciful God,

ALL: Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

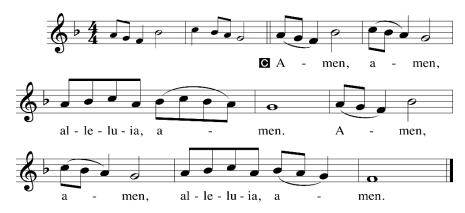


Leader: It is indeed right and good...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Leader: Blessed are you, Holy God...with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.



Leader: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

ALL: 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 Communion

We invite all who come in faith to the Lord's Table as we celebrate Holy Communion in our worship today. For those who prefer, grape juice and gluten free wafers are available, let the server know as you approach. Those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Song during Communion "This Little Light of Mine"



Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his grace.

ALL: Amen

Leader: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, at this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

ALL: Amen

Benediction

Sending

Leader: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God!!!

(With the noted exception, the Tree of Life liturgy is written by Marty Haugen. GIA publishing. Copied with permission under license #4395. "Within the Reign of God" by Marty Haugen, GIA Publishing.)