

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

"I Search the Heart" – Jeremiah 17:7,9-10a

8:30 AM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH and SCHOOL

8305 NOTTINGHAM PARKWAY
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222

Preaching Today: *Rev. Ron Richeson*
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We warmly welcome you in the name of Jesus!

We are always glad to have you worship with us.

*If you do not have a regular church home,
we invite you to make our church home yours.*

- † Our worship services are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. We also invite and encourage you to join us in Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:45 AM.
- † Assisted hearing devices, children’s bulletins, and large print service folders are available -- please ask an usher for one.
- † While we encourage children to be present in worship, the upstairs cry room opposite the elevator is available for you.
- † Our worship services can now be viewed on the church’s Facebook page (live or after the service), as well as on our YouTube channel. *The Lutheran Hour* can be heard on Sundays at 9:00 AM at KAWZ (102.7FM).

Prayer before worship:

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

AS WE GATHER Blessings abound in today’s readings! Jeremiah laments the one who “trusts in man,” but sees the one who “trusts in the Lord,” to be like a tree planted with abundant water that “does not cease to bear fruit” (Jeremiah 17:5, 7, 8). Note that we are “planted,”—a passive verb, grace! Luke records another time Jesus preached using beatitudes. He concluded that we, his hearers, should rejoice and leap for joy, for our reward is great in heaven. Such grace! No wonder that Paul, in the Epistle, warns against those who doubt Christ’s resurrection. Our Lord is only “the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Corinthians 15:20). Today our worship is full of rejoicing in the grace of God. It also gives us strength to produce fruit every day.

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 5

This Chorale Service follows the tradition of Luther’s German Mass (1526), in which parts of the liturgy for Holy Communion are replaced with hymns (metrical paraphrases).

Confession and Absolution

Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Opening Prayer



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
 2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y
 3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting O - ver tri - fles
 4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, Hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
 joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.
 and in get - ting Things that have no sol - id ground.
 heart will quick - en; All my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en By their God are
 He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly
 I shall strive to win a trea - sure That will bring me
 To His lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der Soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en And will keep a daunt - less heart.
 guides and rules me Will re - main my help di - vine.
 last - ing plea - sure And that now is sel - dom found.
 I sur - ren - der, For on God a - lone I build.

5 Well He knows what best to grant me;

All the longing hopes that haunt me,

Joy and sorrow, have their day.

I shall doubt His wisdom never;

As God wills, so be it ever;

I commit to Him my way.

6 If my days on earth He lengthen,

God my weary soul will strengthen;

All my trust in Him I place.

Earthly wealth is not abiding,

Like a stream away is gliding;

Safe I anchor in His grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645-1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758, Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Invocation / Opening Sentences

1 Corinthians 15:3–4; 20; Luke 6:23

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:

People: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

Leader: In fact Christ has been raised from the dead,

People: the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Leader: Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,

People: for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

Confession and Absolution

Leader: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. Yet, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have had mercy on us. Now strengthen us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

[tune: ST. ANNE]

Have mercy on Your people, Lord.
Have mercy, Christ, our King;
Renew us by Your mercy, Lord;
Accept the prayers we bring.

Text: Dorothy Hoyer Scharlemann, 1912–2002 © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: st anne, William Croft, 1678–1727. Public domain

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God

LSB 946



1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
△ 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Text: Edwin Le Grice, 1911–92, Tune: Walter Greatorex, 1877–1949
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Salutation and Collect of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin

People: may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name;

Leader: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading *The one who trusts in the Lord is firmly planted.* **Jeremiah 17:5–10a**

Reader: Thus says the Lord:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the Lord.

He is like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

The heart is deceitful above all things,
and desperately sick;
who can understand it?

“I the Lord search the heart...”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem **“The First Song of Isaiah”** by Jack Noble White

The congregation joins the choir in singing the refrain after each verse is sung.

Slow

Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the

Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will he my Sav - ior.

Epistle Reading*Stand firm in what we believe.***1 Corinthians 15:1–20**

Reader: Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Holy Gospel*Jesus preaches both blessings and curses.***Luke 6:17–26**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Pastor: [Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

“Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ. *Please be seated.*

Sermon

“I Search the Heart”

Jeremiah 17:7,9-10a

Rev. Ron Richeson, preacher

Hymn of the Day

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

LSB 618



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners
3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my
5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's



wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in
have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -
bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.
ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:
ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high-est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr., Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
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Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

Luke 6:20–22

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, the church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

People: Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Pastor: Around the world many are poor and homeless, wandering far from home. Heavenly Father, meet their needs through us, Your servants, and even those people who may think they control them. Give them the clothing and shelter they need, and introduce them to the promise of Christ about His rule.

People: Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

Pastor: We pray, Lord Jesus, for Your blessings on all who work in voluntary relief organizations and professional counseling agencies. Protect and guide them so that their efforts bring thanksgivings, health, and new opportunities.

People: Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

Pastor: O Holy Spirit, hear the prayers of those who are sick, in mourning, or unemployed, [*especially . . .*]. Answer them as Your plans allow, relieve their suffering, calm their tears, and give them opportunity to use the gifts and abilities You have given them.

People: Blessed are you when people hate you.

Pastor: Visit, strengthen, guide, and direct us in the church here and around the world, Lord, our God. Grant that what we say with our lips be reflected in how we live our lives and what we accomplish with our hands and feet.

These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

People: Amen.

Offering *Please be seated. During this time, we invite you to sign and pass the Friendship Book. All communicants are invited to read and prayerfully consider the following.*

We believe that...

- † *Holy Communion is a Sacrament since it was instituted by Christ Himself.*
- † *We are truly worthy and well prepared to partake of Holy Communion when we repent of our sins and have faith in these words, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins."*
- † *We receive the bread and wine and the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ when, as repentant, true believers we partake of Holy Communion.*

Our Savior Lutheran Church practices close communion.

What does this mean?

Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of our church or one of our sister congregations, we encourage you to speak to the pastor about preparing to participate in communion at Our Savior.

† *Children and those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing (indicated by folded hands), or to remain seated for individual prayer. When the wine is offered, communicants have the choice of an individual cup or the common cup. Individual cups containing DARK WINE are alcohol-free for those with medical need only, please.*

Please stand.

Creedal Hymn

In God We Believe

[tune: ST. DENIO]

**In God we believe: the Creator whose pow'r
In mercy has brought us for worship this hour.
He graciously grants us our years and our days
And blesses with kindness our work and our ways.**

**In Jesus, the Savior, our hope is secured.
True God and true man once the cross He endured
To grant our lives wholeness, forgiveness of sin.
With hearts freed from guilt, we know true peace within.**

**God's Spirit at work in our lives we confess;
With power and truth the Church now He does bless.
As saints, God's forgiven, one day we shall then
Be living in glory forever. Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us, revealing Your glory and love, that our darkness

should give way to His own brilliant light. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**People: 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.**

Pastor: In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Our Lord

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Sanctus

[tune: OLD HUNDREDTH]



1 Oh, ho - ly, ho - ly, is the Lord, The God by
2 How blest is He, the com - ing One, Lord Je - sus



heav'n and earth a - dored. We join the an - gels
Christ, God's on - ly Son, Ho - san - na with ga -



in their song, Their glo - rious prais - es to pro - long.
lac - tic space, Sing we, saved on - ly by His grace.

Text: James Pierce, Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
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Pax Domini

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Agnus Dei

[tune: OLD HUNDREDTH]

- 1 O Lamb of God, the only Son,
Who for us our salvation won,
The sins of all You take away.
Give ear, O Savior, as we pray.**
- 2 You with the Father ever reign,
With Holy Spirit to ordain
By grace our failings to forgive.
Grant us Your peace that we may live.**

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Distribution *Please be seated. If you are communing, please follow the directions of the ushers.*

Distribution Song “Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me”

by J. Robinson, M. Farren, R. Thompson

**What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer.
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.**

**To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.**

**The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,
For by my side the Savior, he will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need, his power is displayed.**

**To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me.
Through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.**

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
The future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And he was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,
For he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
All the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me. Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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Please stand.

Post-Communion Hymn Lord, Let Your Servants Go in Peace

[tune: OLD HUNDREDTH]

- 1 Lord, let Your servants go in peace;
Your covenant shall never cease.
The promised Savior here we see;
His blood and body set us free.**

- 2 For all the nations He is light,
For Israel, glory in plain sight.
To Father, Son, and Spirit sing—
Three persons, yet forever one.**

Text: James Pierce, Text: © 2019 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship no. 10002236

Post-Communion Collect

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn Verses

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LSB 394, sts. 1, 5



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93, Text and tune: Public domain

Silent Prayer & Postlude

Acknowledgments

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*Our mission is to teach, love, and connect...teach all ages about Jesus, love one another as God loves us,
and connect with others in a hurting world.*

**Readings for next Sunday, 2/23: Genesis 45:3–15, Psalm 103:1–13
1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42, Luke 6:27–38**
