

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 8, 2026

“Jesus’ Scenic Overlook for Us”

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN #825 “Rise, Shine, You People”



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing.
Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
To all the world go out and tell the
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

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(please stand)

THE INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

THE OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 66:1–3a, 4, 8; 40:5a; 111:3*

P: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C: sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

P: Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds!

C: All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.”

P: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard.

C: You have multiplied, O LORD my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!

P: Full of splendor and majesty is His work,

C: and His righteousness endures forever.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: As repentent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy.

Humble yourselves, then, before God; confess your sins to Him and implore His forgiveness.

C: O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed, I have continually transgressed Your Law. Too often I have sought the easy road of ignoring the needs of others and considered only myself and my wants. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.

P: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE INTROIT Psalm 119:9-16; antiphon, v.12 (TLT)

P: Blessed are You, O Lord—

C: teach me Your laws.

P: How can a young man keep his life pure?

C: By living as You tell him to.

P: With all my heart I search for You.

C: Don't let me stray from Your commandments.

P: I treasure in my heart what You say,

C: so I won't sin against You.

P: Blessed are You, O Lord—

C: teach me Your laws.

P: With my lips I tell of every decree that comes from Your mouth.

C: I delight in the way of Your written instructions as much as in all kinds of riches.

P: I think about how You want me to live and watch Your ways.

C: I delight in Your laws and will not forget what You say.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Blessed are You, O Lord—

C: teach me Your laws.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE #941 *"We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God"*



1 We praise You and ac - knowl - edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
 2 The band of the a - pos - tles in glo - ry sing Your praise;
 3 You, Christ, are King of glo - ry, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
 4 You sit in splen - did glo - ry, en - throned at God's right hand,



The Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, by all the earth a - dored.
 The fel - low - ship of proph - ets their death - less voic - es raise.
 Yet You, with bound - less love, sought to res - cue ev - 'ry - one:
 Up - hold - ing earth and heav - en by forc - es You com - mand.



To You all an - gel pow - ers cry a - loud, the heav - ens sing,
 The mar - tyrs of Your king - dom, a great and no - ble throng,
 You laid a - side Your glo - ry, were born of vir - gin's womb,
 We know that You will come as our Judge that fi - nal day,



The cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim their prais - es to You bring:
 Sing with the ho - ly Church through - out all the world this song:
 Were cru - ci - fied for us and were placed in - to a tomb;
 So help Your ser - vants You have re - deemed by blood, we pray;



"O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 "O all - ma - jes - tic Fa - ther, Your true and on - ly Son,
 Then by Your res - ur - rec - tion You won for us re - prieve—
 May we with saints be num - bered where prais - es nev - er end,



Your maj - es - ty and glo - ry fill the heav - ens and the earth!"
 And Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er— for - ev - er Three in One!"
 You o - pened heav - en's king - dom to all who would be - lieve.
 In glo - ry ev - er - last - ing. A - men, O Lord, a - men!

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THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 58:3-9 (ESV)

[*God's people accuse Him*] "Why have we fasted, and You see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and You take no knowledge of it?" [*The Lord replies*] "Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loosen the bonds of wickedness, 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 him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 (ESV)

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, 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 heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him" [*Isaiah 64:4*] – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

THE ALLELUIA AND VERSE *(sung) (page 156 in the hymnal)*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 5:13-20 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, 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 who is in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes 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.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

(please be seated)

THE MEMORY VERSE *What is Baptism? and Where is this written?*

From Luther's Small Catechism

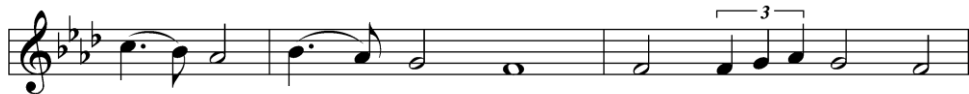
Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word. *Which is that word of God?* Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matt. 28:19)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #578 "Thy Strong Word" (verses 1-4)



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

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THE SERMON "Jesus' Scenic Overlook for Us" Text: Matthew 5:13-20

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS #578 *“Thy Strong Word”* (verses 5-6)

5) Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

△ 6) God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

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THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(Each petition concludes with the response: “Lord, in Your mercy” **“Hear our prayer.”**)*

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.

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE CLOSING HYMN #704 “Renew Me, O Eternal Light”



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my
2 Re - move the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly
4 Grant that I on - ly You may love And seek those



heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the
my im - pu - ri - ty That I may have the
I o - bey Your Word. Let what You will be
things which are a - bove Till I be - hold You



light of grace That is - sues from Your ho - ly face.
strength and will Temp - ta - tions of the flesh to still.
my de - sire, And with new life my soul in - spire.
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through Your grace.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS