

Morning Worship

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7, 2021 (Online)

Take time
to be holy

Ringing of the Bell

Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude Music

Call to Worship

One: Good people of the church, Lift up your eyes and see.

All: Have you not seen? Have you not heard? Our God greets us here.

One: Good servants of the Most High, Open your ears to hear.

All: Have you not seen? Have you not heard? Our God meets us here.

One: Good children of the light, Open your hearts and know what it means to delight in God.

**All: For we have seen, heard and known from the beginning to the end,
Our God...is.**

Prayer of Invocation

Eternal God, Creator of the universe...and then some.

We call on you, you who greet us here.

**We give you thanks for making it possible to gather,
and to ponder your eternal mysteries.**

**Make us, creatures of this time and space,
ready collaborators with your endless grace. Amen.**

Call to Confession

We walk through life, confident, strong, boasting of all our achievements. But God sees the hurts we have inflicted on others, the weariness in our bones from chasing after bad choices, and all the foolishness we trip over in the busyness of life. Let us come to God, for the One who listens to our faltering words is the One who gives us the Word filled with grace and mercy. Join me as we pray together, saying,

Confession

We cannot hide from you, Everlasting God, even if we were to go from one edge of creation to the next. You speak to us of compassion, but the ways in which we treat others show we have not been listening. You explain your hopes to us, and we act as if we don't have a clue as to what is going on. We run as fast, and as far, from you as we can, and wonder why we have no energy to follow Jesus.

Yet you search for us in all the deserted places we flee to, Never-wearied God, so you can take us by the hand to show us the way to life with you. You heal our broken hearts so we can offer them to others. You fill us with your strength so we can bind ourselves to Jesus, our Savior, following him to serve all of your children.

...time of silent prayer...

Assurance

One: Have you not been listening? God never tires out, nor is there is an expiration date on God's forgiveness. God is ever with us, healing us with mercy, and strengthening us for service.

All: If God numbers the stars, surely our names are known by the One who loves us and offers us grace. This is indeed good news for all! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Affirmation: Walk and Not Faint (based on Isaiah 40: 28-31)

**This we have come to know,
this is what we have heard:
the Eternal is an everlasting God,
creator of heaven and earth,
 who does not grow weary or faint;
 whose wisdom is unsearchable,
 giving energy to the meek
 and strength to those who have none.**

**Even youths shall faint and grow weary,
young athletes shall fall exhausted;
but those who love the Lord Jesus
and patiently put their trust in God,
 shall renew their strength;
 they shall soar with wings like eagles,
 they shall run and not weary,
 they shall walk and not faint.**

Scripture

Isaiah 40: 21-31

1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

The Gospel

Mark 1: 29-39

Morning Message

Pastor Jim

Morning Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

Symbolic Offering

Giving takes so many shapes – but, like any spiritual discipline, the key is for that gift to grow. We grow in our knowledge of God, we grow in our faith.

If we aren't already, may we not seek to grow in our giving, as well? In the time we give? In the money we give? In the love we give?

Let us ponder this growth, and may God shine God's light across the threshold so that nothing can hold us back from this growth.

Offertory Music

Dedication

**God of all that is, all we have, all we are – we give.
We give these gifts as we reach across the thresholds of our concerns.
We give these gifts, knowing that they will give so much more.
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Benediction

One: God of life...God of hope...God of all

All: Lift us on your love like eagle's wings.

One: Sustain us...Guide us...Heal us

**All: Then send us forth into the world that we may love as you love.
Amen.**

***On Eagle's Wings (sung)**

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

*Postlude

The point of
walking with
God is to
keep going.

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