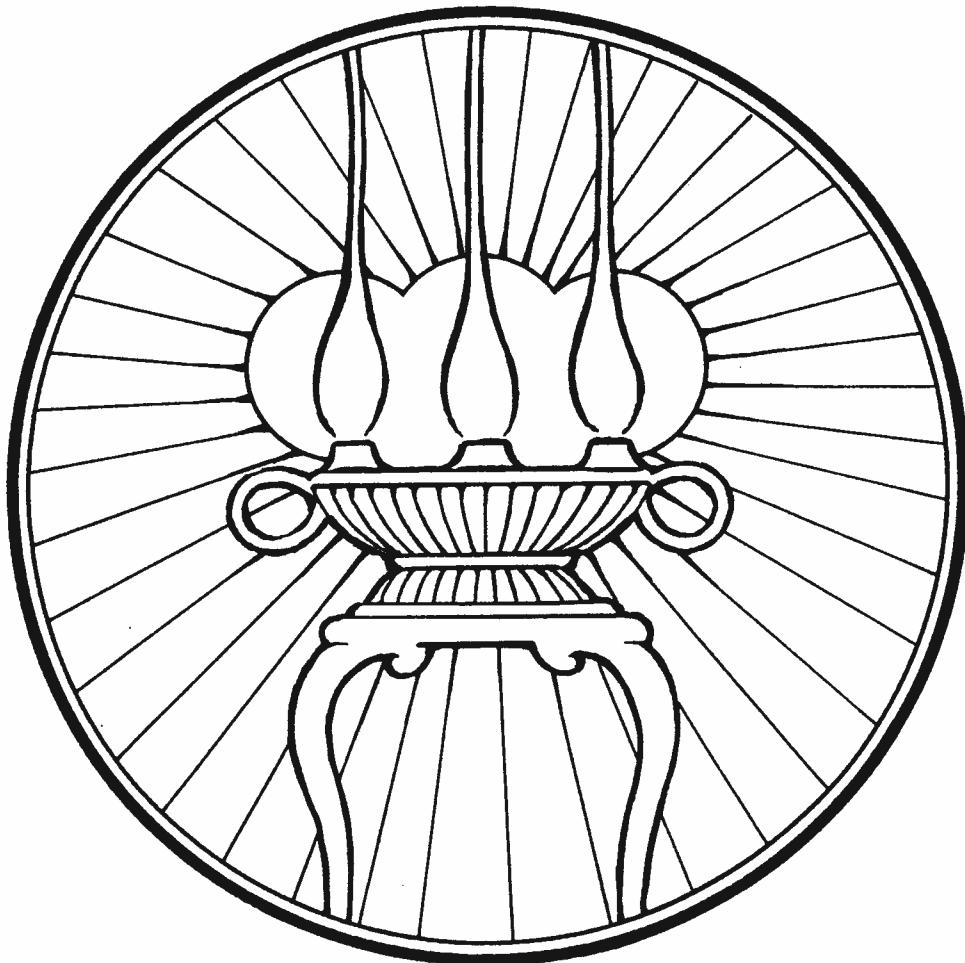


Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 8 and 9, 2026



Jesus Calls You Salt and Light

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a “Welcome to Worship” card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord’s Supper, read through the “Christian Questions” on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Today's Focus for Worship – Jesus Calls You Salt and Light

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us that form and function are closely connected. That means that who we are influences what we do. When God called us to faith, he declared that we were something new: light, salt, his children. Jesus encourages us to be what God says we are as a way of blessing the world through us.

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Preacher: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Accompanist: Allison Sorensen

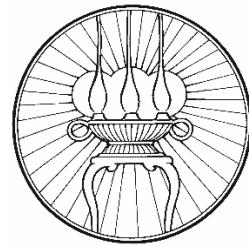
Guitarist: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Acknowledgments

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The Service

Setting Five



Opening Hymn

Speak, O Lord | 633
Please stand to sing the final stanza.

Invocation

Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

1 John 1:8-9; 2:2; Matthew 28:19-20

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

Matthew 15:22; 17:15; Mark 10:47

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this ho - ly house and for all who of - fer here their
 wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.
A - men.

Glory Be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the
 high - est! Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, and peace to his
 peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al -



mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the
high - est! Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the
high - est! Glo - ry, glo - ry to God, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. For you a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
Glo - ry, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the
high - est! Glo - ry, glo - ry to God, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him and do the things that are pleasing in your sight; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Exodus 19:1-8

On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai.² After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

³ Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴ ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

⁷ So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. ⁸ The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Light Dawns in the Darkness | 112-A

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:16



Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone

Let your light shine before oth - ers,

that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heav - en.

Refrain

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “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. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Church of God, Elect and Glorious | 854

Sermon

Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus' Call to Action: Season, Brighten, Prioritize!

Stand

Nicene Creed Credo

Matthew 16:15; Luke 12:8; 2 Corinthians 4:13

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Psalm 132:9

Lord, you bless those who fear you. Send your Holy Spirit to open our hearts to your Word, that we fear, love and trust you above all things.

Clothe your servants with your righteousness; let your faithful people sing for joy.

Empower us to shine as lights in this dark world, that your love may flow through us to your glory and for our neighbors' good.

Clothe your servants with your righteousness; let your faithful people sing for joy.

Call the people in darkness to your marvelous light, just as you have called us. Move us to witness with our words and actions that we may glorify you before those who do not know you and draw them to you.

Clothe your servants with your righteousness; let your faithful people sing for joy.

Let the Word of your love reflect in all we do—our duties in the home, school, work and society, that your name may be hallowed as we do our best, living as your chosen people, your royal priesthood, your holy nation.

Clothe your servants with your righteousness; let your faithful people sing for joy.

Lead and support the people who volunteer in our congregation, those who serve on the Church Council, boards, committees and support organizations. Feed their faith with your Word, strengthen them for service, and make them a blessing for your people and for your work.

Clothe your servants with your righteousness; let your faithful people sing for joy.

In mercy look on those who suffer in mind or body and lift them up with the wings of your mercy. Give comfort, healing and patience as it fits your good and gracious will.

Clothe your servants with your righteousness; let your faithful people sing for joy.

Glorious Father, you created all. Lord Jesus Christ, you paid the ransom for your people. Holy Spirit, you are our Comforter and our power. Bless us and shield us from all trouble. Watch over us now and always, and bring us at last to your glory; where you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Offering

2 Corinthians 9:7

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

The Sacrament

Stand



Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136:1

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the
high - est! Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Matthew 26:26

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Words of Institution *Verba*

Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \pm body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \pm blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

0 Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world, (hmmm) have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world, (hmmm) have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world, (hmmm) grant us your peace.

(hmmm) A - men.

Be seated

Holy Communion Distribution

St. John's Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of St. John's, or members of a church in fellowship with St. John's, come forward for Communion. Our pastoral staff would be happy to set up a time to discuss this, and any teaching of Scripture, with you.

Distribution Hymns (Sunday)

On Eagles' Wings 821
I Come, O Savior, to Your Table 670
Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun 380

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the World, you have called us out of darkness into your wonderful light. In mercy, gather your people, that as your treasured possession, we may declare your praises to the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing Aaronic Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill | 697