

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 5, 2023

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**
Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, **we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: *Gather Us In* WOV # 718

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **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.**

+ *Please be seated*

CHOIR ANTHEM: *There's No One Like Jesus To Me*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58: 1-9a

The First Reading is from the 58th chapter of Isaiah.

¹Shout 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. ²Yet 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 judgments, they delight to draw near to God. ³“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. ⁴Look, 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. ⁵Is 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? ⁶Is 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? ⁷Is 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? ⁸Then 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 rear guard. ^{9a}Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 112: 1-9 (Please read responsively)

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in God's commandments!
²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
³Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.
⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.
⁶**For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12

The Second Reading is from the 2nd chapter of 1 Corinthians.

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible

words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶Yet 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. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, 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”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For 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. ¹²Now 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“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 underfoot. ¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In 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. ¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For 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. ¹⁹Therefore, 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. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

+ *Please be seated. Children are invited to come forward for time with the Pastor.*

CHILDRENS' SERMON

THE SERMON

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Lord of Light* **LBW # 405**

THE 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.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

HOLY. HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

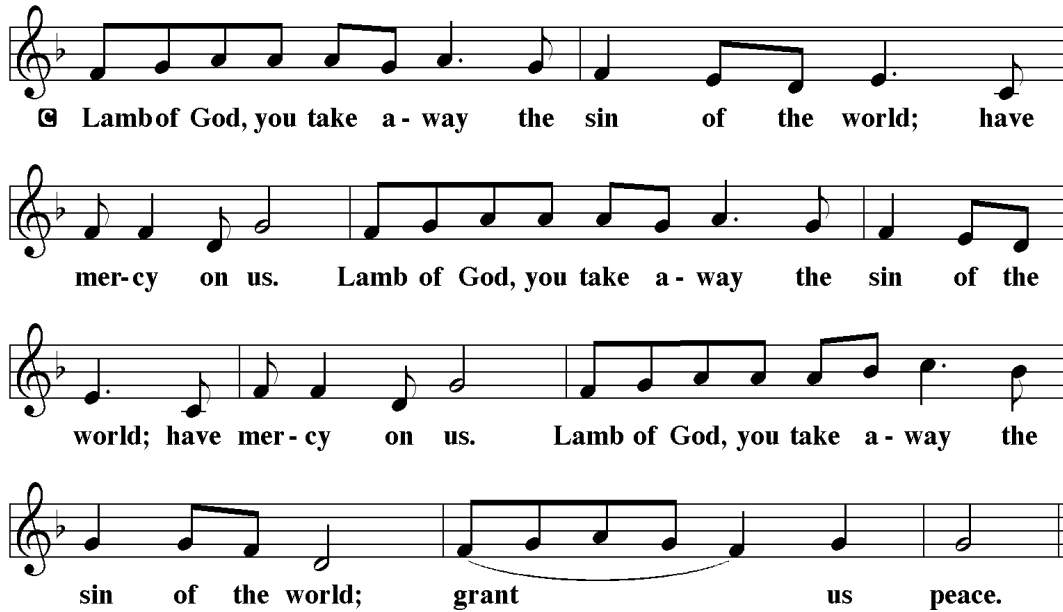
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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.**

+ *Please be seated.*

LAMB OF GOD



☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

COMMUNION

All baptized children of God are welcome at the Lord's Table, when we celebrate and receive the true presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and fruit of the vine.

Communion will be received in a continuous line. Come forward, forming a line down the center aisle. Stop at the end of the aisle, receive your bread, empty cup, and wine.

Grape juice is available in the pre-poured cups in the middle of the tray.

There is no need to hurry through Communion. Please take as much time as you wish for prayer and reflection.

If you are more comfortable remaining in your seat for Communion, individual bags containing Communion elements are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. For those with mobility issues, the Pastor can bring Communion to you at your seat.

As the bread and wine/grape juice are given, the following is said:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond **Amen**. As you receive the bread and wine/grape juice, saying "Amen" means "Yes, truly, it is so: this is the body and blood of Jesus, given for me."*

After you have received Communion, please place your empty cup in the bowl, then return to your seat.

After all have received Communion, the Pastor will ask the congregation to stand, then give a blessing, ending with the following words:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.**

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *We Are Marching In The Light of God* WOV # 650

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may contact Pastor Stina at any time by phone or text: **(845) 636-9487** or email: **stinaschaeffer@gmail.com.**

There are 2 options offered for **Communion**: Option 1- the “old way” of coming forward to receive bread and wine/juice and then return to your seat. Option 2 – for those who prefer to remain in your seat, small individual bags with bread & wine/juice are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary for you to pick-up as you arrive for worship. For those with mobility issues, the Pastor can bring Communion to you at your seat. The service also continues to be posted on our website.

Offerings: For your convenience, offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary to receive your offerings as you enter.

TODAY is Family Ministry Sunday! All young families are invited to join together in the basement following the Worship Service for lunch, learning and fun!

TODAY is “Newsletter Sunday”. If you receive a printed copy of the newsletter, please pick it up from your congregational mailbox TODAY. If you receive your newsletters via email, please check your Inbox today.

Reading today’s lessons is Sue Moyer.

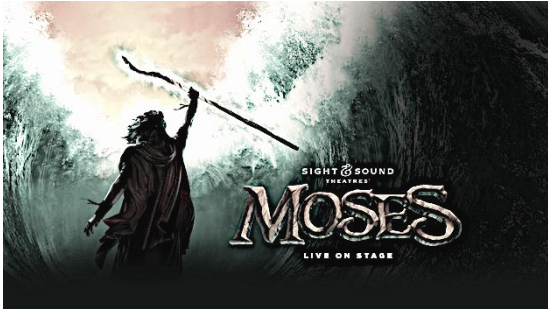


A TASTE OF CAMP

Are you hungry for camp but can't wait until the summer? Did you always want to try camp but weren't sure if you'd like it? Come to Camp Mt. Luther **TODAY from 2:00 - 5:00 pm** for songs, games, food, a campfire & information about the 2023 camping program. Who can come?

Returning campers, new campers, parents, camp persons, those still-on-the-fence about going to camp, and everyone else who wants to have a good time!

Choir Practice will be held tonight at 6:00 pm.



SIGHT & SOUND! Together with Milton Lutheran Church, we are planning a trip to *Sight & Sound Theatres* for their Spring production of "Moses". On **Wednesday, April 19th**, we will depart from Salem Lutheran Church at 8:30 am and return is estimated to be 6:00 pm. The show is at 11:00 am. The cost is \$135, which includes your "Moses" ticket, bus, gratuity for the driver and lunch at 'Shady Maple'. We have 25 spots available for Salem. Please see Brenda Stranko to sign-up. Tickets are going fast! Checks can be made payable to Milton Lutheran Church.

Prayer Meeting will be held this **Wednesday, February 8th** at 7:00 pm.



Don't forget the "**SWEETHEART DINNER**" following the Worship Service **NEXT SUNDAY, February 12th**! A delicious dinner of Chicken and Shrimp Alfredo, salad, rolls and dessert will be served to all who signed-up. **Special Thanks to Ricky Bower and Joe Bogetti** for planning the dinner and being our "Chefs" for the day!

The **Ash Wednesday Service** will be held in the sanctuary on **Wednesday, February 22nd** at 7:00 pm.

This year, Pastor Stina is offering "**Ashes-To-Go**". If you would like to receive ashes but cannot attend the evening Ash Wednesday Service, she will bring them to you (within a reasonable distance!). Please contact her via phone or text (845-636-9487) or email (stinaschaeffer@gmail.com) or call the church (570-374-9544) to set-up a time to receive ashes.

"Lunch and Learn"! Mark Your Calendars! **Wednesdays during Lent, at 12:30 pm** in the church basement, we will gather to enjoy a lunch of soup and bread, followed by Bible Study. The studies are not continuous, so if you cannot come every Wednesday, you will not miss out. Come when, and as often, as you can!

"Upcoming Fundraiser! We are planning on holding a **Sandwich Fundraiser** in March! We are beginning to raise funds for some much-needed picnic grove repairs. Please watch the bulletins for more information to come!"

~ Jessica Moyer



"Salem Church is going to enter a parade float in the Selinsgrove Halloween Parade again this year! I am looking for a group of individuals who will help with the "brawn and brains"! I'd like to have an initial meeting at the end of March to brainstorm some ideas. The date of the meeting will be announced closer to the time. I'm not sure how we can ever top our "Jonah" float, but I know with all the talent we have in the congregation, we can do it, or have a ton of fun trying!"

Watch future bulletins for more information on the meeting." ~ Jessica Moyer



Don't forget to continue to support our College Students and those in the Military. Cards of encouragement and gift cards are sent to them to let them know their Salem Family is praying for and thinking about them. Donation cans are always available on the back table and on top of the sound system. If you have questions, please ask Linda Carl (dwarfgrumpy@yahoo.com or 570-556-8451). **Thank You** to all who continue to contribute.



The new Reader's sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Please stop by and sign-up to read the Sunday lessons. Readers are always needed and much appreciated. The Lessons are posted for your convenience as they are received.

The 2023 Altar Flower Chart is hanging in the vestibule. Choose a Sunday, sign-up to provide altar flowers. If they are for a special occasion or in memory of someone, please contact the Secretary so it can be noted in the bulletin.

Adult Sunday School is held each Sunday at 9:30 am. Join us as we open the Scriptures and learn with and from one another.

Would you like to have offering envelopes? If so, please notify the Treasurer, Toni Longacre (570-847-6502 or toni17801@verizon.net) or the Secretary (570-374-0339 or lmaurer56@outlook.com). Envelopes are not required; however, they are needed in order to receive an end-of-the-year Contribution Statement you can use for tax purposes. Thank you.



Camp Mount Luther is participating in The First Community Foundation Partnership of PA's "**Raise the Region**" on **March 8-9, 2023**. It is a 30-hour fundraising event starting at **6:00 pm & ending the next day at 11:59 pm** Money donated by the Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships will help stretch donations made to organizations that day. Additional monetary prizes & incentives will be awarded, too. Proceeds raised for Mount Luther these days go to the Camp's Annual Fund unless a donor gets in touch with the camp office to designate it for another camp cause. **To be part of "Raise the Region", visit www.raisetheregion.org during the event & make an online donation to Camp Mt. Luther.** Running totals will be shown throughout the day on the "Raise the Region" website. Camp Mount Luther has participated in "Raise the Region" for 10-years & has garnered about \$179,000 in donations during this event. The camp hopes you will help us to have another successful year!

UPCOMING EVENTS (all events weather permitting)

Wednesday, February 8 – Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Sunday, February 12 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am

Worship & Holy Communion – 10:30 am

“Sweetheart Dinner” – following Worship

Monday, February 13 – Council Meeting – 7:00 pm

Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday Worship – 7:00 pm