

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, ¹⁸I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live ²⁰and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: “Alleluia” (stand as you are able) **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** 2X

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:21-37

²¹“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ ²²But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell. ²³“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift. ²⁵“Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny. ²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. ³¹“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. ³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ ³⁴But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. ³⁷All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message: *Pastor Wayne Vogt*

Sermon: *Pastor Wayne Vogt*

Hymn of the Day & Offering: (congregation may be seated) *“Spirit, Open My Heart” #715*

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

Refrain: Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving. Spirit, open my heart.

Vs 1: God, replace my stony heart with a heart that’s kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. [Refrain]

Vs 2: Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory. [Refrain]

Vs 3: May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of friend and neighbor.
As I live from day to day, love will be my finest labor. [Refrain]

Offertory Response: *“Give Thanks”*

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.
Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.

Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

Apostles’ Creed: (stand as you are able)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified died, & was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, & he will come to judge the living & 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, & the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: (call and response)

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Nurture all in need; especially Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Judy Carpenter, Nancy Nord, Larry Reese, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Jen Berg, Marilyn O’Brien, Kellie Peterson, Naomi Berland, Kay Kurtti, Donald & Marcy Jonas, and Shawn Frederixon. Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarreling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom & power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

Choir Hymn: “Come To The Table” (congregation may be seated)

Sharing the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving: (stand as you are able)

P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

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.

Meal and Hymns: *(congregation may be seated)*

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

“One Bread, One Body” #496

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Vs 1: Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. [Refrain]

Vs 2: Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. [Refrain]

Vs 3: Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. [Refrain]

“Heal Me, O Lord”

Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed, save me and I shall be saved;
heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed, save me and I shall be saved.
For thou art my praise, save me and I shall be saved.
Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed, save me and I shall be saved;
heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed, save me and I shall be saved.

Communion Prayer: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray together.

C: 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.

The Blessing:

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace. Amen.

Sending: *“Lord, I Lift Your Name On High” 2X #857*

Lord I lift Your name on high. Lord I love to sing Your praises.
I’m so glad You’re in my life. I’m so glad You came to save us.

Chorus: You came from heaven to earth. To show the way.

From the earth to the cross. My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave. From the grave to the sky.
Lord I lift Your name on high.

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God!

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Faith Formation Facilitator: Nicole Wananda · Treasurer: Sara Nolte

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

St. Luke Lutheran Church • Guest Pastor Wayne Vogt
9:30AM • February 12, 2023

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

C: Come Holy Spirit, Come!

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who is eager to forgive & who loves us beyond our days.

C: Amen.

P: Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.
(Silence is kept for reflection.) God of mercy and forgiveness,

C: we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge & strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer & friend. Amen.

P: Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven + and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God’s abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: *“God, We Gather As Your People” #532*

Vs 1: God, we gather as your people to raise our song above, and we dare to claim the promise of your love.
Though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.

Refrain: Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened, fling the church doors open wide.
May there be room enough for ev’ryone inside. For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.

Vs 2: Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free; and we sing for generations yet to be,
that they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest. [Refrain]

Vs 3: Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear & shame, so afraid of who they are & whom they love.
May the message now be banished that your love is for the few; may their faith in you renew. [Refrain]

Vs 4: God, we’re working for the future when children far & wide can live their lives with dignity and pride.
As they grow in strength & stature, may they join us hand in hand, as against all hate we stand. [Refrain]

Prayer of the Day: *(congregation may be seated)*

P: Let us pray together

C: O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.