

Pastor's Bible Study

February 4, 2026 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

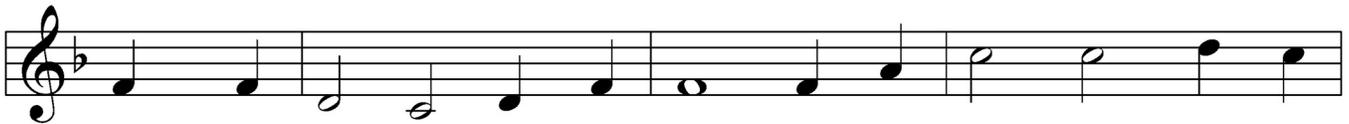
LSB 848 – Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

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Read Isaiah 58:3-9a:

1. Look at verses 1 & 2, how does this provide helpful context to verses 3-9?
2. What specific sin(s) does Isaiah call out?
3. How should fasting look according to the Lord?
4. Why was Israel's fasting inadequate?
5. Does this same religious insincerity happen today? If so, how?

Read Matthew 5:13-20:

1. What did Jesus' listeners do to be called salt or light?
2. What does it mean to be salt or light?
3. What purpose does God have for the ones He calls salt/light?
4. Why is it important that Jesus shares that He came not to abolish the Law or Prophets but to fulfill them?
5. Why is Jesus' reference to an "iota" helpful for our understanding this teaching?
6. What point is Jesus making about the Law in verses 19 & 20?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-16:

1. According to Paul, on what does our faith rest (see vv. 3-5)?
2. How is God made known (see vv. 9-11)?
3. What does the Spirit of God use to make God known (see vv. 2 & 13)?
4. What kind of perspective do verses 14-16 give us?

Devotional Thought:

Words without deeds are like salt that has become useless or like a light put under a basket. The words we speak in praise of our heavenly Father need the support of our deeds. Jesus wants us to witness by both words and deeds, even as God bears witness that He is our Father when He calls us His children (*adapted from TLSB, pg. 1586*).

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help me to be good salt and a shining light wherever I am. Amen.