

Pastor's Bible Class

January 18, 2026

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

#702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

Read Isaiah 49:1-7

1. Some of the most powerful and important words in the book of Isaiah have to do with “the Suffering Servant.” Four times in Isaiah we find these “Servant Songs.” Look at the following references from these four sections of Isaiah and comment on the information they reveal about the Servant:

- Isaiah 42:1
- Isaiah 49:5-6
- Isaiah 50:4-6
- Isaiah 53:4-7

2. In verse 1, the Servant says, “The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.” How does this accurately describe the Messiah?

3. Apply the following verses to the language of verse 2:

- Ephesians 6:17
- Hebrews 4:12
- Revelation 1:16

4. What other Messianic imagery is given to the Servant in the rest of the text?

Read John 1:29-42a

5. The phrase “Lamb of God” is found nowhere else in the Bible, but only in this reading. Why does John refer to Jesus as the Lamb of God? See Exodus 12 and Leviticus 16.
6. Who benefits from the work of the Lamb of God (John 1:29)?
7. What do John’s words of introduction in verses 30-34 tell us about his purpose? How does this purpose match with the purpose of John’s Gospel?
8. Why do Andrew and the unnamed disciple (probably St. John) of John the Baptist follow Jesus? What does this tell us about the Word John the Baptist spoke? See Romans 10:17.
9. What does Andrew’s enthusiastic announcement, “We have found the Messiah” (John 1:41) tell us about Andrew and his contemporaries?
10. The “scapegoat” of Leviticus 16, points ahead to the Lamb provided by God and sent out by God. The Lamb of God first took the load of sin off the world onto Himself, then rolled it off from Himself. Luther says, “It is extremely important that we know where our sins have been disposed of. The Law deposits them on our conscience and shoves them into our bosom. But God takes them from us and places them on the shoulders of the Lamb. If sin rested on me and on the world, we would be lost; for it is too strong and burdensome. God says: ‘I know that your sin is unbearable for you; therefore behold, I will lay it upon My Lamb and relieve you of it. Believe this! If you do, you are delivered of sin.’ There are only two abodes for sin: it either resides with you, weighing you down; or it lies on Christ, the Lamb of God. If it is loaded on your back, you are lost; but if it rests on Christ, you are free and saved” (Luther Works, Volume 22, 169-170). How is this comforting to you?

Devotional Thought from “The Lutheran Study Bible”

John the Baptist testifies that Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world – the very Son of God, on whom the Holy Spirit rested at His Baptism. Today, the Lord gives His Spirit to us in Holy Baptism. To regard Christian Baptism as a merely a symbolic act is to despise a precious treasure. In Baptism, Jesus Christ has taken away our sin, and the Spirit daily assures us of his merciful goodness to us (TLSB, 1779).

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever (Collect for the Second Sunday after Epiphany).