

† HOME SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER †
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2021

PRELUDE

Praise to the Lord

Kevin Hildebrand

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

C **Almighty God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have turned away from each other in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, move us to serve You faithfully. Amen.**

P God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear now to His temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.

Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by His gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do as with His love He befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the amen sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Everlasting God, You give strength to the weary and power to the faint. Keep us firmly in the true faith, that by Your heavenly grace we may be healed and made whole, and the good news of Your salvation be made known to all; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those

outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

P Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

C Jesus is the Light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, [Jesus] entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Eagles' Wings

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life, say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain: And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. **Refrain**

SERMON

Rev. Scott Geminn

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Guided by Christ, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

P For the church: For ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, and for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For creation: For all creatures great and small, for the fragile places of the earth, and for wisdom to care for all that God has made. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the nations: For all who govern in cities and towns, states and countries; for business and community leaders; and for all health organizations, that they strive to overcome adversity and seek to serve those most in need. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P For all wearied by life's burdens: For those who are poor, for those lacking support in relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to You. We remember especially our friends in the Concordia community, all on our prayer lines, and those we lift up in the quiet of this moment...(PAUSE). Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P For this congregation: For outreach and social ministries; for our Sunday School and The Chapel School; and for the young people in this place, that the love of Christ overflow among us. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, hear our prayers for the sake of the One who dwells among us, Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray:

C **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.**

CLOSING HYMN

Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old
Your hand, O Lord, in days of old was strong to heal and save;
it triumphed over ills and death, o'er darkness and the grave.
To You they came, the blind, the mute, the palsied and the lame,
the lepers in their misery, the sick with fevered frame.

Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health,
gave speech and strength and sight;
and youth renewed and frenzy calmed revealed You, Lord of light.
And now, O Lord, be near to bless, Almighty as before,
in crowded street, by beds of pain, as by Gennes'ret's shore.

O be our great deliv'rer still, the Lord of life and death;
restore and quicken, soothe and bless, with Your life-giving breath.
To hands that work and eyes that see give wisdom's healing pow'r
that whole and sick and weak and strong may praise You evermore.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and
be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The Kingsfold Trumpet

Alfred Fedak

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Special thanks to our additional participant in today's service:

Lector James Maxeiner

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