

Hymn of Invocation My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker 820

+ The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism +

<u>INTROIT PSALM 13</u>

I will sing | to the LORD,* because he has dealt bountifully | with me. **Consider and answer me, O** | **LORD my God;* light up my eyes, lest I sleep the | sleep of death,** lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed | over him,"* lest my foes rejoice because I am | shaken. **But I have trusted in your** | steadfast love:* my heart shall rejoice in your sal- | vation.

steadfast love;* my heart shall rejoice in your sal- | vation. Glory to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will sing | to the LORD,* because he has dealt bountifully | with me.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

<u>PSALM 147</u>

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground. Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre! He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills. He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry. His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Glory to the Father and to the + Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, Amen.

His understanding is beyond measure.

<u>APPOINTED READINGS 4 FEBRUARY 2024</u> Isaiah 40:21–31 1 Corinthians 9:16–27 Mark 1:29–39 The Son of God, Christ Jesus, Makes Us a New Creation

- The Lord alone "is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth" (Is. 40:28). He "sits above the circle of the earth" and "stretches out the heavens like a curtain" (Is. 40:22). Yet, His almighty power is demonstrated chiefly by His mercy and compassion. "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength" (Is. 40:29).
- The only begotten Son of the Father, the very Word by whom all things were made, becomes flesh and takes all the poverty and weakness of our sin and death upon Himself, bearing it in His body to the cross. As He dies for us there, He also raises us up, a new creation, in His resurrection from the dead. Thus, by the preaching of this Word, He heals "many who were sick with various diseases," and He casts out "many demons" (Mark 1:34, 39).
- And His preaching continues through those whom He has sent, who are "entrusted with a stewardship" to "preach the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:16–17). Thus, we are set free by the Word of Christ, and we exercise our freedom in loving service to others.

CONFESSION OF OUR COMMON FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

Hymn of the Day Hail to the Lord's Anointed 398

SERMON NOTES

+ Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany + 4 February 2024 **The Secret of Jesus' Ministry** Mark 1:35

Then, in the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a deserted place, and there he prayed.

As great numbers of people are drawn to Jesus for healing and deliverance, He shares the secret of His ministry by seeking solace and strength apart from the distractions of this world in close communion with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

1. Jesus freely shares His life in healing and deliverance

- 1. Overflowing compassion of the Anointed One
- 2. Finding our healing and deliverance in God alone
- 2. Jesus seeks solace and strength in communion with God
 - 1. In a deserted place apart from distractions
 - 2. In close communion with the Father and Holy Spirit

3. Jesus' plan arises out of His perfect obedience

- 1. Never swayed by praise or prejudice of the people
- 2. Preaching where Christ was previously unknown

<u>PRAYER OF THE CHURCH</u> FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY <u>4 FEBRUARY 2024</u>

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We give thanks to You, dear Father, for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh to preach the Gospel and cast out the works of Satan and the corruption of sin, which we could not overcome. By Your Word, rescue us from every evil of body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord of the Church, give joy to Your servants on whom You have laid the necessity to preach the Gospel, that many would be saved in every nation and that together we may share in the blessings of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, give to all Christian homes the endurance that comes from Your Holy Spirit, that husbands and wives, parents and children may be disciplined and self-controlled in their duties, run their course in this life, and continue to the end in the holy Christian faith, ready to receive the imperishable wreath of eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, Creator of the world and its foundations, You hold sway over the powers of nature and the rulers of the earth. Graciously preserve our land, its produce and industry, and our leaders together with our people. Do not disregard us for our sins, but renew us, that our lives may be peaceful and our country governed according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, Your Son is the Great Physician of body and soul, at whose hand demon, disease and every ill must turn away. We bring before You those in any need *[especially]*. Lord, in Your

mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy Father, where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. Bring us in faith to Your Holy Sacrament, that the blood of Christ, which atoned for our sins, may make us whole, strengthen us against every spiritual attack of the devil, turn us in love toward our neighbor, and preserve us in body and soul to life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**