

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Feb 8, 2026

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion toward all who call this place home.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Lunch & Hymn Sing – Wednesday, February 11th at 12:30 pm

The **Annual Report Booklets** will be distributed this week by email, and print copies will be available [next Sunday](#) in our gathering space. Our **Annual Meeting** will be on **Feb 22 at 12 pm**. Following worship we'll enjoy a soup and a bun lunch and then move to the sanctuary for the meeting to allow those unable to attend in person to join via Zoom. Everyone is welcome to participate; members are eligible to vote. Please come early as we'll again be asking everyone to sign in so that we have an accurate count of voting members.

Our **Shrove Tuesday pancake supper** is on **February 17 at 5 pm**. Everyone is welcome, bring friends and family.

Please check the sign-up sheets if you'd like to help with these meals

Ash Wednesday – Wednesday, February 18th at 2 pm

Coldest Night of the Year – Saturday, February 28 – details to join or sponsor the GS Striders in newsletter

INTRODUCTION

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers – including us – to let the light of their good works shine before others.

Let us take a moment to center our hearts and minds as we enter this time of worship.

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, [☩] one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
God forgives our sin in [☩] Jesus' name.
God's mercy makes us new.
May the Spirit give us strength to live for others,
and bless us with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

"KYRIE" ELW Setting 8 – v 1-3

Refrain

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for

u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

GATHERING SONG "Gather Us In" ELW 718 v 1, 2, 4



Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who

Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,

light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.

now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the

Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,

make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.

fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

It is our delight to pray. Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him"—

God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

For the Word of God in scripture,

For the Word of God among us,

For the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia" (ELW Setting 8)

The gospel and sermon for this Sunday have been prepared and shared by Pastor Jane Gingrich, Spiritual Health Practitioner, Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops, BC.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Bring Forth the Kingdom" W&P 22

Verses

Cantor:

1. You are salt for the earth, O peo - ple:
 2. You are a light on the hill, O peo - ple:
 3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo - ple:
 4. We are a blest and a pil - grim peo - ple:

All: *Cantor:*

Salt for the King-dom of God! Share the fla - vor of
 Light for the Cit - y of God! Shine so ho - ly and
 Bring forth the King-dom of God! Seeds of mer - cy and
 Bound for the King-dom of God! Love our jour-ney and

All:

life, O peo - ple: Life in the King-dom of God!
 bright, O peo - ple: Shine for the King-dom of God!
 seeds of jus - tice, Grow in the King-dom of God!
 love our home-land: Love is the King-dom of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the King-dom of mer - cy, Bring forth the

King-dom of peace; Bring forth the King-dom of jus - tice,

Bring forth the Cit - y of God!

APOSTLES' CREED

We confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed . . .

**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, and 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,
and he will come to judge the living and 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,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness may bring hope to a troubled world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your marvelous creation cries out to you, O God. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard all creatures from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. Protect all who seek to bring assistance to those in need. As you have taught us, Jesus, we pray for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving especially Alice, Don and Carol, Arne, Kate, Karen, Janet C, Victor and Judy, Janet D, Dave, Tiffany, Corrie, Alice, Patrick, Joel and Ellen, Linda H, Murray, Shirley, Derek, Hugh and Ally, Jim N., Donna, Helga, Margaret and Clayton, Nancy, Sheila, Cindy, Ray, Doreen, Alan T and those we name silently now . . . *[silence]*. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our lay leaders, and volunteers. Guide the nominating committee and all whom you call to serve on church council. Bless our Visual and Audio Technicians, and hold in your care this week Shirley Johnson, Corrine Jorgenson, Dan Brand, and Pastor Joel, Vanessa and Hans. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

United in Christ, we pray together . . .

Our Father in heaven
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever, Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and **☩** give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG "Let Justice Flow Like Streams" ELW 717



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

SENDING

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God. We will!

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