

TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 15 & 16, 2025

5:30PM & 8:00AM

AS WE GATHER

Blessings abound in today's readings! Jeremiah laments the one who "trusts in man," but sees the one who "trusts in the Lord," to be like a tree planted with abundant water that "does not cease to bear fruit" (Jeremiah 17:5, 7, 8). Note that we are "planted,"—a passive verb, grace! Luke records another time Jesus preached using beatitudes. He concluded that we, his hearers, should rejoice and leap for joy, for our reward is great in heaven. Such grace! No wonder that Paul, in the Epistle, warns against those who doubt Christ's resurrection. Our Lord is only "the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Today our worship is full of rejoicing in the grace of God. It also gives us strength to produce fruit every day.

PRESERVICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" LSB 901, sts. 1-5

Please stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 20; Luke 6:23*

Pastor: I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:

People: **that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.**

Pastor: In fact Christ has been raised from the dead,

People: **the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

Pastor: Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,
People: **for behold, your reward is great in heaven.**

CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Relying on the grace of God and anticipating the joys of heaven He has prepared for Jesus' sake, let us confess our sins to our gracious God.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,
People: **we confess that, although You have blessed us like trees planted by streams of water, we have failed to bear fruit for You and have feared when life has been difficult. Forgive us.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ,
People: **we confess that we have not relied on Your resurrection as proof of the grace of God. We have not always lived in the hope of our own resurrection. Forgive us.**

Pastor: O Holy Spirit,
People: **we confess that we have failed to keep the faith You have given us. It is not always active in the face of the difficulties of life and opposition from other people. Forgive us and renew a strong faith within us.**

Pastor: By the grace of God, you are like trees planted by streams of water! Grace is abundant daily in God's Word and by His promises. For the sake of our living Lord, rejoice and be glad! I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

KYRIE



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Grant us, heavenly Father, to so appreciate Your grace in giving us faith in Your Son that we live each day in thanksgiving for the precious Gospel

People: until we fall asleep in Christ and awaken to the glory You have prepared for us for His sake;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 17:5–8*

(The one who trusts in the Lord is firmly planted.)

⁵Thus says the LORD:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶He is like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 1*

Pastor: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on His law he meditates day and night.

**People: He is like a tree planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.**

Pastor: The wicked are not so, but are like
People: chaff that the wind drives away.

Pastor: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
 nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
**People: for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
 but the way of the wicked will perish.**

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15:1–20

(Stand firm in what we believe.)

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it

was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.

¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

VERSE *Luke 6:23a*

Pastor: Alleluia. Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,

People: for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 6:17–26* (Jesus preaches both blessings and curses.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

²⁰And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please sit

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” *LSB 394*, sts. 1-5

SERMON “THE BEATITUDES – FOUR BLESSINGS VS. FOUR WOES” (*Luke 6:17-26*)

The Rev. Peter Gueldner

Please stand

CATECHISM *The Second Article*

People: **I believe 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.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: **I believe that Jesus Christ,**

Pastor: true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary,

People: **is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil;**

Pastor: not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

People: **that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,**

Pastor: just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

People: **This is most certainly true.**

Please sit

TITHES AND OFFERING (8:00 ONLY – “Be Thou My Vision” *Trinity Handbells*)

HYMN OF PRAISE “My Soul Rejoices” *LSB 933, sts. 1-2*

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Luke 6:20–22*

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, the church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

People: **Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.**

Pastor: Father, we come before you today to acknowledge our sin and the need for Your forgiveness. You have promised to save us through Christ, Your Son. In faith we call upon Your heavenly grace and mercy.

People: **Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.**

Pastor: Jesus, You are the Word incarnate. Open our eyes to Your words and to hear clearly the promise of salvation for our lives. Give us a longing and a desire for Your words throughout all our life.

People: **Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.**

Pastor: Lord God, we weep because of our sin. Jesus our Savior, we long to be with You in Your heavenly home with life eternal. Carry us through this veil of tears until we can jump for joy in eternity.

O Holy Spirit, hear the prayers of those who are sick, in mourning, or unemployed, [*especially* . . .]. Answer them as Your plans allow, relieve their suffering, calm their tears, and give them opportunity to use the gifts and abilities You have given them. Comfort our friends, family and loved ones.

These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Please sit

HYMN “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” *LSB 477, sts. 1-3*△

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Blessed are you! Rejoice, leap for joy, for your reward is great in heaven.
Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

* * * **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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