

**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 13, 2022**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Black History Month: By God's grace, may our efforts bring lasting change to racism and white supremacy and racial injustices in our world and within the ELCIC. Through these relationships, may we let go of narratives that no longer serve us and embrace multifaceted stories that make room for all to belong and flourish in their full, God-given self-expression.
- **Important Dates: We look forward to a return to in-person worship February 20, 2022.**
- **Notice of the Annual General Meeting: Date: March 6<sup>th</sup> after Sunday morning service approximately 10:45 am in the Sanctuary.** Snow date: March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:13) **And also with you.**

In the beginning was the Word, **and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

In the Word was life, **and the life was the light of all people.**

The Word became flesh and lived among us, **and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

(John 1)

**GATHERING SONG**

**WOV # 752 *Here I Am, Lord***

1. "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

*Refrain*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

3. "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

## PSALM 1

*They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)*

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

## LITANY OF JUSTICE FOR ALL

All-powerful God, throughout creation, your diversity is demonstrated: In each face, in every life form, in each sunrise, in every snowflake. All the diversity in all your church are, but a sampling of your creative power. Help us to trust in the innate order of all you have made. **Help us to restore your order, where systems of prejudice prevail God, dwell with us, and hear our prayer.**

Jesus, our brother and fellow traveller, You intimately know the violence of human encounter with differences. With your body on the cross, these differences were broken: Jew and Greek, Slave and free. Every shade made precious in your sight. **Help us to honour your sacrifice by doing the work of your body: Help us to dismantle the use of difference for discrimination. God, dwell with us, and hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, You used different tongues to spread the gospel truth. Diversity was your vehicle; diversity was your canvas. May we trust in your power knit throughout our differences. Fill us with your capacity for making common the message of love. Let our differences be your chalk and chalkboard. **Be our guiding presence in this holy work, God, dwell with us, and hear our prayer.**

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

*For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.*

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain, and your faith has been in vain.

We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. **Build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit.** (*Jude 20*)

Keep yourselves in the love of God; **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** (*Jude 21*)  
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!** (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **GOSPEL**

### **Luke 6:17-26**

*After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.*

[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

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

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

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

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

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

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

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

## SERMON

## HYMN

## WOV # 748 *Bind Us Together*

### *Refrain*

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together with love.

1. There is only one God. There is only one King.  
There is only one Body; that is why we can sing: *Refrain*
2. You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.  
You are God's chosen desire; you are the glorious new wine. *Refrain*

## CREED AND CONFESSION

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.** (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

## THE PRAYERS

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

**Blessed are those whose trust is in you. Strengthen the faith of those who profess your name and bring reassurance to those who doubt or fear. Through your church speak continued blessing into the world. God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Those who trust in you are like trees planted by streams of water. Bless fruit trees with an abundant harvest. Protect rainforests from destruction. Restore land that has eroded after deforestation. Resurrect woodlands after forest fires. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**Search the hearts of those who govern, that they lead with humility. Inspire leaders to collaborate on policies that protect people and the planet. Sustain truth-tellers and social movements that challenge society to become more honest and just. God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Send your blessings of mercy upon those who long for consolation especially Carol on the loss of her daughter Ruth Ann. Tend to those struggling with poverty, unemployment, or uncertainty. Provide for all who are hungry. Console those who face persecution. Grant peace to all who suffer especially Pat, Lloyd, Ken, Josh, Jordon, Ferolyn, Elethia, Daryl, Carol, and those we name in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**Renew this congregation in our shared mission. As we plan and dream for the future you are preparing, inspire us by the examples of Martin Luther and all the reformers. Bless new projects and new ministry partnerships. God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Christ is raised from the dead, and so we cling to the hope of the resurrection. We praise you for the lives of the saints who lived and died in the hope of eternal life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray: 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.**

#### **BLESSING**

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

#### **SENDING SONG**

**WOV # 763 *Let Justice Flow like Streams***

1. Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,  
enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.
2. Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,  
an ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.
3. So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,  
and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **POSTLUDE**

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon	Feb 14	2 Kings 24:18—25:21	1 Corinthians 15:20-34	Psalm 120
Tue	Feb 15	Ezra 1:1-11	2 Corinthians 1:12-19	Psalm 120
Wed	Feb 16	Jeremiah 22:11-17	Luke 11:37-52	Psalm 120
Thu	Feb 17	Genesis 43:16-34	Romans 8:1-11	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
Fri	Feb 18	Genesis 44:1-17	1 John 2:12-17	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
Sat	Feb 19	Genesis 44:18-34	Luke 12:57-59	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
Sun	Feb 20	Genesis 43:3-11, 15	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

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