

Jesus, Light for the Nations

Simple Problems

Isaiah 58:3-9a



**Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany
February 5, 2023 – 11:00 am**

A warm welcome to all worshiping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today! We celebrate together God's work in our lives as we receive His Word and Sacraments to strengthen our relationship with Him and one another. By the blood of Christ, we are made the household of God. Here, God builds us up by grace, through faith, and for service!

Jesus, Light for the Nations

Everyone needs light. It is a necessary part to our survival. It is beautiful and necessary all at once. It is no coincidence that Jesus is called the "Light for the nations." He is the One that has brought the light of life into a world of darkness and death. He is the necessary part to our eternal survival, and He has come for all people. The Scriptures make that abundantly clear, and the prophet Isaiah especially highlights the message of God's mission for the world as that would be fulfilled in Jesus. There is no other way than Jesus and that is good news! The question is, what does life look like in this light? And how is God using us to shine the light of Christ for others? Join us for our new sermon series as we continue to follow Jesus in the light for all people!

Welcome and Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the LORD be with you!
C And also with you!

Opening Song

Open The Eyes Of My Heart

Open the eyes of my heart, LORD, open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You, I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory;
pour out Your power and love as we sing "holy, holy, holy"

Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy, I want to see You

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Invocation of The Holy Trinity

P We make our beginning in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession of Sins and Good News of Gods Forgiveness

P If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your Will and walk in Your Ways to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His Mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His Sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His Authority I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Song of Praise

Sing, Sing, Sing

Refrain

We will sing, sing, sing, and make music with the heavens!

We will sing, sing, sing, grateful that You hear us

when we shout Your praise - lift high the name of Jesus!

What's not to love about You?

Heaven and earth adore You; kings and kingdoms bow down

Son of God, You are the One, You are the One we're living for

Refrain

You are the love that frees us;

You are the light that leads us like a fire burning,

Son of God, You are the One, You are the One we're living for

Refrain

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Old Testament Prophecy

Isaiah 58:3-9a [ESV]

³ 'Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?' Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. ⁴ Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶ "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ⁸ Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading

Psalm 112:1-9 [ESV]

- L Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord,
C **who greatly delights in his commandments!**
- L His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.
C **Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.**
- L Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
C **he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**
- L It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice.
C **For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever.**
- L He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord.
C **His heart is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.**
- L He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
C **his righteousness endures forever; his horn is exalted in honor. Glory be 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.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [ESV]

2 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. **2** For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. **3** And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, **4** and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, **5** so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. **6** Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. **7** But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. **8** None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. **9** But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—**10** these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. **11** For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. **12** Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20 [ESV]

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world.

A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. ¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes 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. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children’s Message

Pastor Alan Shaw

Song of the Day

Mighty To Save

Ev’ryone needs compassion, a love that's never failing, let mercy fall on me;
Ev’ryone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior, the hope of nations:

Refrain

Savior, He can move the mountains; my God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save
Forever, Author of salvation; He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures - fill my life again;
I give my life to follow ev’rything I believe in, now I surrender Refrain

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The Message

Pastor Alan Shaw

Simple Problems

Isaiah 58:3-9a

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.**

C 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

after each petition:

P Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

Closing Song

Beautiful One

Wonderful, so wonderful is Your unfailing love
Your cross has spoken mercy over me
No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
no heart could fully know how glorious, how beautiful You are

Refrain

Beautiful One, I love You, Beautiful One I adore;
Beautiful One, my soul must sing

Powerful, so powerful, Your glory fills the skies;
Your mighty works displayed for all to see
The beauty of Your majesty awakes my heart to sing how marvelous, how wonderful You are Refrain

You opened my eyes to Your wonders anew, You captured my heart with this love,
for nothing on earth is as beautiful as You Sing 2x Refrain

