



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 8, 2026

8:30am worship

Facebook live

Welcome

Thanks for joining us

Welcome to worship at **TIERRASANTALUTHERANCHURCH**

We're excited that you have chosen to worship with us. We encourage you to fill out the green visitor sheet located in the pew pocket and place it in the offering basket. Take-Home Busy Bags for kids and children's bulletins are available from an usher. A Nursery for children 3 and under is at the west end of the hallway.

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 to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

PRESERVICE *(Piano)*

PRELUDE **"The Meditations Of My Heart"** - *Hagenberg* *(Choir)*
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WELCOME TO WORSHIP BY PASTOR BOHDAN VADIS

THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C: Amen.

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.
(a moment of silence for self-examination)

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: 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.**

C: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of
Christ, and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to
live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 533 “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” (stz. 1, 3, 5)

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 3 Here thy praise is gladly chanted,
here thy seed is duly sown;
let my soul, where it is planted,
bring forth precious sheaves alone,
so that all I hear may be
fruitful unto life in me.
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee,
let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee
while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
here is balm for all our woes.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

C: And also with you!

HYMN OF PRAISE “All Glory Be to God on High” (ELW page 159, sung)

All glory be to God on high, and peace to earth be given!
Let angels sing, let all reply; goodwill breaks forth from heaven!
Lord God Almighty, heaven’s king, we worship you, our thanks we sing,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, creation’s author,
O Lamb of God, your death alone takes sin away forever.
Stretch out your arms to ev’ry land, and, as you reign at God’s right hand,
receive our prayer; have mercy.
To you alone, O God, we cry, the Holy One we name you;
for you alone are God most high, one living God we claim you:
we worship you, Lord Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit ever blest,
in God the Father’s glory. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together:

C: 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.

FIRST READING *Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.*

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? 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 them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

PSALM Psalm 112:1-10 (Cantor/ **Congregation, Sung**)

Hallelujah! Happy are they who / fear the Lord
and have great delight in / God's commandments!

**Their descendants will be mighty / in the land;
the generation of the upright / will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches will be / in their house,
and their righteousness will / last forever.

**Light shines in the darkness / for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full / of compassion.**

It is good for them to be gener- / ous in lending
and to manage their af- / fairs with justice.

**For they will nev- / er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- / ing remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any / evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting / in the Lord.

**Their heart is established and / will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- / on their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands / fast forever;
they will hold up their / head with honor.

**The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and / pine away;
the desires of the wick- / ed will perish.**

SECOND READING *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.*

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words 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 not with plausible 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 doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; 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"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being 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. [And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(ELW page 151, sung)*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL *In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter, beginning with the 13th verse.

C: *(Sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Matthew 5:13-20

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. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but 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.

P: Here ends the Reading of the Gospel.

C: *(Sung)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SPECIAL MUSIC “Send Out Thy Light” - Cherwien (Choir)

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MESSAGE BY PASTOR BOHDAN VADIS

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 715 “Christ, Be Our Light” (stz. 1, 2, 5)

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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 into hell. 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

P: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

P: Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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 *Reid Bixler, Barbara Berg, James Vadis, Marianne d'Arnaud, Ellen Mize, Frank Fogg, Mike George, Diane Raines, Barbara Vann, Anastasia Balmaceda, Christine Durnell, Mary Peters, and Ray Gerding.*
Lord, please guide and protect our military personnel serving in harm's way.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For what else do the people pray? Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN ELW 184 "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

CHILDREN'S OFFERING - God's Global Barnyard *We can donate money through the ELCA to purchase farm animals and related resources (like tools, seeds, training) to help hungry families globally achieve long-term food security and self-sufficiency, turning gifts into food, income, and fertilizer.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(ELW page 152, sung)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All Christians are invited by our Lord to receive His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. Children who have not yet received First Communion instructions are invited to come forward to receive a blessing, but are requested to wait with Communing until they have been properly instructed. If you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest. Wine is in the gold chalice and grape juice is in the pottery chalice.

COMMUNION MUSIC ELW 742 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
 all our sins and griefs to bear!
 What a privilege to carry
 ev'rything to God in prayer!
 Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
 oh, what needless pain we bear--
 all because we do not carry
 ev'rything to God in prayer!

- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

HYMN ELW 501 "Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus"

Come with us, O blessed Jesus,
with us evermore to be.
And, in leaving now thine altar,
let us nevermore leave thee!
Let thy bright celestial chorus
never cease the heav'nly strain;
but in us, thy loving children,
come with peace, good will to reign.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 665 **“Rise, Shine, You People!”**

- 1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.

- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
now are forgiven.

- 3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
of Jesus' glory.

- 4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
God's new creation.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

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THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE (*Organ*)

Reader: Bill Stephenson

Ushers: Duke Sobek, Tom Brown

Communion: Bill Stephenson

Altar: Claudia Murphy

Coffee: Jo & Rick Vroman

Nursery: Isabelle Villa, Marieke Caragan

Acolyte: Ariel Romero