

**St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany – February 9, 2025**

Responsive Call to Worship

It is by grace that we are who we are:

people who are called by Jesus, yet fearful to follow.

It is by God's grace that we can become followers:

people who are fearful yet gifted with courage beyond wonder.

It is with God's grace that we become who we might be:

people who step out in faith, sharing the good news generously.

Hymn 683 I know not why such wondrous grace

**1. I know not why such wondrous grace
to me God has made known;
nor why, unworthy as I am,
Christ claimed me for his own,**

Refrain:

**but I know whom I have believed
and am persuaded that Christ is able
to keep that which I've committed
unto him against that day.**

**2. I know not why this saving faith
to me God did impart,
nor how believing in the word brought
peace into my heart,**

Refrain:

**but I know whom I have believed
and am persuaded that Christ is able
to keep that which I've committed
unto him against that day.**

**3. I know not how the Spirit moves,
convincing me of sin,
revealing Jesus through the word,
creating faith in him:**

Refrain:

but I know whom I have believed

and am persuaded that Christ is able
to keep that which I've committed
unto him against that day.

Prayer of Praise *(minister)*

Hymn 299 Holy, holy, holy

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea,
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert and art and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though our eyes in sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
all thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayer of Confession *(congregation)*

Loving and forgiving God, we confess the grief we cling to,
the shallowness of our love and the short-sightedness of our
vision. We have been silent when we should have spoken,
and we confess that we have said things we should not have;
we have been deaf to good news and blind to the needs of
the people around us. Forgive who we have been, amend
who are and direct who we shall be.

- silent confession -

The Lord's Prayer *(Debts/Debtors)*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

**And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory. For ever
and ever. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon *(minister)*

Hymn 363 All hail the power of Jesus' name

- 1. All hail the power of Jesus' name;
let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem to
crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**
- 2. Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod, and
crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**
- 3. Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and
crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**
- 4. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go, spread your trophies at his feet, and
crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**
- 5. Let every tribe and every tongue,
responsive to the call,
lift high the universal song, and
crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 138 **p. 582 NT & Psalms**

¹ I give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart;
I will sing your praises before the gods.

² **I bow before your holy Temple as I worship.**

**I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness;
for your promises are backed**

by all the honor of your name.

³ As soon as I pray, you answer me;
you encourage me by giving me strength.

**⁴ Every king in all the earth will thank you, Lord,
for all of them will hear your words.**

⁵ Yes, they will sing about the Lord's ways,
for the glory of the Lord is very great.

**⁶ Though the Lord is great, he cares for the humble,
but he keeps his distance from the proud.**

⁷ Though I am surrounded by troubles,
you will protect me from the anger of my enemies.

You reach out your hand,
and the power of your right hand saves me.

**⁸ The Lord will work out his plans for my life—
for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever.
Don't abandon me, for you made me.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 6:1-8 p. 557 pew Bible

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 p. 302 New Living Translation

Luke 5:1-11 p. 109 New Living Translation

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Three strange stories

Prayers of the People (minister)

Hymn 411 Stand up and bless the Lord

**1. Stand up and bless the Lord;
God's people now rejoice;
stand up and bless the Lord your God
with heart and soul and voice.**

**2. Though high above all praise,
above all blessing high,
who would not fear God's holy name,
and praise and magnify?**

**3. Oh for the living flame
from God's own altar brought,**

to touch our lips, our minds inspire,
and wing to heaven our thought.

4. God is our strength and song;
now is salvation ours.

God's love in Christ we now proclaim
with all our ransomed powers.

5. Stand up and bless the Lord;
the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless God's glorious name
henceforth forevermore.

Offering & Offertory

***Doxology 830 Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication (congregation)

God of surprising generosity, Jesus encouraged his disciples to keep fishing when they thought their nets were empty. Encourage us to keep giving even when needs seem overwhelming and resources scarce. We entrust our gifts to you with the faith you can surprise us and others through all they can accomplish in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn 670 Amazing grace

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

**4. The Lord has promised good to me:
His word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.**

**5. What thanks I owe you, and what love
a boundless, endless store
shall echo through the realms above
when time shall be no more.**

**6. When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than
when we'd first begun.**

Choral Blessing

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will be with you each hour of every day.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Benediction

Three-fold Amen

Piano Postlude