

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

February 20th, 2022

8:30 am Service

7th Sunday After Epiphany

Introduction to the Day: Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Sheila Rawn

Gathering

Please stand as you are able.

Thanksgiving for Baptism [*adapted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship*]

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen!

Gathering Song

#835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

Note: Stanza 5 will be "sung" by the organ only.

Litany for the Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

O Lord, you have been so generous to us.

Help us to be as generous as you.

You have given us homes to live in, clothes to wear, and food to eat.

Help us to be generous toward those who are homeless and hungry, naked, and poor.

O Lord, you have given us the blessing of forgiveness when we do not deserve it.

Help us to be generous in our forgiveness of others.

O Lord, your love for us has no end.

Help us to overflow with love in our lives, by following your example.

Apostolic Greeting

Arise shine; for the Light has come!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us!

The grace of God that extends to all nations in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11)

Let us read responsively and sing from Psalm 37.



For they shall with-er like grass,_____ and fade a - way._____

Text: Psalm 37. Music: John R. Paradowski. Copyright © 2022. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.

Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire. Refrain.

Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.

The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil. Refrain.

For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.

But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge. **Refrain.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

page 171, Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have
the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: ELW, Setting 6, Gospel Acclamation. Music: Tillis Butler, d. 2002. James Harris. Copyright © 1993, 1999, 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord for you this day.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Sheila Rawn

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

#716 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

(Prayer Cards will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
 Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

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.

...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 Savior.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Thanksgiving

Musical Offering

How Can I Keep From Singing arr. by Howard Helvey

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Response

#185 Create in Me a Clean Heart

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.
 For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Farewell & Godspeed Pr. Sheila Rawn

Address

Pastor Sheila Rawn, as you leave our community of faith, St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church, we wish to bid you farewell.

You came to the community of St. Matthew's be an interim pastor in this place: to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach, to announce God's forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord's table. With the gospel you have been with us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God's mission to the whole world. As you leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.

Thanksgiving and Sending

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor Sheila among the people of God in this place.

Bless us all at this time of ending and beginning. You surround your people in every time and place: keep us close in your love. Help all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.

Amen.

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servant Pastor Sheila Rawn. Now bless and preserve her at this time of transition. Day by day, guide her, and her family, in what is needed, friends to cheer her way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling her. As she goes forth, may she be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

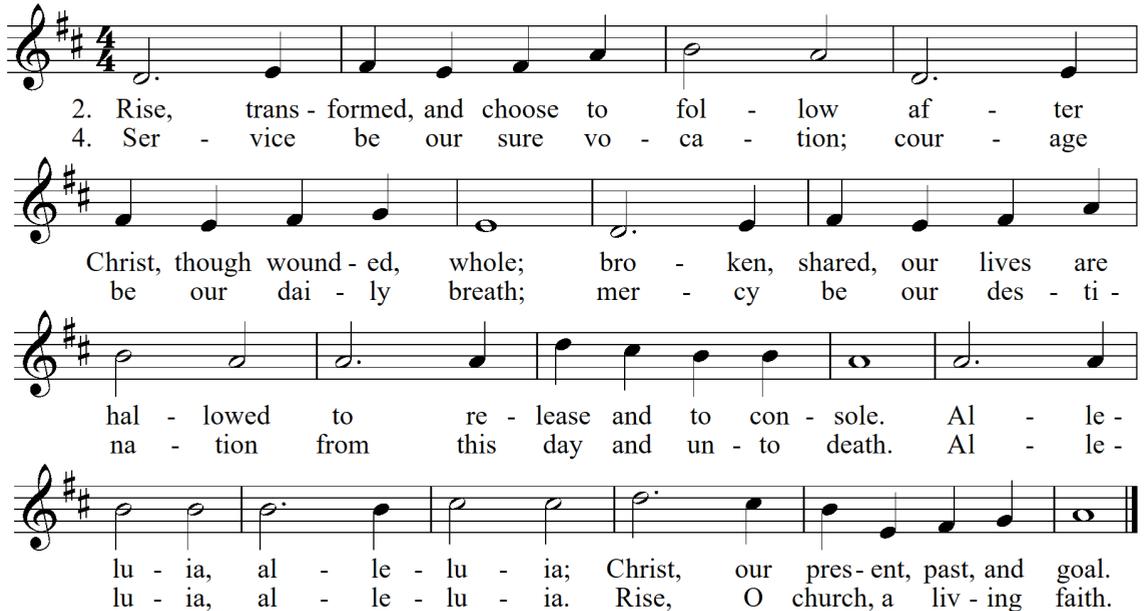
Go forth as children of the light. Shine forth in the darkness. Let the Gospel become flesh in you, and may the love, peace, and joy of Christ radiate from your life. The blessings of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

Sending Song

#548 Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

[stanzas 2 and 4]



2. Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low af - ter
4. Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion; cour - age

Christ, though wound - ed, whole; bro - ken, shared, our lives are
be our dai - ly breath; mer - cy be our des - ti -

hal - lowed to re - lease and to con - sole. Al - le -
na - tion from this day and un - to death. Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia; Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

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Dismissal

Go forth as light into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"

¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50**

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown

a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said:] "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Next Sunday's Readings: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a].

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Tracks 1 and 2
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