

# *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

**Sunday, February 7, 2021**

**Sunday Morning Worship**

*Please remember to pick up your communion elements on your way to your seats.*

## **Call to Worship**

Jesus said: You are the light of the world.  
Let our light shine, giving glory to God.  
Do all things for the sake of the gospel.  
So may we share in the blessings of God.  
The Lord called out: Whom shall I send?  
I answered: Here I am; send me.

## **Opening Prayer**

Faithful God, you have appointed us your witnesses, to be light that shines in the world. Let us not hide the bright hope you have given us, but tell everyone your love, revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## **Invitation to Confession**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

## **Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that 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 heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

## **Prayer of Illumination**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

## **Scripture Readings**

Acts 8:26-39

*Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:*

*"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."*

*The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.*

**Sermon**

“Where You Lead, I Will Follow”

**Invitation to the Table**

**Communion Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Breaking the Bread and Sharing the Cup**

*Please partake of communion at this time in the service.*

**Prayer After Communion**

**Benediction and Sending**

## *For Daily Prayer at Home This Week*

### **Morning Household Prayer**

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. As I turn to you in prayer this morning, God, bless me with a sense of purpose. As I go out into this day, show me what I am to do.

Amen.

### **Evening Household Prayer**

Everlasting God, you have been here from the foundations of the earth. I give to you this day now ending, with all its gifts and failings. As I rest through the night, renew my strength and, in my dreams, lift me up on the wings of eagles. Amen.