



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Fremont, Ohio 43420

Pastor Tim Miller

93.1FM

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Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

Setting 3 with Holy Communion

*Congregation please stand as you are able.

Introduction

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe to” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

Prelude:

Blessed Are the Peacemakers

T. Birchwood

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns

Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

Noisy Offering: The Noisy Offering is given so children from our Companion Parish of Bumila Lutheran Church have the opportunity to attend school in the Mpwapwa Region. Thank you for your support of the children of our sister congregation in Bumila, Tanzania.

***Opening Hymn:**

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW 434

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***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.**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;**

we assume the worst about one another.

**Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

*Canticle of Praise

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading:

Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

R: A reading from Jeremiah, the 17th chapter.

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 1

- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- ² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**
- ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due
season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.
- ⁴ **It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- ⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

*For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope.
Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they
too will be raised to a new life beyond death.*

R: A reading from 1 Corinthians, the 15th chapter.


¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some
of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no
resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if
Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and
your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting
God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did
not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are
not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been
raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those
also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we
have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of
those who have died.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



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

*Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: ¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

***Sermon Hymn:** *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak* ELW 676

***Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

R: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

R: Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for people to be named)*. Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(10:30) Sr. Choir:

Trusting Jesus

F. Ritter

Offertory *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offering Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

C: Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

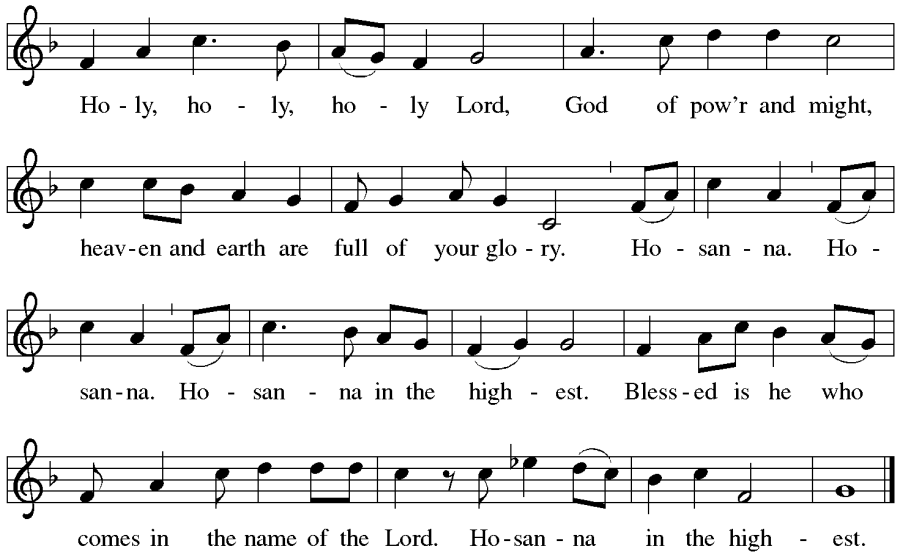
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Thanksgiving at the Table**

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

- Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
- Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
- Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
- Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
- Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
- Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
 the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

Communion will be continuous. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle. You will be handed the bread with the words, "The Body of Christ given for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!". Step to the Communion Assistant and take the cup. They will speak the words, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Empty cups may be placed in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.

If you prefer gluten- free bread, please let the Pastor know. If you prefer grape juice, please let the Communion Assistant know. If you prefer not to receive or have children who have not yet received, please let the Pastor know and he will offer a blessing.

Communion Hymns:

ELW 471 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

ELW 479 *We Come to the Hungry Feast*

*Post Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

P: Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

P: The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** *To Be Your Presence* **ELW 546**

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.
C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude:** *To God All Praise and Glory* **R. Wilson**

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REMINDER... *When Sandusky County is under a Level 3 Snow Advisory the church will be closed. This includes Sunday services as well as all weekday events, meetings and activities for that day. If we are under a level 1 or 2 snow emergency, the church will be open and if it's on a day of worship, we will have worship.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP. God plants us like trees beside streams of living water, provided by Jesus himself (Psalm 1:3; John 4:14). All who are thirsty, come and drink!

WE WARMLY WELCOME THE FREMONT FFA as they worship with us this morning.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to wish my twin daughters a Happy Birthday, Jackie Seibert and Jenny Conklin, by Betty Nielsen.

FAITH FILLED TRAVELERS NEWS

The time has come - it will not be long - the line forms outside the Fellowship Hall to sign in - grab a chair after you drop off your food in the kitchen. You will see someone you know and many new friends await to see a smile and hear your name! See you this afternoon!

Yvonne

THE YOUTH & GROWTH COMMITTEE is in need of a Sunday School Teacher for the 1st thru 3rd grade class. Thank you.

THANK YOU to my Faith Family for all the Birthday Cards and well wishes I received for my 90th Birthday. Ron Root.

THANK YOU to Pastor Tim and all of my friends at Faith for all the prayers, Christmas gifts and homemade candy. Thank You! Thank You! Love, Ruth Gerber.

DEAR FAITH FAMILY – Thank you for all the yarn donations! It will help keep me busy creating prayer shawls for your ministries. Sincerely, Ann Roth.

A CHICKEN & BISCUIT DINNER will be held at St. John Lutheran, 450 N. Rocky Ridge Rd., Oak Harbor, on Sunday, February 23rd, serving from 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. or until sold out. Free Will donations will be accepted and it is Dine In. See bulletin board for menu. Proceeds to benefit LWR Southern California Wildfires Mission.

NEW ADDRESSES:

Linda Woessner, Apt. 202, Otterbein Assisted Living, 20311 Pemberville Rd., Pemberville, OH 43450.

Minnie & Jamie Weber, 507 Brentwood Drive, Gibsonburg, OH 43431.

FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF – Feb. 16 to Feb. 23

Sunday

Feb. 16-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time
 11:30-6:00 p.m. Hall Reserved – FFT Trips - Yvonne Vogel

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

Monday

Feb. 17-----10 a.m. Valley View Worship with Holy Communion
 7:30 p.m. Dartball – Home vs. Clyde

Tuesday

Feb. 18-----2 p.m. Ruth Circle
 6:30 p.m. Executive Council
 7:00 p.m. Church Council

Wednesday

Feb. 19-----6:30 p.m. Bell Choir
 7:30 p.m. Praise Choir
 7:30 p.m. Sr. Choir

Thursday

Feb. 20-----9-3 p.m. Fellowship & Sew Day
 3 p.m. Christ Care

Friday

Feb. 21-----

Saturday

Feb. 22-----9:15 a.m. Christ Care

Sunday

Feb. 23-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time
 1-3 p.m. Hall reserved – 4-H – Jackie Seibert

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025: ATTENDANCE: 105 – OFFERING: \$2,399.52
SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY, FEB. 9, 2025: \$118.93; KC \$46.93; EAGLES \$72.00
