Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 9, 2025 10:15 am

Prelude

Announcements

Introduction

The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, 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.

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. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: ELW #413 "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!"

- 1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. 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, which wert and art and evermore shalt be.
- 3 Holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.
- 4 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 the Day

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Readings and Psalm

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Through a vision in the temple, the eighth-century prophet Isaiah is called by God to announce judgment against Israel. Aware of his sinfulness and shortcomings, Isaiah is initially hesitant. But when God calls, Isaiah responds, "Here am I; send me!"

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ² Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" [⁹And he said, "Go and say to this people:

'Keep listening, but do not comprehend;

keep looking, but do not understand.'

10 Make the mind of this people dull,

and stop their ears,

and shut their eyes,

so that they may not look with their eyes,

and listen with their ears,

and comprehend with their minds,

and turn and be healed."

¹¹Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said:

"Until cities lie waste

without inhabitant,

and houses without people,

and the land is utterly desolate;

¹² until the LORD sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

 $^{\rm 13}\,\text{Even}$ if a tenth part remain in it,

it will be burned again,

like a terebinth or an oak

whose stump remains standing

when it is felled."

The holy seed is its stump.]

Psalm: Psalm 138

- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.
- ² I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
 - ³ When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.
- ⁴ All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.
 - ⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.
 - ⁶ The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.
- ⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.
- ⁸ You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul delivers in a nutshell the story of the gospel that was given to him. In the lineage of the Christian faith, we have received the good news of God's love from generations of believers before us, and we continue to tell this story to the world.

¹ Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁶ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁶ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Jesus says, Follow me, and I will make you fish for people. Alleluia.

The Gospel of our Lord according to the book of Luke starting with the 5th Chapter. **Glory to you O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement leads these three fishermen to leave everything behind to become apostles.

¹Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, 2 he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." 5 Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." 6 When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. 8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; 10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." 11 When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of our Lord, **Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #574 "Here I Am, Lord"

1. "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. It is I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

- 2. "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away, I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain:
- 3. "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain:

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Apostles' Creed

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

Offering

Offering Hymn: ELW #677 "This Little Light of Mine"

1. This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a ;let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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Offering Prayer

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. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence.

God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, provide protection from the elements and other hazards to all whose work brings them outside: for fishers, ranchers, line workers, and construction crews. Guide us to live carefully alongside the wonders of the land and waters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind (*especially* Arlen, Lan-Shiang, Vivian, Ken, Deb, Ruth, Barry, Monica, Chloe, Jeff, Jenny, Dennis, Caroline, Paul, Jeannie, Gregg Nelson and the Schwantes family). Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We thank you for those who have courageously gone before us in the faith. May we too show a deep trust in you throughout our lives. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Preface

Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

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

Distribution Hymn: ELW #491 "Come, Let Us Eat"

- 1. Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread, come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread. Our Lord's body let us take together, our Lord's body let us take together.
- 2. Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured. Jesus' blood poured let us drink together, Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.
- 3. In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest. in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest. In the presence of our Lord we gather, in the presence of our Lord we gather.
- 4. Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word, rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word. Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom, Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

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Post-communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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. Amen.

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: ELW #575 "In Christ Called to Baptize"

- 1. In Christ called to baptize, we witness to grace and gather a people from each land and race. In deep, flowing waters, we share in Christ's death, then rising to new life, give thanks with each breath.
- 2. In Christ called to banquet, one table we share, a haven of welcome, a circle of care. Although we are many, we share in one bread. On cup of thanksgiving proclaims Christ, our head.
- 3. In Christ called to witness, by grace we will preach the lifegiving gospel; God's love we will teach. By grace may our living give proof to our praise in costly compassion reflecting Christ's ways.

4. Unite us, anoint us, O Spirit of love, for you are within us, around us, above. Equip us for service with gifts you bestow. In Christ is our calling, in Christ may we grow.

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Announcements

- **Thank You** Jenna Couch for leading worship today.
- ♣ Calvary is looking for one more volunteer to join the Call Committee. Please see Bob or Eric if interested.
- ♣ Prayers: Please continue to keep our members and loved ones in your prayers, including Arlen, Lan-Shiang, Vivian, Ken, Deb, Ruth, Barry, Monica, Chloe, Jeff, Jenny, Dennis, Caroline, Paul, Jeannie, Gregg Nelson and the Schwantes family.

Calvary Lutheran Church 19216 Rapidan Avenue Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Pastor

Ministers: All Members

Church Phone: 507-278-3317 E-mail: office@calvaryrapidan.org

Website: calvaryrapidan.org

Facebook: Calvary Lutheran Rapidan

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