

Sunday, February 10, 2019
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE

"Tune For a Trumpet"

Gilbert Martin

***GATHERING SONG**

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!"

ELW 413

**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!**

**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.**

**Holy, 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.**

**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!**

***GREETING**

P *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

G **And also with you.**

***GLORY TO GOD vs. 1**

pg. 205

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P *Most holy God,*

G **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!

FIRST READING

Isaiah 6:1-13

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word in the midst of the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy';
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD."

⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,
"Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant."

Reflection

This text is the call of Jeremiah. What does the Lord tell Jeremiah about his calling? (verses 4-5) What is Jeremiah's response? (verse 6) We might paraphrase what Jeremiah said as, "Wait! I'm not ready! Send someone else! Or maybe I'll be ready when I'm older and can speak with a glib tongue." The Lord has an answer for Jeremiah's excuses. What is it? (verse 7) What is the Lord's promise to Jeremiah? (verse 8) What does the Lord give to Jeremiah? (verse 9) What is his assignment? (verse 10) This reminds me of what Jesus told the disciples in Mark 13:11. You don't have to worry about what you will say, because the Holy Spirit will give you the words. Jeremiah indeed had words that would pluck up, pull down, destroy, and overthrow, and he got into trouble with the authorities when he spoke them, and he didn't like what he had to say. How are we to hear the words the Lord spoke to Jeremiah? Are there any ways in which you are called to be a prophet? Who do you know who is a prophet today? What is the message they are speaking?

PSALM 138

¹In you, O LORD, have I | taken refuge;
let me never be | put to shame.

²**In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free;**
incline your ear to | me and save me.

³Be my strong rock, a castle to | keep me safe;
you are my crag | and my stronghold.

⁴**Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor.**

⁵For you are my hope, | O Lord GOD,
my confidence since | I was young.

⁶**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have |
been my strength;
my praise shall be al- | ways of you.**

Reflection

This psalm might have been written by Jeremiah or someone like him. What is the main concern of the psalmist? (verses 1-4) What gives the psalmist confidence? (verses 5-6) How does the psalmist respond to God's strength? Can you think of a time in your life when you have needed to know that God is with you? How did you pray at that time? How does God's strength continue to sustain you?

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

¹If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Reflection

This chapter is one of the most famous in the Bible. It is often used in weddings as a reading, very appropriately, for it outlines the ways spouses are to treat each other in love. I don't think, though, that this was Paul's intent in this part of his letter to the Corinthians. He suggests that in the church we are to treat one another with mutual self-giving concern and care. As you read this chapter, which of Paul's admonitions in it strikes you most forcefully? How might these words help us to think about how we all belong together in the church?

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

pg. 205

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior:
open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us;
speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the
good news that you bring.**

***GOSPEL**

Luke 5:1-11

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

²¹Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Reflection

The gospel reading last week was the beginning of this passage, in which Jesus reads the Scripture from Isaiah that he either chose, or that was assigned for the day. Reread the scripture (see Luke 4:18-19). What does he say about the promise in this Scripture? (verse 21) As I read the story, I think the people in the synagogue were proud of him—such a great preacher!—but didn't take what he said seriously. It seems like they responded as we do when we hear Dr. Martin Luther King's speech/sermon about his dream—what a beautiful speech! I hope it happens that way someday. The people responded in much the same way Jeremiah responded to the Lord's call: Sounds good. But not me—I'm not ready for this. Jesus was reading their minds—not what they said ("hometown proud!") but what they were thinking. ("Nice sermon! Now go somewhere else if you want to see it happen.") Jesus, I think, is responding to their reluctance to see things change, and he looks back at the time of Elijah, who found refuge not in his own country but far away. This reminds me of Paul's word to the people of Corinth in 2 Corinthians 6:1-2. It's easy to admire the words, as we do MLK's, but put off anything that needs to be done until later, because we're not ready now. Jesus is calling on those who hear him, from his hometown, to act NOW, because no matter what we think, God is ready now! (verses 23-27) What was their reaction? (verses 28-29) May prayer for all of us,

especially me, is that we will be ready when God calls us, and we will hear clearly what God is saying to us!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kris Langdon

SERMON

"Amazing Grace"

Rev. Roger Lenander

SONG OF THE DAY

"This Is Amazing Grace"

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Refrain

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings *Refrain*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy *Refrain*

***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!

***PRAYER SONG**

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"

ELW 528

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia!

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Give us courage to answer your call and keep us faithful to your life-giving word. Send us out to be the good news of your love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the earth. For tundra and forests, grasslands and deserts; for those who fish and those who farm. For ranchers, gardeners, and all whose work brings food to our tables. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations. Grant wisdom to those in authority. Strengthen peacekeepers, ambassadors, military personnel, and disaster relief workers. Protect families who have to leave their homes because of war, natural disasters, or rejection by their communities. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those in need. For those whose lives are in turmoil; for those who wrestle with addiction; for those burdened by anxiety and self-doubt. For those who grieve, and those who are ill *especially Marlene, Dorothy, Irene, Jeff, Trina, Linda, Elaine, Lisa and her baby Lara*, and for those we name before you aloud or silently in our hearts (pause for 10 seconds). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For this assembly. For those who prepare this space for worship and those who mentor others in the faith; for those who nurture fellowship within this congregation and those who reach out in service to our community. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died and now rest in your presence. Sustain us in hope of the resurrection and bring us into the joy of unending life in you. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen!

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

G **And also with you!**

OFFERTORY

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

ELW 583

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*

Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee. *Refrain*

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(final refrain)*

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P *God of all creation,*

C **all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

***DIALOGUE**

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.**

***PREFACE**

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:*

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P *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.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P *Gathered together in one baptism, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

C **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!**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P *Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.*

***BLESSING**

P *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace.*

C **Amen!**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P *We thank you, O God,*

C **that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare,
the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive
free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

***BENEDICTION**

P *The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,*

*and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the \dagger Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.*

☩ Amen!

***SENDING SONG**

"I Will Follow"

**Where You go I'll go
Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move
I will follow**

**All Your ways are good
All Your ways are sure
I will trust in You alone
Higher than my sight
High above my life
I will trust in You alone**

Refrain

**Where You go I'll go
Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move
I will follow You
Whom You love I'll love
How You serve I'll serve
If this life I lose
I will follow You**

**Light into the world
Light into my life
I will live for You alone
You're the One I seek
Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone
In You alone *Refrain***

Bridge

**In You there's life everlasting
In You there's freedom for my soul
In You there's joy unending joy
And I will follow *Refrain***

Ending

I will follow You

I will follow You
I will follow You

***DISMISSAL**

P *Go in peace. Christ is your light.*

G **Thanks be to God!**