

February 6, 2021 – Epiphany 5

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Robert Cooke

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn: Oh How Good It Is!

Gathering of the Community

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

**And also with you.**

In the beginning before time, before people, before the world began,

**God was.**

Here and now, among us, beside us, enlisting the people of earth for the  
purposes of heaven,

**God is.**

In the future, when we have turned to dust and all we know has found its  
fulfillment,

**God will be.**

Not denying the world, but delighting in it, not condemning the world, but  
redeeming it, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

**God was, God is, God will be.**

Everlasting God,  
you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.  
Make us agents of your healing and wholeness,  
so that your good news may be made known  
to the ends of your creation,  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

## A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. ISAIAH 40:21-31

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark:

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew

him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

MARK 1:29-39

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

An Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God,

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

## Prayers of the People

*Prompt: Faithful God,*

*Response: we trust in your steadfast love .*

## Confession and Peace

Let us confess our brokenness.

Because you made the world,  
and intended it to be a good place,  
and called its people your children;  
Because, when things seemed at their worst,  
you came in Christ to bring out the best in us;  
so, gracious God, we gladly say:

**Goodness is stronger than evil,  
Love is stronger than hate,  
Light is stronger than darkness,  
Truth is stronger than lies.**

Because confusion can reign inside us,  
despite our faith;  
Because anger, tension, bitterness and envy  
distort our vision;  
Because our minds sometimes worry small things  
out of all proportion;  
Because we do not always get it right,  
we want to believe;

**Goodness is stronger than evil,  
Love is stronger than hate,  
Light is stronger than darkness,  
Truth is stronger than lies.**

Lord, hear our prayer,  
and change our lives  
until we illustrate the grace  
of the God who makes all things new. **Amen.**

Not an easy peace,  
not an insignificant peace,  
not a half-hearted peace,  
but the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with us now.  
Let us share it with each.

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

Hymn: Seek Ye First

Eucharistic Prayer #5  
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 our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,  
for the gift of a world full of wonder,  
and for our life which comes from you.  
By your power you sustain the universe.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

You created us to love you with all our heart,  
and to love each other as ourselves,  
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son,  
you bring healing to our world  
and gather us into one great family.  
Therefore, with all who serve you  
on earth and in heaven,  
we praise your wonderful name, as we sing (say),  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**  
**God of power and might,**  
**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father,  
because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us  
you showed us how much you love us.  
He cares for the poor and the hungry.  
He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back  
but overcame hatred with love.

On the cross  
he defeated the power of sin and death.  
By raising him from the dead  
you show us the power of your love  
to bring new life to all your people.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

On the night before he gave up his life for us,  
Jesus, at supper with his friends,  
took bread, gave thanks to you,  
broke it, and gave it to them,  
saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it:  
this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,  
said the blessing, gave it to his friends,  
and said, "Drink this, all of you:  
this is the cup of my blood,  
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many,  
so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me."  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Gracious God,  
with this bread and wine  
we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,  
and we offer ourselves to you in him.  
Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts,  
that we may know the presence of Jesus  
in the breaking of bread,

and share in the life  
of the family of your children.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Father, you call us to be your servants;  
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,  
that all the world may gather in joy  
at the table of your kingdom.  
We sing your praise, almighty Father,  
through Jesus, our Lord,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,  
**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 for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread #6

We break the bread of life,  
And that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us,**  
**Light in the midst of us,**  
**Bring us to light and life.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

The Communion

Hymn: Be Still

Prayer after Communion

For all that God can do within us, for all that God can do without us,

**Thanks be to God.**

For all in whom Christ lived before us, for all in whom Christ lives beside us,

**Thanks be to God.**

For all the Spirit wants to bring us, for where the Spirit wants to send us,

**Thanks be to God.**

Blessing & Dismissal

Hymn: **We Will Not Be Silent**

Out of the deep you lift us; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**

Safe from our enemies; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**

And when we call for mercy; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**

You save us from the grave; **Lord we praise your Holy Name; And**

**We Will Not Be Silent; We Will Not Be Silent**

**We Will Not Be Silent; Lord we praise your Holy Name Oh**

**We Will Not Be Silent; We Will Not Be Silent**

**We Will Not Be Silent; Lord we praise your Holy Name**

Your anger lasts a moment; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**

But your favour lasts for life; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**

With the morning come rejoicing; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**

Though we weep all through the night; **Lord we praise your Holy Name;**

**And**

**Refrain**



Lord to you we call for mercy; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**  
If we fall where is the gain; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**  
For as dust we cannot praise you; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**  
Nor your faithfulness proclaim; **Lord we praise your Holy Name; And**

### **Refrain**

From weeping into dancing; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**  
From sorrow into joy; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**  
Lord our hearts will not be silent; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**  
We'll praise you forever more; **Lord we praise your Holy Name; And**

### **Refrain**