



The 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, CA
February 9, 2025

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person or online (on Facebook Live or archived at www.holyshepherd.org.) May you know God's grace as we worship.

Know that You Are Welcome! We share in Holy Communion during the context of this morning's service. This is the table of the Lord. Jesus is the host and we are his guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live!

Offerings are an Act of Worship! Offerings are one way we express both our gratitude for God's wondrous love and our commitment to for work of ministry. To support our work electronically, visit www.holyshepherd.org and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

▲ indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able

GATHERING MUSIC COME TO JESUS
Lyrics and Music by Josh Blakesley and Sarah Hart

WORDS OF WELCOME

▲ OUR WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: On the first day of creation, God said, "Let there be light." In the person of Jesus Christ, God said, "I am the Light of the world." By the power of the Spirit, God has ignited the light of life in us.

P: **But we have focused on the darkness that surrounds and overwhelms us, that frightens and numbs us.**

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: **But we have used artificial lights to try and eliminate the darkness in our lives.**

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: **But we have tried to deny the power of the darkness by pretending that it isn't there.**

L: Forgive us, O God, for these our actions of failure and our failures to act.

P: **Forgive us, Lord God, for putting our trust in ourselves rather than You.**

L: Hear the good news! God has come as a light in the darkness. In the light of Christ we find forgiveness for our past, strength for our present and hope for our future. In Christ, we are enabled to begin life anew. Thanks be to God!

▲ **GATHERING SONG** CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT
Lyrics and Music by Bernadette Farrell / ELW #715

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people
Light for the world to see.**

Refrain:

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.**

[Refrain]

**Longing for food, many are hungry
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed.**

[Refrain]

**Many the gifts, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another
Making Your kingdom come.**

[Refrain]

▲ OUR OPENING SENTENCES

L: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P: **He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him.**

L: In him was life, and that life was the light of all people.

P: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

L: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

P: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

L: So let us pray:

P: Healing Lord, by your goodness you healed many who were ill, even raising the dead to life. Restore us to new life, healing our hearts, minds, and spirits, so that we may proclaim praise and gratitude for your compassion to all who will hear. In the name of the one who is himself new life, Jesus Christ our savior. Amen.

THE LESSON

Luke 7:1-17

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly and who was ill and close to death. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave.

When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us." And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me, and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it."

When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and, turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow, and with her was a large crowd from the town.

When the Lord saw her, he was moved with compassion for her and said to her, "Do not cry." Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stopped. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" The dead

man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" This word about him spread throughout the whole of Judea and all the surrounding region.

KIDTALK

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

IF NOT NOW

Lyrics and Music by Carrie Newcomer

*I see sorrows and troubles in this land;
I see heartache and anger in this land;
Although we have these struggles,
Let's make the change we can;
If not now ... if not now,
Lord, tell me when?*

Refrain

*If not now, tell me when;
If not now, tell me when;
We may never see this moment
or place in time again;
If not now ... if not now,
Lord, tell me when?*

*I may one day come to understand;
I may one day see love across the land;
For now I'll make the journey
and walk with faith in hand;
If not now ... if not now,
Lord, tell me when?*

(Refrain)

(Bridge) *We'll work until it's done,
every daughter, every son;
Every soul that's ever longed
for something better ...
Something brighter*

*It will take a change of heart for this to mend
It will take a change of heart for this to end
But miracles do happen ...
every shining now and then
If not now ... if not now,
Lord, tell me when?*
(Refrain)

(Closing) *And miracles do happen ...
every shining now and then
If not now ... if not now,
Lord, tell me when?
If not now ... if not now,
Lord, tell me when?*

THE SERMON

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY

based on Philippians 2

As people of God, we find our hope and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

OFFERTORY

THE GOOD NEWS

Lyrics and Music by Tom Henry

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We pray for a world in need, utilizing the prayer refrain:
"Source of all goodness, **let there be light.**"

▲ THE COMMUNION LITANY

L: Lord Jesus, you came to us as a tiny Baby born in danger and discomfort. You grew into a Man whom the world can never forget. You offered up your body and blood for the sake of our broken lives and our broken world. So come to us now in this bread and this wine. Unite us and strengthen us by your presence and through your Word, that we might be your faithful children in this world.

P: **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.**

L: 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

As we share in the gift of Holy Communion, we invite you to come down the center aisle and kneel/stand at the altar rail to receive the bread and wine. After consuming the elements, please deposit your empty cup in the basket and return to your seat by the side aisle.

THE BREAD HAS BEEN BROKEN

Lyrics and Music by Jeff Deyo

***Come to the table, and worship the Savior
Taste what forgiveness is for
His mercy will lead us, the grace of God feed us
Making us hungry for more
His body was given for you and me
Look on the cross and believe***

Refrain

***The Bread has been broken
Our eyes have been opened
Oh come Lord restore and renew
The Word has been spoken
So humbled and broken
We do all in remembrance of You***

***The Bread has been broken
And all those who know Him
Believe without touching a scar
His death reconciled us, we live, sanctified
To become what we already are
To Him who loves us and freed us to love
Be glory, honor and praise
(Refrain)***

Bridge: ***His body was given for you and for me
Look on the cross and believe
(Refrain)***

THOSE WHO SEE LIGHT

Lyrics and Music by Nancy Elze and Donald Osuna

***Those who see light can walk in the dark.
Those who see love can see God.
Those who look up will discover God's face,
those who look down will uncover God's path,
those who perceive God is here with us now
will see God's return.***

***Those who see light can walk in the dark.
Those who see love can see God.
Those who have witnessed the sunrise and set,
those who have studied a flower unfold,
those who have focused on land, sea, and sky
have seen Jesus Christ.***

*Those who see light can walk in the dark.
Those who see love can see God.
Those who see good in each person they meet,
those who look after their neighbors in need,
those who believe God's now living in them
will see God's return.*

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BENEDICTION

L: 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 (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

P: **Amen!**

▲ **SENDING SONG** HALLELUIAH IS OUR SONG
Lyrics and Music by Sarah Hart and Josh Blakesley

*What hope we have, even in the longest night
For the light will overcome
We will not fear, for we know the sun will rise
Hallelujah is our song*

*What peace we have, even in this wounded world
Where the battle rages on
We will not fear, for we know who heals our souls
Hallelujah is our song*

Refrain:

*Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
He is risen over all
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah is our song*

*What joy we have, for the stone is rolled away
And the tomb holds nothing now
No sting of death, no power over sin or grave
Hallelujah is our song
(Refrain)*

*What love we have, for the One who shed His blood
To redeem His broken ones
Now we shall live, sinners, we will rise to saints
Hallelujah is our song
(Refrain 2x)*

▲ THE CHARGE

L: Go in peace, to love God by serving your neighbor!
P: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING MUSIC HALLELUIAH IS OUR SONG (Reprise)

Thank you to this morning's Worship Team for sharing their gifts of music with us, including:

Tom Henry – Vocalist, Guitarist and Creative Director
Bethany Valentine – Vocalist
Diana Riveness Young — Vocalist
Elizabeth Humphrey — Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Marci Bauer – Vocalist
Bob Schmalz – Vocalist
Steve Swanback – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through the Gospel according to Luke this Epiphany season?
Next week's text is Luke 7:18-35.

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