

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Holstein, IA February 8, 2026 9:00 A.M.
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

The former things passed away, and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

ALL ARE WELCOME

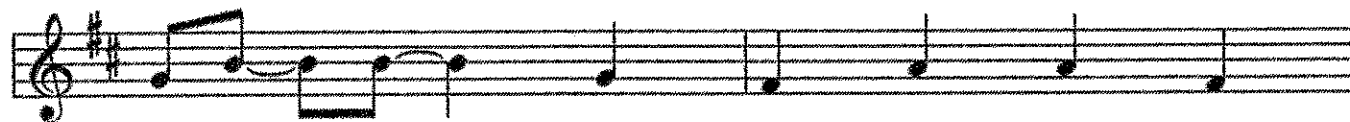
Hans Peterson
Larry Olson



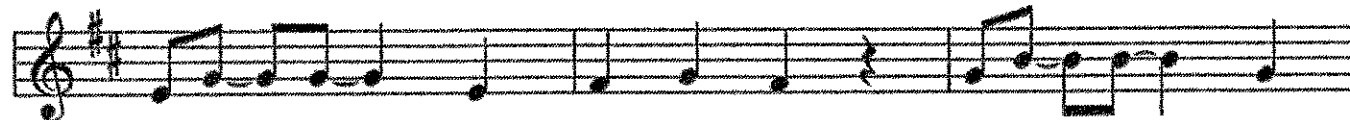
All are wel - come, friend and stran - ger at the ban - quet of the Sav - ior.



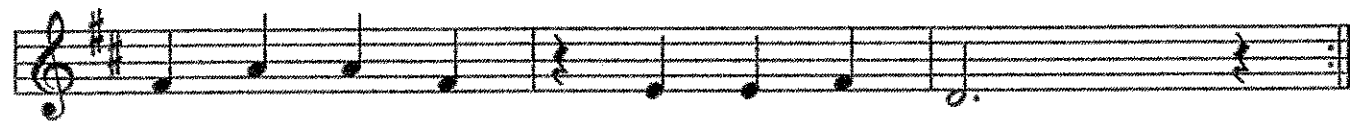
All are wel - come. All are wel - come here.



From the wo - man who comes cry - ing,
From the ones to who feel for - ten,
Go in to the streets and cit - ies,



leav - ing tears at Je - sus' feet, to the man who
those who sense their place is gone, to the ones who
to the farms and fam - i - lies, tell a - bout the



knows the right way but can - not see.
live in hun - ger, here you be - long.
splen - did ta - ble, God's mer - cy.

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Prayer of the Day

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Greetings from Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp

WORD

Isaiah 58:1-12

¹ Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. ³ "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. ¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112:1-10 **(Read Responsively)**

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!

² Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

- ³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
- ⁴ Light shines in the darkness and for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- ⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- ⁶ For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- ⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
- ⁸ Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- ⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.
- ¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed.

⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. ¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. ¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Alleluia



Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia, I am the light of the world.

Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia, I am the light of the world.

Those who fol - low me will not walk in dark - ness.

Those who fol - low me will have the light of life.

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Larry Olson
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Matthew 5:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message Pastor Ben McIntire

Hymn of the Day *Christ, Be Our Light* st. 1-4 #715

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 the People

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

MEAL

Children's Offering / Offering

Musical Offering *My Shepherd's Amazing Grace*

Offering Prayer

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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 our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

**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

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

Distribution

****Distribution of the Sacrament****

*All who trust in Christ's word are welcome to the table of this holy supper,
where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life.*

*Please tell the server if you desire grape juice as an alternative to wine,
or if you require a gluten-free wafer.*

Taste and See

#493

Prayer After Communion

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

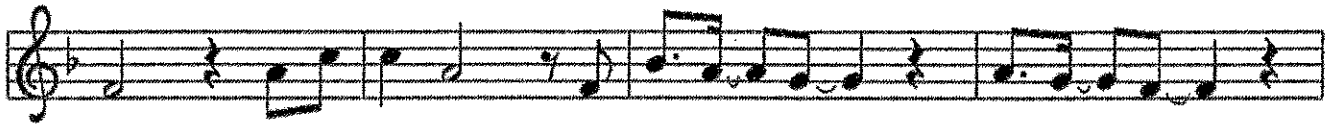
May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise

✝ bless you now and forever.

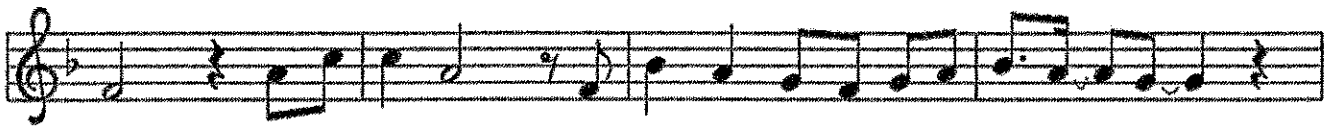
Amen.

Closing Song

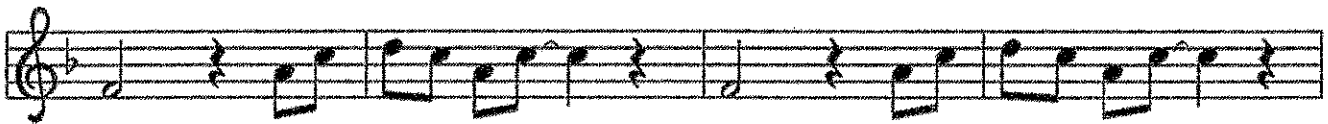
Go, Make Disciples



"Go, make dis - ci - ples, bap - tiz - ing them, teach - ing them.



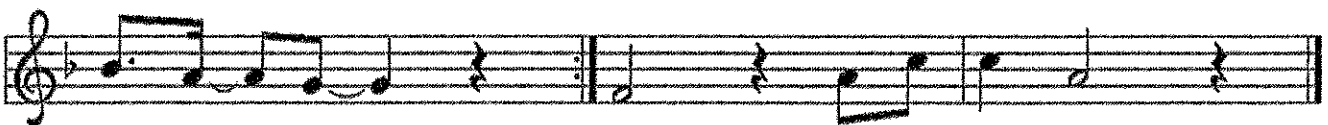
Go, make dis - ci - ples, for I am with you till the end of time.



Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light for the world.



Go, be a cit - y on a hill, so all can see that you're



serv - ing me. Go, make dis - ci - ples."

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GO, MAKE DISCIPLES, Handt Hanson

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Participants

Ministers:	All the members
Vicar:	Emily Anderson
Pulpit Supply:	Pastor Ben McIntire
DYME:	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist:	Sharen Borchers
Pianist:	Kris Kistenmacher
Lector:	Brock Boling
Deacons:	Reuben De La O and Susan Endrulat
Greeter:	Laura Peuse
Acolytes:	Lincoln Rasmus and Kelby Butcher
Special Music:	Sounds of Celebration Hand Bell Choir
Sound & Video:	Doug Wessling and Tyler Gebers
Coffee Hosts:	Cleo & Dean Breyfogle Lorraine & Marvin Todd

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, February 8 ~ Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion / Visitor from Ingham Okoboji
10:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Coffee and fellowship

WEDNESDAY, February 11

5:00 PM	LOGOS ~ "Gone Fishin'"
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THURSDAY, February 12

2:00 PM	"12 Women of the Bible" - Women's Bible Study
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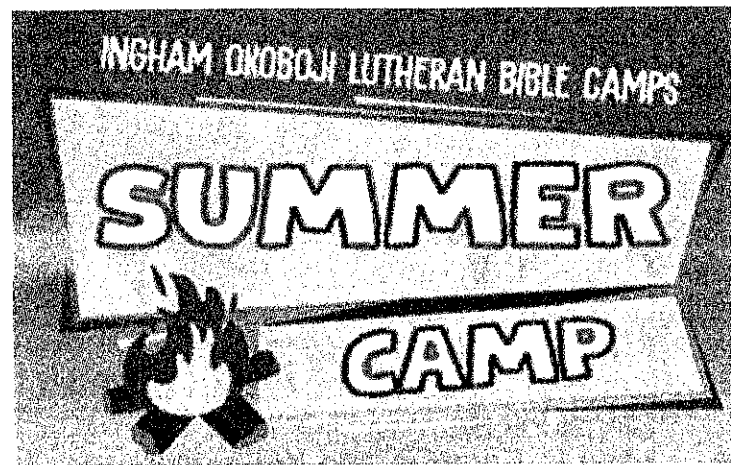
SUNDAY, February 15 ~ Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Coffee and fellowship
12:00 PM	Private Fellowship hall / Kitchen Rental



*Today our Altar Flowers are provided by
Susan Endrulat in memory and honor of
Harry & Esther Endrulat's wedding anniversary*





INGHAM SITE

Trailblazers (4th-6th) June 14-19
 Pathfinders (2nd-5th) June 14-16
 Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) June 17
 Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) June 18
 Trailblazers (4th-6th) July 5-10
 Pathfinders (2nd-5th) July 5-7
 Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 8
 Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 9
 Hand-in-Hand (Ages 4-6) July 10
 Trailblazers (4th-6th) July 12-17
 Pathfinders (2nd-5th) July 12-14
 Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 15
 Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 16
 Hand-in-Hand (Ages 4-6) July 17
 Jr. High (6th-9th) July 19-24
 Sr. High (9th-12th) July 26-31

Speaker: Rev. Riley Place



OKOBOJI SITE

Eldersiversity June 1-2

Speaker: Rev. Scott Meyer

Jr. High/Confirmation (6th-9th) June 7-12

Family Camp #1 June 14-19

Speakers: Rev. Ben & Faith Worley

Family Camp #2 June 21-26

Speaker: Rev. Steve Olcott

Family Camp #3 June 28-July 3

Speaker: Rev. Pat Quaid

Jr. High/Confirmation (6th-9th) July 5-10

Family Camp #4 July 12-17

Speaker: Dr. Kyle Fever

Family Camp #5 July 19-24

Speaker: Rev. Brian King

Family Camp #6 July 26-31

Speaker: Rev. Paul Cross

Family Camp #7 August 2-7

Speaker: Rev. Jon Anenson



SUMMER EVENTS

Ice Cream Social (Ingham) May 31
 Scandinavian Feast (Okoboji) July 31
 Glenn Henriksen Concert (Ok) July 31
 5K Fun Run (Okoboji) Aug. 1
 Quilt Auction (Okoboji) Aug. 1
 Golf Classic Aug. 15
 Hog Roast (Ingham) Aug. 23
 Sunday Worship 9:30 am/Brunch 10:30 am
 (Okoboji) Memorial Day-Labor Day

SUMMER THEME:
"TO KNOW HIS NAME"
-PSALM 135:13

REGISTER TODAY!
WWW.OKOBOJI.ORG