

# The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 12, 2023

## Hymn of Invocation

## His Mercy is More



What love could re-mem-ber no wrongs we have done? Om -  
What pa-tience would wait as we con-stant-ly roam? What  
What rich-es of kind-ness He lav-ished on us. His  
ni-scient, all know-ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown  
Fa-ther, so ten-der, is call-ing us home? He  
blood was the pay-ment; His life was the cost. We  
in-to a sea with-out bot-tom or shore, our  
wel-comes the weak-est, the vil-est, the poor. Our  
stood 'neath a debt we could nev-er af-ford. Our  
sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more.  
sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more. Praise the Lord,  
sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more.  
His mer-cy is more. Strong-er than dark-ness,  
new ev-'ry morn. Our sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more.

Tune: Matt Papa; Matt Boswell; Tune: © 2016 Getty Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734



# Confession and Absolution

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** **Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Confession of Sins

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## Absolution

- P** Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Savior Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen**



## Reflection on God's Forgiveness

*Zephaniah 3:14-17*

- P** Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!
- C** **The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.**
- P** On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.
- C** **The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing."**

## *Service of the Word*

### Psalm

*Psalm 2*

- P** Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?
- C** **The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,**
- P** "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us."
- C** **He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.**
- P** Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,
- C** **"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."**
- P** I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
- C** **Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.**
- P** You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."
- C** **Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.**
- P** Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.
- C** **Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**



## Gloria in Excelsis

- P** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
- C** We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You,  
We give You thanks for Your great glory,  
O Lord God, King of Heaven, Father Almighty.  
Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
You take away the sins of the world -  
Receive our prayer and have mercy on us.  
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone, Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, are Most High  
In the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Deuteronomy 30:15–20*

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
-



<sup>1</sup>Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, “Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, <sup>2</sup>but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. <sup>3</sup>And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.”

<sup>4</sup>These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. <sup>5</sup>And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes. If anyone would harm them, this is how he is doomed to be killed. <sup>6</sup>They have the power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire. <sup>7</sup>And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, <sup>8</sup>and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified. <sup>9</sup>For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, <sup>10</sup>and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth.

<sup>11</sup>But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.

<sup>12</sup>Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here!” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them.

<sup>13</sup>And at that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

<sup>14</sup>The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is soon to come.

<sup>15</sup>Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.” <sup>16</sup>And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, <sup>17</sup>saying,

“We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign. <sup>18</sup>The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth.”

<sup>19</sup>Then God’s temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus said:] “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

<sup>31</sup>“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

<sup>33</sup>“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

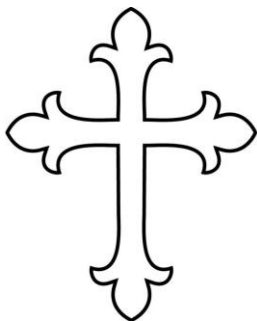
**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

---



## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.





# Sermon Hymn # 656

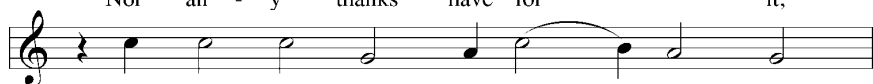
# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,  
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,  
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,  
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



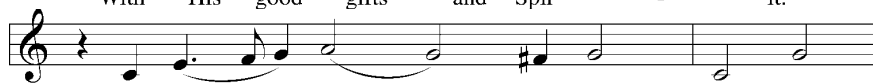
A trust - y shield and weap - on;  
 Soon were our loss ef - fect ed;  
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,  
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
 But for us fights the val - iant One,  
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
 He's by our side up - on the plain



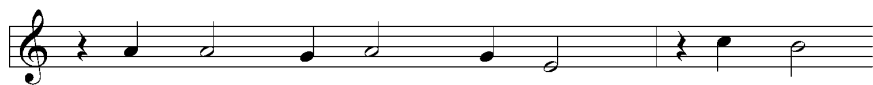
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.  
 Whom God Him - self e - lect ed.  
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means  
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus  
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce  
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might  
 Christ it is; Of Sab - a - oth Lord,  
 as he will, He can harm us none.  
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth  
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds  
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -  
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.  
 the field for - ev - er.  
 tle word can fell him.  
 dom ours re - main eth.



# Sermon

## Offering

*Please take a moment to sign and pass the “Record of Friendship” booklet or use the QR code located on the inside cover of the booklet.*

## Prayer Response

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

- P** Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
- C** **Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**  
**Hosanna, in the highest.**  
**Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord:**  
**Glory to You, O Lord in the highest.**



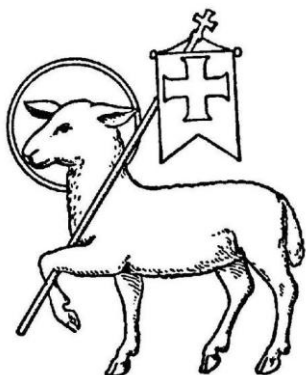
## Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

### Agnus Dei

- P** Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
- C** Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace. Amen.





# Distribution Hymn # 430

# My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -  
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es  
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly  
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would  
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their  
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake  
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,  
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,  
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
 Who at my need His life did spend!  
 And for His death They thirst and cry.  
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have  
 My dear Lord made away;  
 A murderer they save,  
 The Prince of Life they slay.  
 Yet cheerful He, To suff'ring goes,  
 That He His foes, From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home  
 My Lord on earth might have;  
 In death no friendly tomb  
 But what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say? Heav'n was His home  
 But mine the tomb, Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
 No story so divine!  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 Never was grief like Thine.  
 This is my friend,  
 In whose sweet praise  
 I all my days  
 Could gladly spend!



Distribution Hymn

I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee ev - 'ry hour, most gra - cious  
I need Thee ev - 'ry hour; stay thou near  
I need Thee ev - 'ry hour, in joy or  
I need Thee ev - 'ry hour, teach me Thy  
I need Thee ev - 'ry hour, Most Ho - ly

Lord; no ten - der voice like thine can peace af -  
by; temp - ta - tions lose their pow'r when Thou art  
pain; come quick - ly and a - bide, or life is  
will; and Thy rich pro - mis - es in me ful -  
One; O make me Thine in - deed, Thou Bles - sed

ford.  
nigh.  
vain. I need thee, O I need thee; ev - 'ry hour I need thee. O  
fill.  
Son!

bless me now, my Sa - vior; I come to thee.

Tune: Robert Lowry; Tune: Public domain

---



# Distribution Hymn # 597

# Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying



1 Wa - ter, blood, and Spir - it cry - ing, By their wit - ness  
 2 In a wa - t'ry grave are bur - ied All our sins that  
 3 Dark the way, yet Christ pre - cedes us, Past the scowl of  
 4 Though a - round us death is seeth - ing, God, His two - edged  
 5 Spir - it, wa - ter, blood en - treat - ing, Work - ing faith and



tes - ti - fy - ing To the One whose death - de - fy - ing  
 Je - sus car - ried; Christ, the Ark of Life, has fer - ried  
 death He leads us; Spreads a ta - ble where He feeds us  
 sword un - sheath - ing, By His Spir - it life is breath - ing  
 its com - plet - ing In the One whose death - de - feat - ing



Life has come, with life for all.  
 Us a - cross death's rag - ing flood.  
 With His bod - y and His blood.  
 Through the liv - ing, ac - tive Word.  
 Life has come, with life for all.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955; Tune: Jeffrey N. Blersch, 1967; Text: © 1999 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001220; Tune: © 2003 Jeffrey N. Blersch. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001220

## The Dismissal

## Nunc Dimittis

- P** Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace according to Your Word.  
**C** For my eyes have seen Your salvation,  
 Which You have prepared before the face of all people;  
 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of Your people  
 Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
-



# Closing Hymn # 805

# Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

△ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all  
crea- tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711; Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois; Text and tune: Public domain

## Benediction

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

---



## This Week at a Glance

### Today

- Worship Service – 9:00 AM
- [Adult Bible Study and Sunday School](#) - 10:30 AM, Downstairs
- Youth Confirmation – Following Sunday School, Downstairs

### Tuesday

- [Youth Group](#) 6:30 - 8:00 PM

### Wednesday

- [Men's Bible Study](#) 6:30 – 7:30 AM

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Join us for a Trivia Night](#) on Friday, March 3! Help the Youth from St. James and Good Shepherd get to the 2025 Youth Gathering! The Trivia Night will be held in the Auxiliary Gym at Metro-East Lutheran High School on Friday, March 3rd. The doors open at 6 p.m. and the game starts at 7 p.m. The cost is \$25/individual or \$200 for a table of 8. [Registration forms](#) are available online or on the church bulletin boards. We hope you will join us!

### [Chili Cook-off and Family Game Night](#)– Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 PM

Bring the family, your favorite pot of chili and game for a night of fun and fellowship! If chili isn't your forte, bring a dessert to share! Drinks and sides will be provided. Prizes will be awarded!! For more information or questions call Tina Enke 618-795-0102, Jen Weber 618-407-5322, or the church office.

### ["Art of Marriage" retreat](#) - March 10-11

**Register now to reserve your spot for this event!** Call Cheryl with any questions – 618-531-2186

[February is Healthy Eating Month at Glen-Ed Pantry.](#) Did you know that client families choose their own foods, and the Pantry encourages healthy shopping choices? Help the pantry stock their shelves with healthy options by donating foods such as whole grain pasta, fruit packed in 100% juice, low sodium vegetables, soups and sauces as well as items that are fat-free and sugar free.

Donation idea: Consider using your reward points from the grocery store to purchase pantry donations. Questions about Glen-Ed Pantry? Call Tina Barnard - 618-406-1932





Has anyone ever challenged your Christian faith? Have you ever suffered ridicule for being a Christian? What are some of the arguments or challenges people make against believing in Jesus and how do we make a defense? On our most recent installment of [Craving Answers Craving God](#) Aaron and Chuck

discuss our call to defend the faith.

**Concordia Seminary Guild Lunch - March 3, 2023**

Registration: 11:30 a.m. in Koburg Hall - Luncheon: Noon

Program: **500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's Translation of the New Testament**, Dr. Daniel Harmelink, Concordia Historical Institute Executive Director

**Cost: \$15 per person (\$18 at the door) - Deadline: Feb. 17, 2023**

Mail reservation with your check(s) made payable to Concordia Seminary Guild to: Mary Jane Autry, 1160 London Circle Lane, Apt. 206, Fenton, MO 63026



[St. James Attendance](#)



**St. James Lutheran Church**

146 North Main

**P.O. Box 644**

Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034

Office: 618.288.6120

Email: [contact@stjamesglencarbon.org](mailto:contact@stjamesglencarbon.org)

[www.stjamesglencarbon.org](http://www.stjamesglencarbon.org)