

LARGE PRINT

Worship Celebration

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4, 2024 + 9 AM

We Gather as God's Children

Words of Welcome

Opportunities for Ministry

Prelude

Fugue in E^b "St. Anne" Johann Sebastian Bach
BWV 552b (part 1)

+ Call to Worship

Has it not been told to us since the beginning?

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.

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+ Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

UMH 110

Prayers of the People (Seeking & Offering Peace)

Music of Meditation & Reflection

Arise, My Soul Arise

Lewis Edson
arr. Josh Kraybill

We Grow in God's Word

Leader: With disciples of every time and place,
let us listen for the word of God among us.

People: *Our ears and hearts are open.*

First Lesson - Exodus 19.3-6 (NRSVUE)

³Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: ⁴'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson - Isaiah 40.21-31 (NRSVUE)

²¹ 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?

²² 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,

²³ who brings princes to naught
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴ 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.

²⁵ To whom, then, will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

- 26 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.
- 27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and assert, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- 28 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.
- 29 He gives power to the faint
and strengthens the powerless.
- 30 Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted,
- 31 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.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon - *The Lord Will Raise You Up*

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely

Invitation to Give Our Tithes and Offerings
Offertory Choir Anthem

Ticket to the Kingdom

Donald Moore

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
 always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
 or you had formed the earth,
 from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God.
You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed,
 your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
 made covenant to be our sovereign God,
 and spoke to us through your prophets.
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.

In his baptism and in table fellowship he took his place with sinners.
Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples,
and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (*God*),
now and for ever.

Amen.

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The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Bell Choir Anthem

Watercolors

Sandra Eithun

Hymn

The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young

UMH 118

Prayer after Communion

***Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.***

Grant that we may go into the world

in the strength of your Spirit,

to give ourselves for others,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas

*You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord, "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"*

*And God will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

*The snare of the fowler will never capture you
and famine will bring you no fear.
Under his wings your refuge,
his faithfulness your shield.*

*And God will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

*You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,
Though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come.*

*And God will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

*For to his angels he's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways.
Upon their hands, they will bear you up
lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

***And God will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.***

Michael Joncas, 1979 (adapted from Psalm 91) / ©1979 New Dawn Music /
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+ Benediction

Postlude

Musette

Johann Sebastian Bach

***Our service of worship is ended.
Our worship through service now begins.***

Morning Prayer:

In the morning, while it was still very dark,
Jesus got up and went out to a
Deserted place, and there he prayed.
As I turn to you in prayer this morning God,
Bless me with a sense of purpose.
As I go out into this day, show me
What I am to do. Amen.

Evening Prayer:

Everlasting God, you have been here
From the foundations of the earth.
I give to you this day now ending,
With all its gifts and failings.
As I rest through the night,
Renew my strength and, in my dreams,
Lift me up on the wings of eagles. Amen.

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