

EPIPHANY 6
FEBRUARY 16, 2025



ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PRESIDING: PASTOR BRIGETTE
WORSHIP ASSISTANT: KARLA STOKER
PEW EDITION

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
Welcome to St. Matthew's! We're glad you're here!

PRELUDE Grave and Adagio from Organ Sonata No 2

Felix Mendelssohn

ONE: Please join me as we proclaim our vision.

ALL: St. Matthew's vision is a community deeply rooted in the love of God, energetically engaged in meaningful relationships with our neighbors near and far, committed to rich diversity, intentional inclusion, bold advocacy, and care for creation to connect people to God and transform lives.

ONE: Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed are" and the "woe tos" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him and offers power to heal us all.

Let us take a moment to quiet our hearts and minds from the business and stresses of the week and prepare for worship.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as the People of God.

PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT.

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We see light, hope, and joy;

ALL: We bring heart, soul, mind, and body;

ONE: We share blessings and fears;

ALL: We bring faith and doubt.

ONE: With all that we are and all that we have, let us worship God. **ALL: AMEN**

(written by Beth Merrill Neel)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

ONE: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation. **ALL: Amen**

ALL: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the
Lord. *(Psalm 98:7-8)*

Water is poured into the font.

ONE: We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as your children,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

ONE: Almighty God,
 who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
 and forgives us all our sins,
 strengthen us in all goodness
 and by the power of the Holy Spirit
 keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **ALL: AMEN**

GATHERING SONG: PRAISE THE ALMIGHTY!

ELW877



1 Praise the Al - might - y! Lord, I a - dore you!
 2 Trust not in ru - lers; they are but mor - tal;
 3 Lord, you give jus - tice in all op - res - sion,
 4 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly,



Yes, I will laud you un - til death;
 earth - born they are and soon de - cay.
 main - tain the right, set pris - 'ners free.
 the Lord who does such won - drous things!



with songs and an - thems I come be - fore you
 Vain are their coun - sels at life's last por - tal,
 You feed the hun - gry in your com - pas - sion;
 All that has be - ing, to praise God sole - ly,



as long as you al - low me breath. From you my life
 when the cold grave en - gulf's its prey. Since mor - tals can
 heal - ing and life flow from your tree. Hap - py are all
 with hap - py heart its a - men sings! Chil - dren of God,



and all things came; all the day long I bless your name.
 no help af - ford, place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
 who hope in God, whose grace is rich and deep and broad!
 with saints at rest, praise Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest!



Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

GREETING

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

ALL: And also, with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ONE: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **ALL: AMEN**

PLEASE BE SEATED.

WORD

God Speaks to Us in Scripture Reading, Preaching and Song.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 17:5-10

Karla Stoker

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

ONE: A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

⁵ Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

ONE: Word of God Word of Life

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

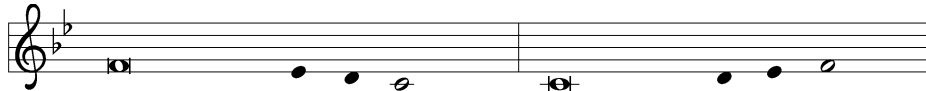
Leandra Ludlam

Refrain



They are like trees plant-ed by streams of wa - ter.

Psalm tone



- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel [|] of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats [|] of the scornful!
² **Their delight is in the law [|] of the LORD,**
and they meditate on God's teaching [|] day and night. R



They are like trees plant-ed by streams of wa - ter.

- ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with
leaves that [|] do not wither;
everything they [|] do shall prosper.
⁴ **It is not so [|] with the wicked;**
they are like chaff which the wind [|] blows away.
⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when [|] judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council [|] of the righteous.
⁶ **For the LORD knows the way [|] of the righteous,**
but the way of the wicked shall [|] be destroyed. R



They are like trees plant-ed by streams of wa - ter.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Karla Stoker

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

ONE: A Reading from the letter to the church in Corinth

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has

been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

ONE: Word of God Word of Life

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL Luke 6:17-26

Pastor Brigette Weier

ONE: The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

ONE: ¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,

for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

ONE: This is the Gospel of the
Lord **ALL:** Praise to you, O Christ.
PLEASE BE SEATED.

INTERGENERATIONAL MESSAGE

Pastor Brigette Weier

SERMON

Pastor Brigette Weier

PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT.



1 *Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne y aún re-par-te,*
 1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
 2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-fring con-so-la-tion;
 3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;
 4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



cuan-do al-guien pa-sa sed y a-gua nos da,
 when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
 when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
 when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
 when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce:
 when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing;
 when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us;
 when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble;
 when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



Va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar;
 We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.
 we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

2 *Cuando alguno sufre y logra su consuelo,* 3 *Cuando crece la alegría y nos inunda,*
cuando espera y no se cansa de esperar, *cuando dicen nuestros labios la verdad,*
cuando amamos, aunque el odio nos rodee: *cuando amamos el sentir de los sencillos:*
 Estribillo Estribillo

4 *Cuando abunda el bien y llena los hogares,*
cuando alguien donde hay guerra pone paz,
cuando "hermano" le llamamos al extraño:
 Estribillo

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951
 Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano, b. 1934
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PLEASE BE SEATED.

The Worship Assistant leads the prayers, and assembly responds at the conclusion of each petition.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ONE: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A BRIEF SILENCE.

ONE Blessed is your church..... God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

ONE: Blessed are those in need. Give to all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind, all who are lonely or anxious, all who grieve, and to those that advocate and care for those in need.

Especially those we name out loud and quietly in our hearts. **A brief silence.** (names may be said out loud by the congregation at this time.)

Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

ONE: Let us join together to offer our prayers to the One who Loves.

Whether inscribed on paper or etched upon our hearts, we weave them into the hearts of this community and let them rise like incense during the Easter Vigil.

As the congregation comes forward with prayers, quiet music is played in the background. When all is complete, the presiding minister continues.

ONE: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

ALL: AMEN

PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you always.

ALL: And also, with you.

ONE: Say to the people viewing online Peace be with you.

ONE: Say to your neighbors next you Peace be with you.

MEAL

God Feeds Us with the Presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

ONE: The gifts we offer are given as thanks to the Lord for the abundant blessings in our lives. These gifts of time, talent and treasure are used to support the mission and ministry of St. Matthew's the wider church, the community in Taylorsville and beyond into the world. We thank you for your generosity as we lift our hearts in praise for God's generosity here in this place for gifting us, with you!

OFFERTORY **Songs Without Words No 1**

Felix Mendelssohn

OFFERING PRAYER

ONE: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and

generosity, now and always. **ALL: Amen.**

ONE: At St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, all are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Christ's table. Who is all? New worshipers, babies, toddlers, teenagers, middle-aged and older, members, non-members, those who aren't sure of their faith, those who are sure of their faith, those who are doubting, wondering and wandering. You are wanted at the table of God's grace, mercy and love.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

ONE: Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace.
From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever.
Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might.
Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.

ALL: We praise your son, our Morning Star, our diamond bright, our treasure dear.

TABLE PRAYER

ONE: Holy God,
He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love.
He keeps us yours and fails us never—
today, tomorrow, and every day. **ALL: AMEN**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ONE: With joy we tell our story:
ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia!

ONE: On the night
And so, we pray and praise:
ALL: AMEN, AMEN, AMEN

LORD'S PRAYER

ONE: With the confidence of Jesus let us pray.
**ALL: 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

ONE: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

PLEASE BE SEATED.

The Ushers will invite you down the aisle to the bread and wine/grape juice stations to receive communion. After you receive, you may kneel at the altar to pray or return to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN Lamb of God

ELW Setting 10



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

2ND COMMUNION HYMN This Is Christ's Body

ACS967



This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with



mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,



bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960
Music: BROKEN AND BLESSED, Anne Krentz Organ
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COMMUNION

ONE: The Body of Christ Given for You. The Blood of Christ Shed for You.

TABLE BLESSING

ONE: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood nourish and strengthen us for his service, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ONE: Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray, **ALL: Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

ONE: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care:
As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist Debbie and Pam who are set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, home centered, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

OUTREACH MOMENT

Smiths Inspire Opportunity

Rhonda Joa

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Thank you to Brian for bringing worship today into our homes.*
- *Thank you to Kathleen, Pastor Brigitte, Karla, and Leandra for leading worship this morning.*
- *The meetings scheduled for this week are:*
 - *Council - Monday 2/17/25 7PM*
 - *Stewardship – Tuesday 2/18/25 7PM*
- *Newsletter Articles for March due to Amanda tomorrow Monday 2/17/25.*
- *Ash Wednesday Services – Wednesday evening 3/5/2025 7PM in person with imposition of ashes.*
- *40 Days of Giving begins the first Sunday in Lent – 3/9/2025, bring your loose change and place in the vase in front of the baptismal font. All proceeds benefit ELCA World Hunger.*
- *Lenten mid-week zoom brief worship services “Broken and Beloved” – 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, and 4/9. – More information and link please check the newsletter and on the website.*
- *Little Pantry increased usage. Our Amazon wish list has everything loaded on it that people need. If you wish to help with the continuing needs, please use our QR*

code (on the last page) in the bulletin and on Facebook to purchase items for the Little Pantry. St. Matthew's is a blessing for this community especially right now.

- Please check the following for the latest updates on church news: St. Matthew's Facebook page, the website, the bulletin boards, your personal emails, text messages and voice mails.

PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT FOR THE BLESSING.

BLESSING

ONE: The Spirit of the triune

God ✚ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love. **ALL: AMEN**

SENDING SONG **Let Streams Of Living Justice**

ELW710



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance; pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

DISMISSAL

WA: We are all called to proclaim God's grace by telling the story of Jesus
go out this week to bring light, hope and healing to the world.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Allegro and Fuga from Organ Sonata No 2 Felix Mendelssohn

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St. Matthew's Amazon Wish List

