

**Christ the Rock Lutheran Church**  
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## **FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**February 7, 2021**

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

**M:** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

### **LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie***

**C: Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us to believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him and do the things that are pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

**Jeremiah 7:1-7**

**1** This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:

**2** “Stand at the gate of the LORD’s house and there proclaim this message:

Hear the word of the LORD, all you people of Judah who come through these gates to worship the LORD.

**3** This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Reform your ways and your actions, and I will let you live in this place.

**4** Do not trust in deceptive words and say, “This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD!”

**5** If you really change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly, **6** if you do not oppress the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm, **7** then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your ancestors for ever and ever.”

### SECOND LESSON

**1 Corinthians 9:16-23**

**16** For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! **17** If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. **18** What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel. **19** Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

**20** To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law.

**21** To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law), so as to win those not having the law.

**22** To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.

**23** I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

### VERSE OF THE DAY

**John 8:12**

Alleluia. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL**

**Mark 2:13-17**

### **C: Glory be to you, O Lord!**

**13** Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them.

**14** As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him.

**15** While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him.

**16** When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

**17** On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

### **C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## “Before the Lord We Bow”

*Christian Worship #618*



1 Be - fore the Lord we bow, The God who reigns a -  
2 The na - tion you have blessed May well your love de -  
3 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, Each vale and for - est  
4 Earth, hear your Mak - er's voice; Your great Re - deem - er  
5 And when in pow'r he comes, Oh, may our na - tive



bove And rules the world be - low In bound - less  
clare, From foes and fears at rest, Pro - tect - ed  
green, Shine in your Word's pure light And its rich  
own. Be - lieve, o - bey, re - joice, And wor - ship  
land From all its rend - ing tombs Send forth a



pow'r and love. Our thanks we bring; In joy and  
by your care. For this fair land, For this bright  
fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry tongue Be tuned to  
him a - lone. Cast down your pride! Your sin de -  
glo - rious band, A count - less throng, And, joy - ful,



praise Our hearts we raise To heav'n's high King.  
day Our thanks we pay— Gifts of your hand.  
praise And join to raise A grate - ful song!  
plore And bow be - fore The Cru - ci - fied!  
sing To heav'n's high King Sal - va - tion's song!

## SERMON

Mark 2:13-17

### Matthew – the Public Servant Who Became a Bible Writer

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Let us pray to the Lord, who has dealt bountifully with us.

We give thanks to You, dear Father, for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh, that through Him the Gospel has been preached, casting out the works of Satan and the corruption of sin, which we could not overcome. By Your Word, rescue us from every evil of body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: Lord of the Church, give joy to Your servants on whom You have laid the necessity to preach the Gospel, that by Your means many would be saved in every nation and that together we may share in the blessings of Christ. We ask that you would guide Pastor Brad Krause as he deliberates the call to become our new pastor and lead him to the decision that is in the best interests of your Kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: Heavenly Father, give to all Christian homes the endurance that comes from Your Holy Spirit, that husbands and wives, parents and children may be disciplined and self-controlled in their duties, run their course in this life, and continue to the end in the holy Christian faith, ready to receive the imperishable wreath of eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, Creator of the world and its foundations, You hold might over the powers of nature and the rulers of the earth. Graciously preserve our land, its produce and industry, and our leaders together with our people. Do not disregard us for our sins, but renew us, that our lives may be peaceful and our country governed according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: Your Son is the Great Physician of body and soul, at whose hand demon, disease and every ill effect of sin must turn away. At this time of worldwide pandemic we plead with you, Lord, to bring this troublesome time to an end. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: Holy Father, where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. Bring us in such faith to Your Holy Sacrament, that the blood of Christ, which atoned for our sins, may make us whole, strengthen us against every spiritual attack of the devil, turn us in love toward our neighbor, and preserve us in body and soul to life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

M: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**C:** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

### "God Bless Our Native Land"

*Christian Worship #619*



1 God bless our na - tive land! Firm may she  
2 For her our prayers shall rise To God a -

ev - er stand Through storm and night! When the wild  
bove the skies; On him we wait. Thou who art

tem - pests rave, Ru - ler of wind and wave,  
ev - er nigh, Guard - ing with watch - ful eye,

Do thou our coun - try save By thy great might.  
To thee a - loud we cry, God save the state!

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Pastor Emeritus John Vogt** (and wife Sandy) will serve Christ the Rock as vacancy Pastor through February 14.

**Pastor Call** Pastor Brad Krause was called by members of Christ the Rock to serve as pastor. Pastor Krause will deliberate the call over the next few weeks. You are welcome to speak to Pastor Krause by phone, (920) 939-0245 or BKrause@fvlhs.org. He currently serves as a pastor at Fox Valley Lutheran High School, Appleton, WI. Speak with Don Linskens or a member of the church council for more information.

**Ash Wednesday, February 17**, at 6:30. This Lenten season because of COVID we will have only one mid-week service, Ash Wednesday. This will be the first service led by our next vacancy pastor, Theodore Lambert from Washington state. Please plan on attending to give him a warm welcome.

**Adult Bible class Sundays at 9:15**, We will be studying *Forgotten Links in God's Plan of Salvation - - Important individuals our Sunday School lessons left out.*

**Feb 14** Nehemiah – Self-sacrificing Public Servant  
Discuss: Prayer and self-sacrifice for the common good

*Next week we look at Nehemiah who gave up  
a comfortable life in the palace to serve God's people.*

***Please join us!***

### **Meet the Lamberts – Pastor Ted and Debra Lambert**

Pastor Ted – born in northern Wisconsin; raised in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Graduated from WELS Seminary 1972.

Assigned to a new mission, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Bremerton, WA.

Served CtK for 42 years. Church now has 400 members with K-8 school of 115 students.

Offices: PNW District Evangelism Chairman; 1st VP, PNW District President (12 yrs).

Other: taught seminary 4x in Nigeria, covered church vacancy in Juneau, AK in 2017.

Retired: 2014; Moved to Yakima, WA in 2016.

Hobbies: golf, fishing, hunting, history, reading, travel, substitute preaching

Debra - raised on a farm near LaCrosse, Wisconsin

Technical College – secretarial training.

Office manager, US Naval Base Pass & ID, High School secretary, Timber Co. sec.

Hobbies: family advisor; internet shopper, reading, cooking, decorating

The Lamberts have two married sons and three grandchildren, all live in eastern WA State.

Pastor Ted and Deb have never been to New Mexico. They look forward to the adventure and to serving the members and friends of Christ the Rock.

**BIBLE STUDY POSSIBILITIES** -- Dates: Sunday Mornings, Feb. 21 – April 4 (6-7 sessions)

*In no particular order or preference, the following are studies of 5-6 weeks each.*

1. **QUESTIONS THAT JESUS ASKED** - a good Lenten focus on Christ & our relationship to Him. Why are you so afraid? Are you leaving me too? Who do you say that I am? ... and more such questions from the life of Christ
2. **FORGING OUR CHURCH INTO A CARING COMMUNITY** - God's vision for a Christian congregation with motivation from God's love for us in Christ. Includes direction for caring for ourselves, fellow members and our community.
3. **FAITH ADDRESSES THE PROBLEM OF WORRY** - Discussion of why we worry, particular worries that trouble us (society, security, family); worries about our eternal future. Learn how Christ and God's Word creates a faith to handle all these.
4. **JONAH** - An in-depth study of God's reluctant missionary, God's concern for the lost, and our own zeal to reach the lost.
5. **Christ's Love Demonstrated in Efficacy of the Means of Grace** - A study of sin and grace, law and gospel, and how God conveys His love and forgiveness to us through Word and Sacraments. This study was written by Seminary Prof. John Brenner.
6. **Angelology** - A study of God's special beings, their role in Scripture and in our lives today.
7. **Satan and the Demons** - The opposite of the above – a look at the Tempter and his followers. Scripture references to these evil ones and how they war against God's children today.

**NOTE:** If there is an Easter Sunday Bible Class, I would like to offer a special one-time study on "The Resurrection of Christ as the Cornerstone of Our Faith."