

# *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

*February 7, 2021*



*Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)*

*10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134*

*“Celebrating and sharing God’s Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others”*

*Worship 9:00 a.m.*

*Bold type indicates Congregational responses*

## ***Introduction***

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus’ healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon’s mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

## ***Prelude***

## ***Announcements***

## ***Ringling of the Bell***

**Gathering Song: "On Eagles Wings"..... ELW 787**

Leader or All



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain  
All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un-der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

Leader or All



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



day; thou- sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All



4 For to the an-gels God's giv-en a com-mand to

guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

*Final refrain*  
All

And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957  
 Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas  
 Text and music © 1979 OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### **Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

### **Call to Worship**

*All are invited to make the sign of the cross in remembrance of God's claim on us.*

P: In the name of the Father,  
 and of the ✠ Son,  
 and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## ***Confession and Forgiveness***

P: As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession, trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

God who searches us and knows us,  
**you have shown us what is good,  
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.  
We have not been just in our dealings with others.  
We have chosen revenge over mercy.  
We have promoted ourselves  
instead of walking humbly with you.  
With what shall we come before you?  
Forgive us our sin,  
and show us your salvation  
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved of God,  
you have not received the spirit of the world,  
but the Spirit that is from God,  
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.  
Receive the promise of baptism:  
You are God's child; † your sins are forgiven.  
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.  
**Amen.**

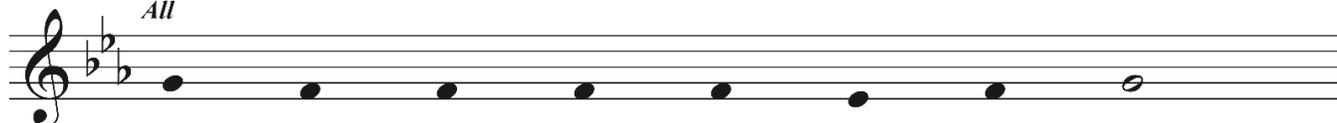
# Hymn of Praise

*Assisting Minister*



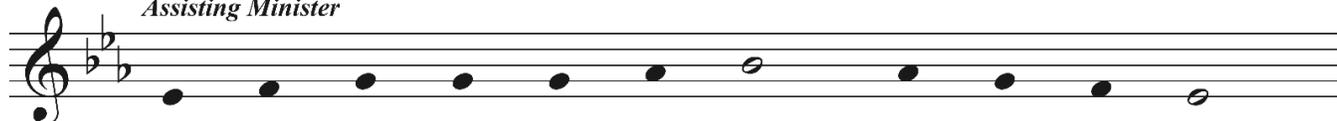
O ser - vants of God, let us sing our praise.

*All*



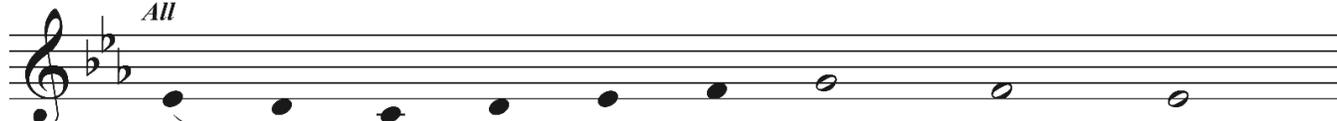
We bless your ho - ly name, O God.

*Assisting Minister*



From the ris - ing of the sun to its set - ting,

*All*



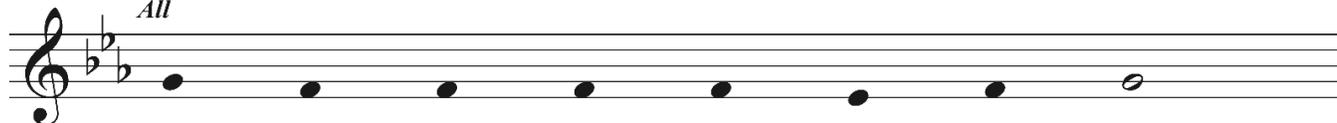
We bless your ho - ly name, O God.

*Assisting Minister*



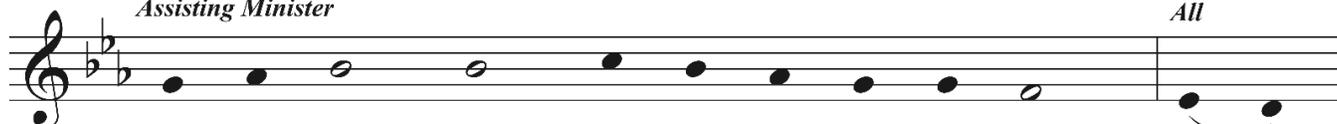
You lift up the weak and hun - gry.

*All*



We bless your ho - ly name, O God.

*Assisting Minister*



And your glo - ry shines a - bove the heav - ens We

*All*



bless your ho - ly name, O God.

All



1. Your can - o - py of vig - il lights, each  
2. (You) walk with us a - long the way, your  
3. (Re) - freshed by sab - bath rest this day, a -



star your hand has set in place, be - stows a bless - ing  
Word, a lamp to pil - grim feet; stay with us now for  
wak - en us to your sha - lom: the reign of Christ's un -



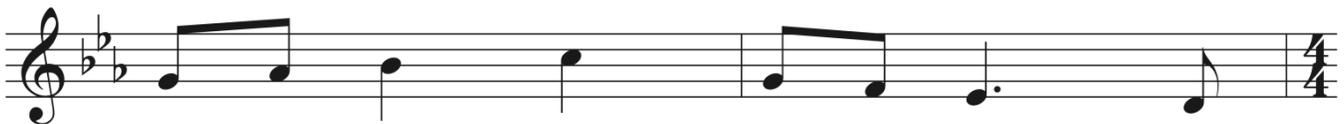
on our life, and all cre - a - tion sings your  
each new day, our un - known guest, our host and  
fail - ing way, where peace and jus - tice are at



praise. You formed the moon and fired the sun, you  
feast. Grant those who share this ho - ly meal the  
home and saints need nei - ther moon nor sun to



quick - ened dust with ho - ly breath, and  
faith and vi - sion to - ly be - lieve that  
sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly, O



bind - ing us to your dear Son, re -  
hearts might see what eyes con - ceal: by  
mer - ci - ful, im - mor - tal One, O



newed our life, de - stroyed our death. 2.You  
grace your pres - ence we re - ceive. 3.Re  
bless - ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

## ***Prayer of the Day***

L: Let us pray.

**Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## ***First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31***

L: 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?

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;

who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

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.

To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

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.

Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

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.  
He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.  
Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;  
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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c*

L: Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,  
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

The LORD heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.

**The LORD counts the number of the stars  
and calls them all by their names.**

Great is our LORD and mighty in power;  
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

**The LORD lifts up the lowly,  
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;  
make music upon the harp to our God,

**who covers the heavens with clouds  
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

God provides food for the cattle  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,  
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**  
but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,  
in those who await God's steadfast love. Hallelujah!

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel: Mark 1:29-39**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Sermon .....** Rev. Becky Sells

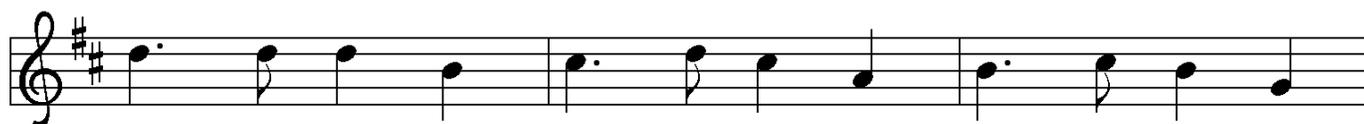
**Sermon .....** Rev. Becky Sells



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.  
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.  
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.  
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen  
 Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

L: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and all in any need especially those on our prayer list and those whose names we lift up to you now....for all who cry out to you, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### ***Offering***

L: We are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to give and use our time and talents to further God's kingdom here on earth.

### ***Offertory Music***

### ***Offertory Prayer***

P: Creator of our days and nights, we give you thanks for this gift of life. Increase our faith and open our eyes that we might recognize Jesus in all whom you call us to love and serve. Abide with us when we struggle and doubt and be our hope and highest joy, until at last with all your saints we dwell in your unfailing Light. **Amen.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

P: Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### ***Benediction***

P: Holy God, Blessed Trinity, strengthen your faith, increase your hope, deepen your love, ✠ and give you peace this day and always.

**Amen.**

### ***Dismissal***

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

### ***Ringing of the Bell***

### ***Postlude***

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24833.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission CCLI License #3067941  
Reprinted under OneLicense No. A-723976. All rights reserved.