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February 8, 2026 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Service of Holy Communion & Global Mission Sunday

Pastor: Rev. Liz Bell

Assisting Minister: Margie Nunweiler

Ministers: Every member

Ushers: Bart P & Toby S

Council President: Karen Oko

Musician: Jared Samborski

Video/Live Streaming: Anton Chell

Worship Host: Arvid Pederson

Welcome

Gathering Song “*God, We Gather as Your People*” (ACS 1038)

Kyrie & Gloria – Canadian Liturgy

Prayer of the Day

Children’s Time

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a[9b-12]

¹ Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. ³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up

quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ^{9a} Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." [^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. ¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.]

Psalms 112:1-9[10] read responsively

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!

**² Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

**⁴ Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**⁶ For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**⁸ Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹ They have given freely to the poor,
and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

**[¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.]**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-12[13-16]

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶ Yet among

the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—¹⁰God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. ¹⁴Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. ¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.]

Gospel Acclamation Canadian Liturgy

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he began to speak and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Video Sermon – The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, ELCIC National Bishop

Song of the DAY '*This Little Light of Mine*' (ELW 677)

The Creed of Inclusivity from Covenant of the Rainbow

We believe in God,

We believe in God,

who creates all things and proclaims them good, indeed, very good,

who creates us fully and completely in God's imagine,

**with each and every part of us,
including our sexualities and genders,
reflecting the Divine image.**

We believe in Jesus, the Christ,

**We believe in Jesus, the Christ,
who embodies the love and justice of God,
who models good stewardship of all that God has made,
calling us to live fully and completely,
embracing all that God has entrusted to us.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the power of God at work in the world,
giving us the courage to love ourselves and others,
tearing down the walls that divide us,
making of us a new and inclusive community of faith
committed to transforming the world
to reflect the values of God.**

We believe in the Church, the body of Christ,

**We believe in the Church, the body of Christ,
called to be a welcoming community
as God has welcomed us
to welcome all to Christ's table
reaching out in healing love. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

*In our prayers: Gertie B, Carl C, Tom d, Susan K, Cody M, Brendan S,
Pr. Erin T, and those we hold dear in our hearts.*

Peace

Offertory: Canadian Liturgy

Offering Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

Holy, Holy – Canadian Liturgy

An Inclusive Lord's Prayer (based on Matthew 6:9-13)

Blessed One, our Father and our Mother

Holy is your name.

May your love be enacted in the world.

May your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread

and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For all that we do in your love,
and all that your love brings to birth,
and the fullness of love that will be are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Communion Songs

Lamb of God – Canadian Liturgy

'You Are the Seed' (WOV 753)

'Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love' (WOV 765)

'Bind Us Together' (WOV 748)

Blessing

Community Life

Sending Song *'Though the Earth Shall Change'* (ACS 1035) sing 2x

Dismissal

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AGM
2026 HSLC Annual General Meeting
**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 22**
following worship at 11:30 am
light lunch provided (free will offering)

2025 Annual Report
(on our website, paper copies available)
2026 Budget Discussion Document
(paper copies in narthex, mailed/emailed upon request)



Online Giving

