

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes you to
The Great Thanksgiving*

FIFTH

Sunday

AFTER THE

Epiphany

*Everyone is Welcome!
Taste and See that the Lord is Good,
Let us rejoice together!*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 4, 2024

Pastor Jim Helgren

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn "We Praise You, O God" LBW Hymn # 241

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Kyrie Page 57

Hymn of Praise Page 59

Prayer of the Day See Insert

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31 See Insert

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c See Insert

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 See Insert

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Gospel: Mark 1:29-39 See Insert

Children's message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day LBW Hymn # 543

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

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Prayers of the Church Page 65

Offering

Offertory "I Love to Tell the Story" See Insert

Offertory Prayer Page 67

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The Lord's Prayer Page 71

Post-Communion Canticle & Prayer Page 72

Benediction & Dismissal

Closing Hymn LBW Hymn # 548

"Oh, Worship the King"

We carry the "light" out into the world! Depart to serve!

AN INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE:

We believe that with the bread and wine one receives the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We welcome other Christians to receive Holy Communion with us. Children who have not had first Communion instruction may come forward for a blessing.

We pray always for . . .

*Luetta Bruns, Linda Daniels, Bruce Gerking. Becky Knake,
Haleigh Werner & Will Yank*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

*Anna, Vanessa, Meshack & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring
in Tanzania.*

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's
box in the south office. You may email the church office
grace68329@gmail.com*

***You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613 (cell)***

Today 2/4/24

*Worship w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*

Tuesday 2/6/24

Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day

Wednesday 2/7/24

6th, 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

Next Sunday 2/11/24

*Worship – 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.*

YEAH!!! We did it again!! We collected enough to sponsor 4 Tanzanian Orphans. I text Sarah Purcell and let her know as she is still in Tanzania.

Thank you to all who donated.

During the month of February, we will
be collecting Socks, underwear &
mittens/gloves for men, women and
children to be given to the
People's City Mission

ELCW Yearbooks and Offering Envelopes are ready to pick
up at the back of the church.

GO AND...

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Conversation is an exchange involving active listening as well as taking turns sharing ideas and stories. It can be easy for us to fall into monologuing, lecturing, or tuning out especially when we think we know the answers. As a result, we often avoid having difficult conversations. Faith-filled disciples are called to be honest and engage with each other in Christ-like love.

Questions to Consider:

- What is your prayer as you consider engaging in a hard conversation?
- When was a time you had a hard conversation? What did it feel like? What did you learn from it?
- What is The conversation that you need to GO have and with whom?

Prayer: Engaging God, who is not afraid of any conversation, give me the words, wisdom, and heart to join in difficult conversations. Amen.

Suggested Song: Canticle of the Turning (ELW 723)

Learn More at www.nebraskasynod.org



Today's Readings

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024

Prayer of the Day

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

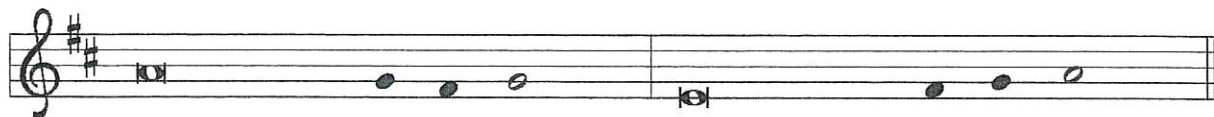
Isaiah 40:21-31

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?
²²It 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;
²³who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as
nothing.
²⁴Scarcely 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.
²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
²⁶Lift 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.
²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?
²⁸Have 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.
²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹but 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.

Psalm

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; tone 6



Hallelujah! How good it is
to sing praises ¹ to our God!
How pleasant it is
to honor ¹ God with praise!
²The LORD re- ¹ builds Jerusalem,
and gathers the ex- ¹ iles of Israel.

³The LORD heals the ¹ brokenhearted
and binds ¹ up their wounds.
⁴The LORD counts
the number ¹ of the stars
and calls them all ¹ by their names.
⁵Great is our LORD
and might- ¹ y in power;

continued

there is no limit ¹ to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts ¹ up the lowly,
but casts the wicked ¹ to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD ¹ with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp ¹ to our God,

⁸who covers the heav- ¹ ens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth,
making grass to grow
up- ¹ on the mountains.

⁹God provides food ¹ for the cattle
and for the young ravens
¹ when they cry.

¹⁰God is not impressed
by the might ¹ of a horse,
and has no pleasure
in the speed ¹ of a runner,

¹¹but finds pleasure
in those who ¹ fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love.
^{20c} ¹ Hallelujah!

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I

became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law.

²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

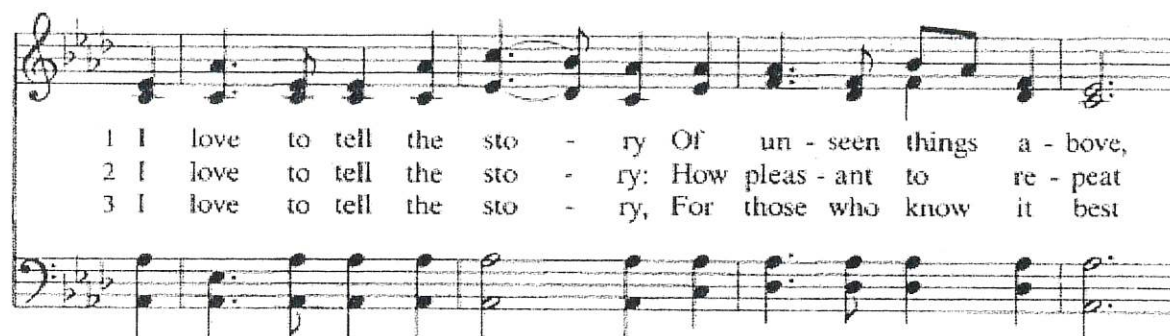
³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out

many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

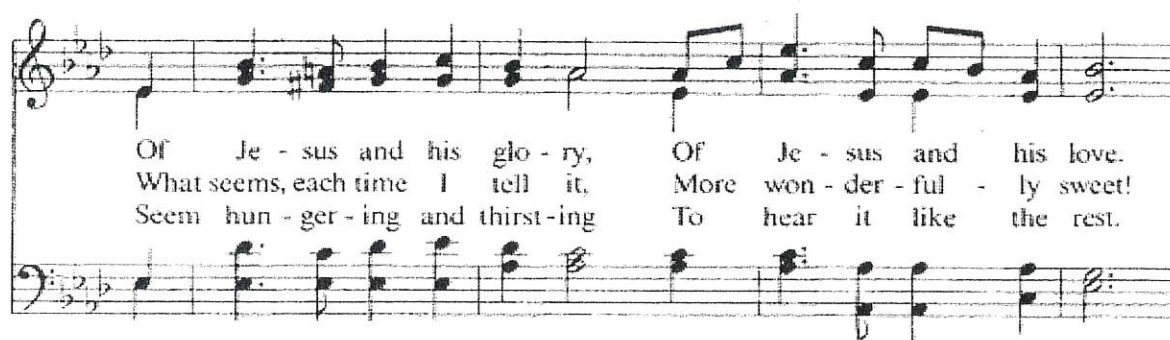
³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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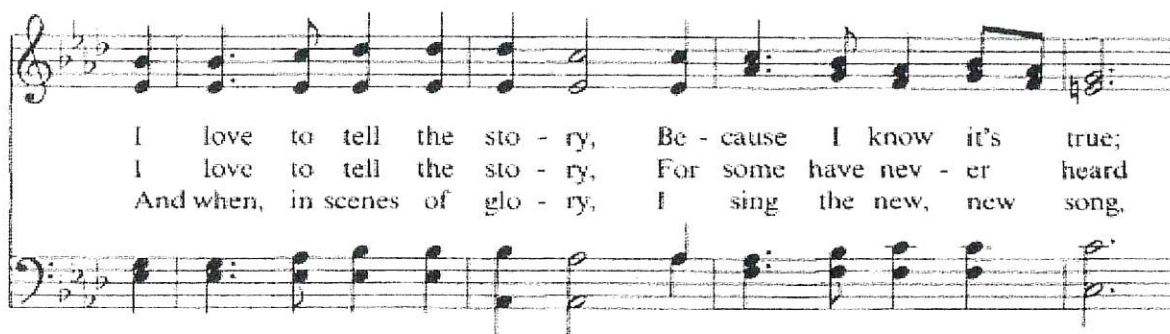
I Love to Tell the Story



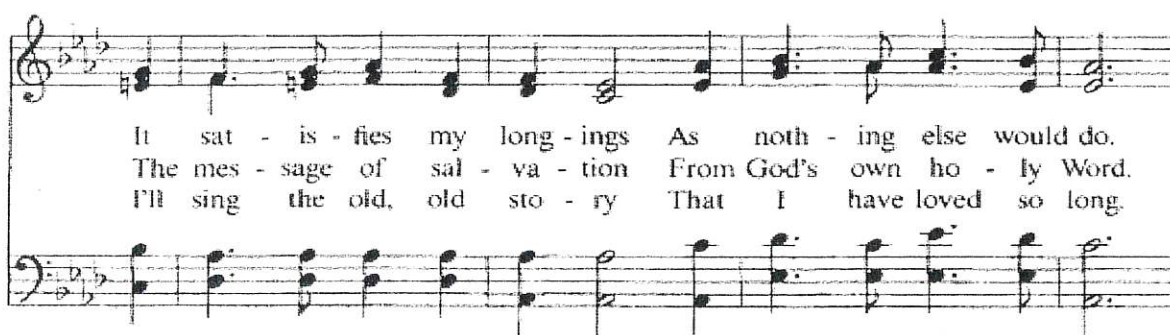
1 I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: How pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best



Of Je - sus and his glo - ry, Of Je - sus and his love.
 What seems, each time I tell it, More won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, Be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, For some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



It sat - is - fies my long - ings As noth - ing else would do.
 The mes - sage of sal - va - tion From God's own ho - ly Word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry



And tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and his love.

