



*Love  
your enemies*

LUKE 6:27

Hope Lutheran Church  
February 23, 2025

Jim Helgren  
Ruth Neeman

Pastor

Organist

Eighth Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude, Welcome, Announcements

Opening Hymn "I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

LBW # 352

Brief Order of Confession

pg. 56

Greeting and Kyrie

pg. 57

Hymn of Praise "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues" vrs. 1 & 5 LBW # 559

Prayer of the Day

O God our rock, your word brings life to the whole creation and salvation from sin and death. Nourish our faith in your promises, and ground us in your strength, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Lessons

Isaiah 55:10-13

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

pg. 259

Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 6:39-49

pg. 62

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Nearer My God to Thee"

Insert

The Apostles' Creed  
Prayers of the Church

The Peace

Offering /Offertory: We give thee but thine own, whate'er thy gift  
may be. All that we have is thine alone. A trust O Lord, from  
thee. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction and Dismissal

Closing Hymn "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

LBW # 343

In our prayers we remember Carol Speth and Bruce Riensche.  
Carol's address Gateway Vista Rm. 307, 225 N 56th St. Lincoln  
NE 68504.

We welcome you to Hope Lutheran Church. If you are a visitor  
please sign the guest book in the entry. We are so happy to have  
you worship with us today.

Tonight: 6:00 p.m. Mentor Zoom Faith Forward

Wednesday, February 26th: 4:00 Kids for Christ; 6:00 p.m.

Confirmation

Sunday, March 2nd: 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship,  
comm. Asst., Deb

## FEBRUARY IS CULTIVATING LOVE THRU EPIPHANIES

Pastor Helgren's phone #'s (Hope 402-848-2391), (Grace 402-864-4201), (Cell 402-826-0613), or (Home 402-864-2113). For bulletin or newsletter items contact Sharon Carman 402-269-5098 or email carmansharon56@gmail.com

## FIRST READING: Genesis 45: 8-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

"Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup>You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"

<sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

## Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 [not printed]

## GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said:] "But I say to you that <sup>17</sup>ten, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>18</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>19</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>20</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>21</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup>"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

## Comfort and Rest

**BETHANY.** 64, 64, 6664.  
*Brightly*

LOWELL MASON, 1792-1872

1. Near er, my God, to thee, Near - er sun to thee,  
2. Though like wan - der - er, The sun - to down,  
3. Then let my way an - near Steps - un - heaven;

E'en though it be a cross That rais - eth me,  
Dark - ness be o - ver me, My rest a stone,  
All that thou send - est me In mer - cy given;

Still all my song shall be, Near - er, my God, to thee,  
Yet in my dreams I'd be Near - er, my God, to thee,  
An - gels to beck - on me Near - er, my God, to thee,

Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee.  
Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee.  
Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee.

4 Then with my waking thoughts,  
Bright with thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs  
Bethel I'll raise;  
So by my woes to be  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee.

5 Or, if on joyful wing  
Cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot,  
Upward I fly;  
Still all my song shall be,  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee.

*Sarah Flower Adams, 1805-48*