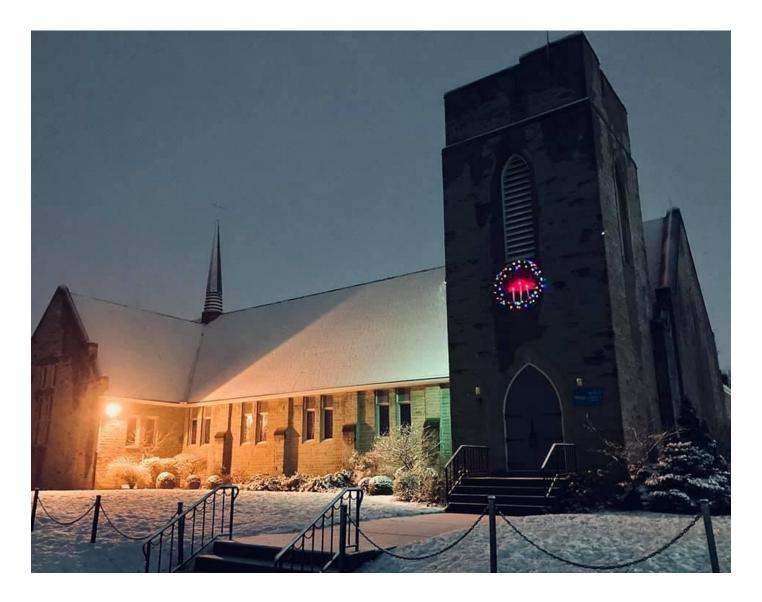
THE 5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY February 6th, 2022



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1 Church: 905-685-8294 Fax 905-685-7661

**************	Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon Bulletin Announcements: Please send to <u>secretary@christlutheransc.ca</u> . Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.						
Pastor: Parish Assistant: Business Manager: Secretary: Facebook: Bulletin by email:	Pastor Todd Hoeffs Louise Gondosch Karen McCumber Pat Kimpel Lisa Gall Judy Mason	(289-362-0113) (905-329-8579)	pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca business.manager@christlutheransc.ca secretary@christlutheransc.ca www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca				

Prayer: O God, our loving Father, through the grace of Your Holy Spirit You plant the gifts of Your love into the hearts of Your faithful people. Grant to Your servants soundness of mind and body, so that they may love You with their whole strength and with their whole heart do these 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. Amen.

Children's Message: Psalm 138 – https://youtu.be/IORRvBmhIOI

Organist: Mayumi Munoz

Readers: 9 a.m.—Lorraine Kaija; 11 a.m.—Fran Porteous

<u>OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES</u>: Please hold Clyde Knoll and family in prayer as their dear Josie passed away Thursday morning, and in his words, *"went to be with her Lord forever"*. A private funeral will be held this week.

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

 Monday:
 Luke 12: 22-33
 Wed.:
 Jer. 5: 20-24

 Tuesday:
 Jer. 8: 4-7
 Thurs:
 Acts 28: 1-6

Friday: Rom. 7: 14-25a Saturday: Hos. 2: 20-23

WORSHIP NOTE:

- A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube "Gathering the Scattered" at: (<u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3a4p6prdJGEyP5S-q-cNSg</u>).
- A PDF version of the order of service for each Sunday will also be posted on our church website: <u>christlutheransc.ca</u>.
- Archived videos of Sunday's service will be uploaded to christlutheransc.ca "Worship" page. Any questions or concerns, please check out our church website (<u>http://christlutheransc.ca/</u>), contact Judy Slingerland (chairman.worship@christlutheransc.ca) or Pastor Todd (pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com). or phone

Slingerland (<u>chairman.worship@christlutheransc.ca</u>) or Pastor Todd (<u>pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com</u>). or plate the church office. May the peace of the risen Lord be with you all.

INTERESTED in memorizing scripture? Join us as together we focus on and memorize one verse from the Psalm of the week.

<u>Today's Verse</u>: Psalm 138:1 "I give You thanks O Lord, with my whole heart, before the gods I will sing Your praise."

<u>BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL AGES</u>: Sundays, 10 - 10:45 AM in the church basement, safely distanced. Materials provided. We will be looking at our faith and how we witness, share, care and live as God's beloved in our communities in these challenging times which also bring many opportunities. Please join us. YOUTH CATECHISM will begin later closer to March 2022.

YOUTH CATECHISM CLASS will be offered by Pastor Todd in-between the services February 20th & February 27th, 10:10—10:45 AM. NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY FOR FEBRUARY OR MARCH.

<u>ASH WEDNESDAY:</u> MARCH 2nd at 7 PM. Holy Communion Worship with ashes. This reverent service begins our Season of Lent in preparation for our Lord's death and resurrection. Please plan on joining us. ALL ARE WELCOME!!

<u>MIDWEEK LENTEN BIBLE STUDY</u> begins MARCH 9, 7-8 pm and continues every Wednesday until Easter. Led by Pastor Todd in the church sanctuary. Materials will be provided ahead of time. "LIFT HIGH THE CROSS -- Jesus' Focus For Our Freedom: A Lenten Journey Through Matthew's Gospel account of the Passion."

More information is yet to come. Please join us. ALL ARE WELCOME !!

LWMLC/MARY MARTHA SOCIETY:

LWML February ZOOM meeting: Tuesday, February 15, 7 pm.

Please consider joining us. We were thrilled to have 14 participants in January and would love to have the same or more this month. This will be a time of sharing devotions, and prayers for Missions, and a little bit of fun as well. We have prepared a few pages that you will want to have with you for this meeting, so please pick them up from the table in the Narthex either this Sunday or next. If you know that you won't be able to get them in person at the church, please let Lorraine or Carole know and they can be emailed to you. The pages will include a list of Prayers for the 2021-2024 Mission Grant recipients that were chosen at the National LWML-C Convention last summer. If each person has their copy with them when we Zoom, we can take turns reading to share the prayers. Then we also hope to add a bit of fun to our meeting in the form of Bible Bingo. Pages (in lieu of cards) will also be there for you to pick up, which have Books of the New Testament in the squares. The books of the Bible will be "called" just as in regular Bingo and you can use any little objects you have at home to put on the spaces. We just thought this would be a little different for an enjoyable evening of sharing together. Anyone is welcome to join. Just pick up the pages and let Lorraine know to send you the ZOOM link! According to the government's re-opening plan, we should be able to meet in person for our March meeting when we hope to have a guest speaker and make Easter cards for our shut-ins.

LWML-Canada, Ontario District, Niagara Zone, is hosting our District Convention in St. Catharines at Grace Lutheran Church (accommodation at Niagara College) on June 9 to 11th, 2022. More details will follow. If at all possible, please plan to attend. It is a wonderful time to get to know and renew friendships with our sisters in Christ from around the province! It is a time to focus on *"Joy, Patience, Prayer"* which is the theme of the Convention. (Romans 12:12) *Our Seminary Student Eduardo Farias and his wife Daniella will be our wonderful entertainment for Friday evening!*

LUTHERAN CHURCH - CANADA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:

Lutheran Young people from across Canada will be gathering together this **July 15-19, 2022 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.** The theme for the gathering is **"IN NOT OF"** from Philippians 3:20 "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ." Information packages are available from Louise. Save the date, check out the website at <u>http://www.lccnyg.ca</u>, start following the Facebook and Instagram pages and check out this fun announcement from Pastor Glenn Worcester <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68gXVYofMYY</u>

Last Sunday Attendance: Jan. 30rd, 2022 Attn: 9 A.M. – 53; 11 A.M. – 32 Total: 85										
	<u>Budget</u>	Weekly Need	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or – ()</u>					
Current:			1,465.43	12,213.27						
LCC Missions			120.00	823.50						
Property Improver	ment:		84.00	230.50						

<u>A MEMORIAL DONATION</u> has been given by Steve Duga to Christ Lutheran Church in loving memory of his son, Michael Duga, also, by Chuck & Jane Burke to Christ Lutheran Church in memory of Erna McBride.

URGENTLY NEEDED: NEW or GENTLEY USED men's and women's WINTER coats, boots (*must be clean and seasonal, not Spring/Fall*) and greatly needed is new underwear (*new only*) for the homeless in our area. Items will be distributed by Niagara Mobile Closet, free of charge. Jill Munoz and Judy Mason will collect them from our church and bring to the Mobile closet.

VALENTINE'S DAY: The "Valentine's Heart Fundraiser" has been slightly changed. As we are

not allowed to be upstairs nor post anything on the walls there will be a poster downstairs that a heart sticker can be put on for those who want to support this worthy cause. (*Please use Covid-19 protocol*). You do not have to give a toonie, you can give less or more as ANY DONATION IS WELCOME! Judy Mason will be selling them this



Sunday so please buy your heart or several hearts to support "Out of the Cold" & "Silver Spire Church Soap Program" for the homeless.

<u>2021 DONATION RECEIPTS</u> are in your mailbox. Please help save the Church postage by picking them up before February 20th as any not picked up by that date will be mailed.

EXTRA HANDS & BODIES NEEDED: With COVID-19 still a concern, and now the Omicron virus, we will continually need extra people assisting in our services. With offering both 9 am and 11 am services, we are finding ourselves short staffed of volunteers. Particularly for the late service, we need your help in the following areas:

- 1) Greeting of Worshippers at entrance and Covid Protocol Preparation of our PowerPoint worship services [editing the Google Doc Slides, can be done at home]
- 2) Operation of the PowerPoint during church services [training with written instruction will be provided]
- 3) Taking a turn preparing the Altar for Communion and seasonal colour cloth changes [Altar Guild]
- 4) Ushering people to pew seats and directing people to line up for communion
- 5) Lighting and extinguishing of altar candles

Recording services using newly installed equipment [training with written instructions will be provided] We pray that you consider helping. We need participation from all ages. Should you wish more information about what is involved, please speak to Judy Slingerland, Tom Kuhl or Pastor Todd.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH DURING THE PANDEMIC: It's important for members to keep in mind that expenses for payroll, utilities, maintenance, etc. continue to accumulate even when you are not comfortable attending service.

1. THROUGH EFT DONATIONS: Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation continues to facilitate this service for us. To assist you in continuing your financial support to your church, we encourage you to fill out the form that is available for printing at: <u>http://christlutheransc.ca/?page_id=96</u> and then mail the form along with a voided cheque to:

Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation, 275 Lawrence Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 1Y3,

Attn: Darryl Holland

2. BY MAIL: cheques can still be mailed to:

Christ Lutheran Church

140 Russell Ave. St. Catharines, ON L2R 1W1

or dropped in the Church mailbox at the East entrance.

3. ONLINE VIA LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA: Lutheran Church-Canada has opened a web portal that allows parishioners to donate directly to their home church:

https://lutheranchurch-canada.tng-secure.com/?pageId=donation-edit&categoryId=10972

select "St. Catharines-Christ Lutheran-30950" from the drop down menu, enter the amount of your donations and LCC will transfer your donation to Christ. Donation is via VISA or Mastercard. Tax receipts will be issued by LCC (not Christ). This opportunity will be in effect until the COVID-19 emergency is over.

PRAISE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Adapted from the Lutheran Church of Australia Worship Materials February 6, 2022 + 9 AM Contemporary Service

GOD WELCOMES US

FIRST SONG:

"Just As I Am"

Just as I am, without one plea -- but that Thy blood was shed for me And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve Because Thy promise I believe -- O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down; Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come! Words: Charlotte Elliot, public domain <u>https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/h/1048</u>

WE BEGIN IN GOD'S NAME

In remembrance of our Baptism into Jesus Christ, we begin in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit -- Amen.

PSALM 138:

I give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart;

I will sing your praises before the gods.

I bow before your holy Temple as I worship.

I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness;

for your promises are backed by all the honor of your name.

As soon as I pray, you answer me;

you encourage me by giving me strength.

Though the Lord is great, he cares for the humble,

but he keeps his distance from the proud.

Though I am surrounded by troubles,

you will protect me from the anger of my enemies.

You reach out your hand, and the power of your right hand saves me.

The Lord will work out his plans for my life-

for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever.

Don't abandon me, for you made me.

Glory to God, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, as it was then, is now and will be eternally. Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with all of His creation. As our sinful rebellion separates us from God and our neighbors, let us together as one people confess our sins: O gracious and merciful God –

we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Gracious God, through water and the Spirit you have made us your own. You promise restoration and renewal. You give us wisdom and understanding, council, might and holy awe in Your presence. So by the word of Christ and in His place, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PRAISE SONG:

"Thou Art Worthy"

Thou art wor-thy, thou art wor-thy, Thou art wor-thy O Lord. Thou art worthy to receive glory, glory and honor, and power. For thou hast cre-a-ted, Hast all things cre-a-ted, For thou hast cre-a-ted all things. And for thy plea-sure they are cre-a-ted. Thou art wor-thy o Lord. Thou art wor-thy, thou art wor-thy, Thou art wor-thy o Lamb. Thou art worthy to receive glory and power At the Father's right hand. For thou hast redeemed us, Has ransomed and cleansed us, By Thy blood setting us free--In new robes arrayed us , kings and priests made us, And we are reigning in Thee.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY:

We pray: O Lord God, keep Your household always faithful to Your truth, that we who rely only on the hope of Your heavenly grace may always be defended by your mighty saving power. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US

The Old Testament: Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

[St. Paul writes:] Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Make us one Lord--Make us one Holy Spirit make us one Let Your love flow So the world will know We are one—in—You.

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The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 5:1-11

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 5th chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

SERMON HYMN	J: "	The Summo	ons"		www.hymnary.orgLW					
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Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Music: Scottish traditional Text C 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

KELV:NEFF -

MESSAGE

GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS

SONG RESPONSE TO THE WORD: "Make Me A Servant"

Make me a servant humble and meek Lord let me lift up those who are weak And may the prayer of my heart always be Make me a servant make me a servant Make me a servant today

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PRAYERS:

Gracious Father, You are holy and mighty, and great is the majesty of Your glory. As once You cleansed the lips of Isaiah and sent him forth to call Your people to renewal and hope in Your name, cleanse us and send us forth with Your Word, that many may hear and believe. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Glorious Father, in Your great mercy You sent forth Your Son to atone for the sins of the whole world, and He established a Church by His blood. Renew Your Church and strengthen the resolve of Your people in difficult and dangerous times, that they may be faithful in every circumstance. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Merciful Father, You have called Your pastors and missionaries to become fishers for people by speaking and witnessing Your Word and way. Guard all in their task, instilling courage and zeal. Bless faithful preaching and outreach, that all may be set free through forgiveness serving You in heart, mind, body and strength.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Guiding Father, all things are Yours and all authority has its source in You. Bless us with good leaders in government and enable us to be good citizens, both working together for the common good of all people. Bring Your peace to bear where war, violence and terrorism threaten, and protect those who defend us.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Loving Father, as Your Son gave healing to many, so bless the sick, the suffering, the wounded in spirit and the dying the fullness of Your grace. Especially do we pray on behalf of *[names offered here...]*. Relieve the suffering and bring healing to the sick, according to Your will, and give them patience under the burden of their afflictions until that day when we shall no more be troubled by illness and shall see our bodies made new as Christ's own glorious body in the resurrection of the dead.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Blessed Father, watch over us and our dwellings with favourable weather, allowing us an abundance of the fruits of the earth and that we remain faithful stewards of the earth and all the resources You have given. Inspire honest labour in which Your name is glorified and our families and neighbours are served.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Holy Father, You have granted us new birth in Baptism and have forgiven our sins. By this grace, help us to worthily receive Your Word with joy. Nourish us for Your Kingdom, and sustain us in this faith and life until we feast together on high with the blessed apostles, prophets, saints and all who have died in faith.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, remembering our Gracious Father's mercy and His present help in time of need, let us commend ourselves, one another, our hopes and prayers, and, indeed, our whole life to Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Lord God, we thank you that you have taught us what you would have us believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep your Word in pure hearts, that we may be strengthened in faith, perfected in good works, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

BLESSING:

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

And so with you.

May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, be with you always. Amen.

CLOSING SONG:

"Redeemer, Mighty One"

Redeemer Mighty One King of kings above all the earth Father of light Healer of lives Lord God Most High	Verse 2: Messiah Holy One Name above all other names Song of songs Word of life Lord God Most High					
Chorus:	Chorus:					
And yet You call me loved one	And yet You call me loved one					
You even call me chosen	You even call me chosen					
You cherish me calling me friend	You cherish me calling me friend					
And yet You call me loved one	And yet You call me loved one					
You even call me chosen	You even call me chosen					
You cherish me calling me friend	You cherish me calling me friend					

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DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Hymnal Supplement '98 service THE 5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY February 5, 2022 + 11 AM Traditional Worship

OPENING HYMN:

"You Walk Along Our Shoreline"

[Sing to the Lord of Harvest Tune]

- You walk along our shoreline, when land meets unknown sea. We hear your voice of power, "Now come and follow me. And if you still will follow 'Through storm and wave and shoal, Then I will make you fishers, but of the human soul".
- You call us, Christ, to gather the people of the earth. We cannot fish for only those lives we think have worth. We spread your net of gospel Across the water's face, Our boat a common shelter, for all found by your grace.
- We cast our net, O Jesus; we cry the kingdom's name; We work for love and justice; we learn to hope through pain. You call us, Lord to gather, All daughters and all sons, To let your mercy heal us so that all may be one.

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INVOCATION, CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness,

therefore, You are feared.

[Brief silence for prayerful reflection]

O Almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities, with which I have ever offended You, and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them and I pray You of Your boundless mercy, and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death, of Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you; and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you --

and also with you.

O Lord God, keep Your household always faithful to Your truth, that we who rely only on the hope of Your heavenly grace may always be defended by your mighty saving power. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

The Old Testament Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

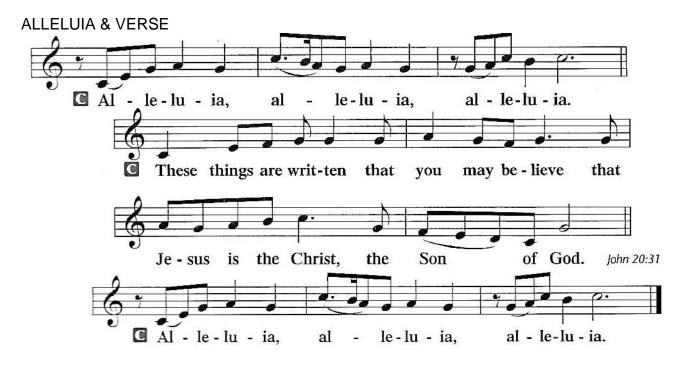
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

[St. Paul writes:] Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 5:1-11

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 5th chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

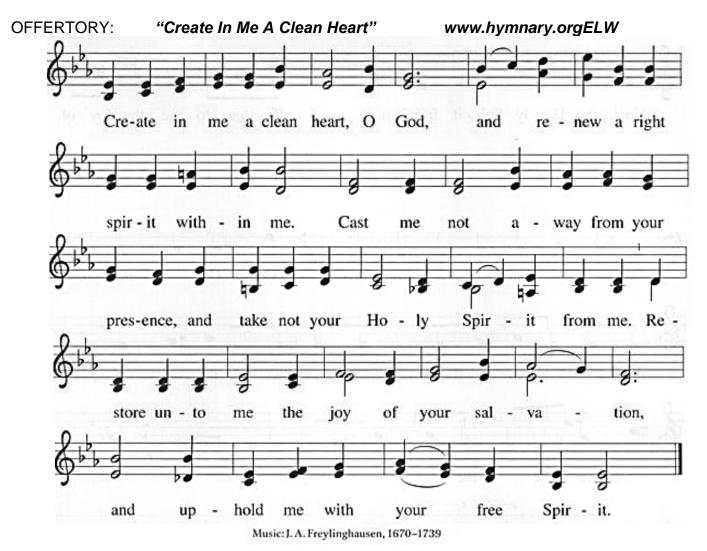
APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY "The Summons"								W	ww.hymi	nary.org	jELW	
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Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Music: Scottish traditional Text C 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

MESSAGE



THE PRAYERS

Gracious Father, You are holy and mighty, and great is the majesty of Your glory. As once You cleansed the lips of Isaiah and sent him forth to call Your people to renewal and hope in Your name, cleanse us and send us forth with Your Word, that many may hear and believe. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Glorious Father, in Your great mercy You sent forth Your Son to atone for the sins of the whole world, and He established a Church by His blood. Renew Your Church and strengthen the resolve of Your people in difficult and dangerous times, that they may be faithful in every circumstance. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Merciful Father, You have called Your pastors and missionaries to become fishers for people by speaking and witnessing Your Word and way. Guard all in their task, instilling courage and zeal. Bless faithful preaching and outreach, that all may be set free through forgiveness serving You in heart, mind, body and strength. Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Guiding Father, all things are Yours and all authority has its source in You. Bless us with good leaders in government and enable us to be good citizens, both working together for the common good of all people. Bring Your peace to bear where war, violence and terrorism threaten, and protect those who defend us.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Loving Father, as Your Son gave healing to many, so bless the sick, the suffering, the wounded in spirit and the dying the fullness of Your grace. Especially do we pray on behalf of *[names offered here...]*. Relieve the suffering and bring healing to the sick, according to Your will, and give them patience under the burden of their afflictions until that day when we shall no more be troubled by illness and shall see our bodies made new as Christ's own glorious body in the resurrection of the dead.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Blessed Father, watch over us and our dwellings with favourable weather, allowing us an abundance of the fruits of the earth and that we remain faithful stewards of the earth and all the resources You have given. Inspire honest labour in which Your name is glorified and our families and neighbours are served.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Holy Father, You have granted us new birth in Baptism and have forgiven our sins. By this grace, help us to worthily receive Your Word with joy. Nourish us for Your Kingdom, and sustain us in this faith and life until we feast together on high with the blessed apostles, prophets, saints and all who have died in faith.

Hear us, O God;

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, remembering our Gracious Father's mercy and His present help in time of need, let us commend ourselves, one another, our hopes and prayers, and, indeed, our whole life to Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord upon you with favour, + and give you peace. **Amen.**



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REV. TODD HOEFFS EPIPHANY 5 (series C) Scripture: St. Luke 5:1-11 February 6, 2022 "Eyes not on the net but on the catch-er"

FS+HS. Amen.

What to be when you grow up? How to even begin to investigate? "Find something you love and you'll never work a day in your life." Easier said than done. How do you ever really know as a young person what you love doing? We've been going through this with our kids And I'll be discussing it with the youth catechism students very soon.

My dad grew up as a farmer but worked 28 years on a GM assembly line – hated every minute of it. I created artwork ever since I was 4; involved in Sunday church work since I was 8. I really wanted to play a musical instrument - but that was not meant to be. Mom and Dad found sketch books cheaper than a piano or guitar. People in my church always told me "I should be a pastor." In fact, as I finished the paperwork to go to the Seminary, I wrote a letter to the Buffalo NY Catholic School where I taught part time saying I was entering into the ministry, It just so happened that as they received my letter, they were just about to mail me a letter hiring me as a full time art teacher! They were thrilled. But God had other plans. Jesus is kinda doing this very thing with Simon and a few other soon to be disciples. We often view this Luke passage as some official calling of Jesus' disciples. But it's really about His deliberate activity in His creation bringing changed lives into His Heavenly Kingdom. A divine act on the human stage. He enters deeply into our lives that we may be truly HIS. He is our purpose, and in Him we find our daily purpose. Jesus preaches the "good news" which is God's Word. Luke scribes a common Greek word LOGOS, which is simply, WORDS. In Scripture it always stands as God's official communication. More than just "words on a page," THIS WORD displays God's thought, power, and action. And Jesus is the human version of this word. A human stereo. But rather than shout at the world, Jesus comes simply like all the other prophets. Israel's religion got so steeped in pre-conceived expectations of what the real Prophet would look and act like, Jesus took everyone by surprise. He comes as one of them. Luke even uses the local Jewish name for the sea of Galilee-- lake -- "Gennesaret." Connected to the nearby town not far from Capernaum (which is a thriving mix of all sorts of ethnic groups). Showing us that the New and Better Prophet arrives LIKE them And in this way will bring new hope to every life. This lake supported a significant fishing industry, and a number of towns, with their harbours, grew up around the lake. The fishing economy was not "free market." The lake, and all the fish in it, belonged to Roman Emperor Caesar, And people needed a license. And guess who sold licenses then? Tax collectors...maybe even soon to be disciples tax collector Matthew?! Fishing isn't a solitary job. People banded together to buy a license, most often, relatives. Like brothers James and John, or Simon and Andrew. Jesus seeks to redirect the stable livelihood and send on a different path very soon. As Jesus steps into one of their boats, the fishermen are busy washing and mending nets. These particular drop fishing nets are "trammel nets", made of linen. They have three layers of netting, so the captured fish wind up in little pockets so that none can escape. Perfect for fishing; perfect image for catching people as well. Jesus first sits down in the boat. Very important. The traditional posture of that time for someone about to share a really important message. This gets the fishermen's attention. And Jesus' message is as powerful as it is unusual. Jesus abruptly tells Simon to "launch out into the deep" and let down the nets. ("Trammel nets" for day-time fishing? This will be a miracle on many levels, as they were only used at night!) Well, Simon and the others do as they're told, somewhat reluctantly. But what happens, they catch "so many fish," that their nets start to break. Others come and help, it's a family affair on many

levels. Their boat gets filled so fast and seems to begin sinking. Too many fish to count or handle. This over-flowing gift of "so many fish" is greater than their human power to haul it in. Overpowered with God's overabundance.

Then, Simon Peter sees what's going on! The eyes of his heart are opening! This is the 1st time in Luke's gospel Simon is also called Peter, a name which means Rock, strength, foundation. And he sees, because Jesus is bringing him over to His side, to see how to fish for people. Early in Luke's gospel, Simon is mentioned for the first time in 4:38-"When (Jesus) enters his house." Jesus makes the 1st move, as always. The house is a symbol of Simon's person. When we stop and think about it, this makes sense. A person's home represents class, wealth, taste, status, how they live, the person's very image to the world, To say "Jesus enters Simon's house" means Jesus enters completely into everything this guy is. Jesus gets into Simon's boat. His jobsite, his livelihood, his "economic space." Something very deep-set into Simon's heart and soul, as anyone who knows fishermen know how tightly their grounded to their water and land. How bold of Jesus! Going into the deep water of his life so completely. That's what Jesus does! He's is all in. He doesn't just dip His toe into the proverbial shallow end of the pool, He dives right in, total commitment to be with us in spite of ourselves. Jesus risks all and loses all To be with all, to save all and win all people back to His side, to His deep end of the water, Baptismal water, And into the richest and most unique parts of life, that we may be really His. And that we KNOW and BELIEVE we are truly His. Jesus asks the same of His followers. Put out into the deep, fish with Him and for Him and receive an overflowing net. Simon is being shown how to lose himself in every way-especially as he's defined by his own ego, his own ways of doing things. Simon 1st calls Jesus "Master" as a half insult, since Jesus is a teacher and rabbi. It would be like flippantly calling a military sergeant "OK General have it your way." Simon didn't see this as important until hoards of fish nearly sink the boats. Then its "LORD, go away from me, I'm a sinner!" At the brink of fear, when all seems lost, He sees, this isn't a master, a teacher, a prophet, this is the Lord Jesus Christ GOD come into the world. Sinner here means missing the mark, the 1st time Luke uses the term. Another connection to the Hebrew understanding of sin. Deeper than a failure, it's an awareness of just how often Big and small We all miss the mark, the bullseye, the target. All the time. It's the distance Simon feels between himself and the living God. Humanity for so long felt distance from God. Fishermen like many labourers are viewed as lowly and insignificant. So when God comes up close, dives right in, breaking into this world, to make change, to reshape, He's keeping us close and will make room for us with God. The times we wish to run away and hide Jesus always makes the 1st move. Don't be afraid are Jesus' best Words. Like the angels' words to scared shepherds Christmas night. There's nothing to fear. Your old self can't make it alone. It's gone. Your new self, poured into your hearts in Baptismal water, has a new purpose: "Now you'll be like God, catching people." Using a new net. God's Word and Jesus Christ Who comes to you with the Holy Spirit. [They'll get that at Pentecost later on.] Simon's all in. Jesus is all in and now by faith to trust and follow -- we are ALL in. Losing ourself is not loss it's a win. It's hitting the mark. Jesus hit the mark already for us. The nails in His hands and feet on the cross hit the mark. The crucifixion nails it perfectly. And we get new life and peace and joy and forgiveness and a fresh start. Simon Peter sees his brand-new identity and a new mission. As we go along Simon will veer off, thinking he's the protector of this new life. The great defender. All of them follow Jesus. Simon will fail, others will desert Jesus in His time of need But when the Spirit comes all will be made plain. Now, in 2022, we're still able to see. Even as we miss the mark we still can enjoy the joy of hope. We too leave behind all that gets in the way; Sometimes aspects of our jobs, Or members of our family; Or friendships when we disagree, or maybe lose a few social media contacts; Usually it's our attitudes or viewpoints. Doing things our own way leaves us empty: So Jesus takes our empty and fills it up. When Jesus calls we follow We trust as His grace and promises fill up our need. The net before us remains the same as always. The Gospel of Jesus and our changed heart Which sees all people in need of catching. No one is beyond our reach. The tricky part is convincing them that the Gospel IS all they ever need. That the Gospel of Christ is always enough.

That Christ is enough. That your witness of Christ is enough.

It changed Simon Peter's life, our lives and will transform all who encounter it. When we notice that Jesus is visible in those people And our witness is enough.

Because our eyes are not on the net But on the catch, and On the CATCHER. Jesus.

Amen.