



**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 20, 2022**

**MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
34 E. Orange Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1993
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**Welcoming all
Reaching out in love
Growing together in Christ
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name**

**The Rev. Dr. Christopher Suehr
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*Office hours are Tuesday & Wednesday: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm
Monday & Thursday by appointment***

Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone, complete the connection card and place it in the offering plate.

INTRODUCTION

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE *"Father, We Praise You"*

- Behnke

Please kneel or sit

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

Please stand

GATHERING HYMN “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” ELW 707

*Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood
as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that
tremendous sacrifice; and with that have freely given
blessings countless as the sand to the unthankful
and the evil with your own unsparing hand.*

*Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you gladly, freely,
of your own. With the sunshine of your goodness melt our
thankless hearts of stone till our cold and selfish natures,
warmed by you, at length believe that more happy
and more blessed 'tis to give than to receive.*

*Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest
charity in your own mysterious sentence, "You have
done it all to me." Naked, sick, in prison, hungry—
in the least, your face we view, saying by your
poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you."*

*Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood
as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that
tremendous sacrifice. Give us faith to trust you boldly,
hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of
all your graces, with your love our love renew.*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “Glory to God”

READ TOGETHER

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

³Joseph 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. ⁴Then 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." ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For 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. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So 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. ⁹Hurry 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. ¹⁰You 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. ¹¹I 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.' ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM**37:1-11, 39-40****READ RESPONSIVELY**

¹Do not be provoked by evildoers;

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.

⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who
succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

¹⁰**In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in
you they seek refuge.

SECOND READING**1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50**

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.

³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving

spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. ⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Love your enemies, and you will be children of the Most High; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Alleluia. (Luke 6:35, 37)

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 6th chapter.
Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If 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. ³⁵But 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. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷"Do not

judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ 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."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY "Oh, Praise the Gracious Power" **ELW 651**

*Oh, praise the gracious pow'r that tumbles walls of fear
and gathers in one house of faith all strangers far and near:*

Refrain: *We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!*

*Oh, praise persistent truth that opens fisted minds
and eases from their anxious clutch the prejudice that blinds:* Refrain

*Oh, praise inclusive love, encircling ev'ry race,
oblivious to gender, wealth, to social rank or place:* Refrain

*Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
a living temple built on Christ, our rock and cornerstone:* Refrain

*Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev'ry shore
with visions of a world at peace, no longer bled by war:* Refrain

*Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth, the love, the word, the tide.
Yet more than these, oh, praise their source, praise Christ the
crucified:* Refrain

*Oh, praise the living Christ with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world and with these words rejoice:*
Refrain

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for planting. Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Release political prisoners and amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes, and show love to those who are lonely or grieving. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom (*especially*). As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(Everyone is to remain in their pew for the passing of the peace. To share the peace with someone sitting near you, share a slight bow, wave, or cross your arms with hands touching the opposite arm, a gesture of embrace.)

Please be seated

OFFERTORY

The Ushers will collect the offering

OFFERTORY HYMN *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

ELW 884

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

Please stand

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Read Together

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O Holy God:

you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness
and revealing to us your mercy and might.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(1 Corinthians 11:23b-25)

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

Please be seated

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.

COMMUNION HYMN "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace" ELW 716

*Lord of all nations, grant me grace to love all
people, ev'ry race; and in each person may I
see my kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.*

*Break down the wall that would divide they children,
Lord, on ev'ry side. My neighbor's good let me
pursue; let Christian love bind warm and true.*

*Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred by loveless
act and thoughtless word. Make me to see the wrong I
do will crucify my Lord anew.*

*Give me thy courage, Lord, to speak whenever
strong oppress the weak. Should I myself the victim
be, help me forgive, rememb'ring thee.*

*With thine own love may I be filled and by thy
Holy Spirit willed, that all I touch, where're I
be, may be divinely touched by thee.*

Please stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, + bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN “God, When Human Bonds are Broken” ELW 603

*God, when human bonds are broken and we lack the love or skill
to restore the hope of healing, give us grace and make us still.*

*Through that stillness, with your Spirit come into our world of stress,
for the sake of Christ forgiving all the failures we confess.*

*You in us are bruised and broken: hear us as we seek release
from the pain of earlier living; set us free and grant us peace.*

*Send us, God of new beginnings, humbly hopeful into life.
Use us as a means of blessing: make us stronger, give us faith.*

*Give us faith to be more faithful, give us hope to be more true,
give us love to go on learning: God, encourage and renew!*

Please be seated

POSTLUDE “Fanfare”

- Mouret

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Looking Ahead to the Lenten Season

**There will be two in-person
Ash Wednesday Services on
Wednesday, March 2nd at
12 Noon and 7:00 pm.**

***The Noon service will be a condensed
service without music or communion.***

**There will be *in-person* only midweek
Lenten Services each Wednesday in
Lent at 7:00 pm.**



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**Jackie Bishop
Peg Commerer
Robert Florig
Evelyn Fuller
June Hile
Bernita Killian**

**Jeanne Naugle
William Porter
Dorothy Railing
Betty Reilly
All Caregivers**



**Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Christopher Suehr**

**Organist
Nancy Fogelsanger**

**Bell Choir Director
Kathy Kerr**

**Parish Coordinator
Amy Piper**

**Youth Director
Stacy McCole**

**Preschool Director
Shirley Perry**