

# FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

## 9:30am - February 8, 2026

Gathering, Prelude,

Welcome & Announcements -

17 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6:30 pm

### Call to Worship

Ps 112, and Jn 1 dwh

Blessed are those whose delight is the will of God.  
They rise in the darkness as a light;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.  
Blessing is upon those who are generous and just;  
their deeds of love will be long remembered.

Secure in the Lord, we will fear no evil.  
Though the shadows deepen, they melt away.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has no power to put it out.

Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty 139

### Prayer for Illumination

PO  
God of wonder, awaken us!  
As we hear your Word read and proclaimed,  
open us to be surprised!  
Enliven us with the power of the Word  
and presence of your Spirit.  
Transform us for our walk with you. Amen.

### A Reading from the Prophets Isaiah 58: 1-12

Epistle Reading

Gospel Reading

1 Corinthians 2: 1-16  
Matthew 5: 13-20

### Prayer of Confession

Based on Matthew 5

With humble hearts, let us confess  
our brokenness, our selfishness and our sin.  
God of Light, we confess that we often prefer the shadows.  
You call us to be salt, but we settle for being bland.  
You call us to be a city on a hill, but we hide our light  
under the bushels of fear, busyness, and self-interest.  
You ask for a fast that breaks the yoke of injustice,  
but we offer only empty rituals.  
Forgive us, O God. Restore our flavor, relight our lamps,  
and lead us in the way that makes all things new. Amen.  
Through Jesus, Christ, the light of the world,  
we know God's love and grace;  
Our sins are forgiven, and we know new life.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.

### Choir

It Is Well With My Soul

377

### Sermon

### Hymn

We Come to This Table

Uses tune UMH 131

Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, See Insert

### Prayers of the People

### Intercessions

### Bringing our Gifts

PO

All that we know, and all that we have, comes from God.  
We bring our offerings in gratitude for all we have received,  
returning to God a portion of that bounty,  
praying that light will break through the darkness through them.

### Doxology

95

### Prayer

Matt. 5

alt from PO

Accept these, our gifts, almighty God, as expressions of our faith.  
May our offering bring goodness and light wherever it is needed.  
May our communities of faith be bearers of your light.  
And may we be sources of that same light to the world  
in all we say and do. Amen.



## Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

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### Scriptures

Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12

### Questions for Reflection:

What does it mean to have the mind of Christ, & how do I live with the mind of Christ in my daily activities?  
If I let my light shine, what will others see in me?  
Will others see Jesus? Will they give glory to God?

### Morning Prayer:

God, open my eyes to see the world through your compassion. Open my mind to understand the world through your wisdom. Open my heart to receive the world through your love. Amen.

### Evening Prayer:

Lord, if I have lived this day in the knowledge that perishes, correct my thoughts, rectify my judgments, and mend my foolish ways. Give me the mind of Christ that I may see the world rightly and discern the blessings you bestow. Amen.

## We Come to This Table

KREMSE 12.11.12.12 ("We Gather Together")

We come to this table, O God, with thanksgiving.  
We lift up our hearts, we remember, we pray.  
We hear Jesus' welcome — inviting, forgiving;  
We know your Spirit's peace as we feast here today.

We dine at your table as sisters and brothers,  
Diverse in our cultures, yet nourished as one.  
The bread and the cup that we share here with others  
Are gifts uniting all who are claimed by your Son.

We grieve for your world here; we cry, "How much longer?"  
We pray for the cycles of violence to cease.  
Yet here, in Christ broken, we're fed and made stronger  
To labor in his name for a world filled with peace.

We rise from this table with new dedication  
To feed the world's children, to free the oppressed,  
To clear out the minefields, to care for creation;  
We pray, O God of peace, that our work will be blest.

**Hymn Use Permission:** Lyrics are from the Hymnal called:  
Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor

by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Upper Room Books, 2009)  
which includes a permission note for those who own this book  
to use this hymn (along with the 76 other new hymns in the book)  
in their local church's worship services.  
Pastor Dave Hodsdon owns a copy of this hymnal.