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**The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 5, 2023**

The Preservice Music, The Call to Worship & Welcome

The Opening Hymn: "Here I am to Worship/Light of the World"

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor (Chorus)

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross (Chorus)

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Exhortation

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Confession of Sins

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Absolution

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Kyrie

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Gloria in Excelsis

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:3–9a

“Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?”

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD?

“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A Song: "Above All" (LeBlanc)

Verse 1

Above all powers above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
You were here before the world began

Verse 2

Above all kingdoms above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure
What You're worth

Chorus

Crucified laid behind the stone
You lived to die rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all

CCLI Song # 2672885

Lenny LeBlanc | Paul Baloche

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Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1–16

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden

wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things but is himself to be judged by no one. “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

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Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and

put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Day: # 825 Rise, Shine, You People

Sermon (During the sermon, children who are ages 3 through grade 2 are invited to participate in KIDZ Time. Children can make their way to the back of the sanctuary where the KIDZ Time teacher is waiting. The children will return to the service following the sermon.)

Offering (Please sign the burgundy Friendship booklet and pass it to other people sitting in your pew. When completed, pass it back to the center aisle and be sure to greet the people next to you! Those sitting by the center aisle: please tear off the completed sheet and place it on the pew. Thank you!)

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Back cover of the hymnal.

A Hymn: 411 "I Want to Walk as a Child of Light"

Announcements & Blessing

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Service of the Sacrament

Preface	<i>p. 208</i>
Sanctus	<i>p. 208</i>
Prayer of Thanksgiving	
The Words of Our Lord	
Pax Domini	
Agnus Dei	<i>p. 210</i>
Distribution Hymn	
#628 Your Table I Approach	<i>LSB #628</i>
Nunc Dimittis	<i>p. 211</i>
Post-Communion Collect	
Benedicamus	<i>p. 212</i>
Benediction	

Closing Hymn #412 The People That in Darkness Sat The Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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Events of the Week: February 6- February 12, 2023

Monday	6:30 p.m. Communion service
Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Discovery Class
Wednesday	10:00a.m. Darrell's Bible Class Pastor on Vacation
Thursday	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir 7:15 p.m. Adult Choir
Friday	Pastor's Day off
Sunday	9:30 a.m. Worship

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: January 23 & 29, 2023

General Fund	\$1035.00
Building Fund	\$0.00
ISJ Academy	\$0.00
Tessaro Ministry	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1035.00

Those Who Serve Today Feb. 5th.

Officiant: Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

Lector: Carol Bifulco

Organist: Beth McKay

Deacons: Craig Popma & Bryan Ensing

Ushers: Jim/Nancy Spears, Caleb Butler

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

February Altar Guild:

Those Who are Serving Next Week: Feb. 12th.

Officiant: Deacons

Lector: Deacons

Organist: Beth McKay

Deacons: Dave Hood

Ushers: Urbanski Family

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

February Altar Guild:

Announcements

Dorcas Luncheon All women are invited to meet at Cheers on Plainfield Ave for lunch on Thursday, February 9th at 12:30. Please indicate that you will be joining us by signing the sheet outside the office or contact Rachel Palmer (616-883-6949) or by email (palmerm@comcast.net) by February 5th.

February Cookie Love Outreach

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else ...”

1 Thessalonians 3:12

You are invited to let your love overflow! For Valentine’s Day St. James’ LWML will be assembling trays of cookies to show St. James love to first responders, care staff at congregate settings, neighborhood school staffs, and other care-givers in our community. Everyone can help share the love of our Lord by getting involved!

You can use your hands to embrace our neighbors by doing one of the following ...

Bake some cookies with love!

Assemble trays of delicious cookies at the February 5th LWML meeting!

Carry the love into the community by delivering a tray!

Wrap individual baked goods with plastic wrap or small snack bags. Deliver your goodies to church on or before Sunday, February 5th. If you would like to write cards of encouragement for the organizations that receive the treats, or if you would like to help deliver trays, speak to Sandra before January 29th.

ISJ looking for Help: ISJ is looking into holding an auction in October, but we need some help! Does anyone at (Immanuel/St. James) have experience in organizing one or have you been to one that was great? We would love to hear from you if you have any advice/expertise! Please call Kate Ruffini in the school office, 616-363-0505 on Monday or Thursday or email her ruffinik_isj@yahoo.com Thank you!

What is Shrove Tuesday? Shrove Tuesday, or Mardi Gras (French for Fat Tuesday), is always the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Most people think of Fat Tuesday as a day of wild debauchery before the drudgery of Lent begins. However, this holiday has a much more pious history! The “shrove” of Shrove Tuesday is an old English way of saying Confession and Absolution. This is the most important feature of the holiday. We confess our sins on Shrove Tuesday as a way of getting ready for Lent. Once the distractions of sin are cleared from our lives, we are prepared to focus solely on the merits of Christ’s passion for the forty days of Lent. Another way that Christians prepare

for Lent on Shrove Tuesday is by preparing for the Lenten fast. Fasting has always been used among Christians during special seasons of repentance such as Lent. Fasting helps us to remember that we are dust and to dust we shall return, and that man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. In centuries past the Lenten fast included abstaining from any rich or fatty foods. Because of this Shrove Tuesday became known also as Fat Tuesday, as this was the day Christians disposed of the fat, butter, and eggs in their homes which would otherwise spoil during the forty days of the Lenten fast. Not wanting these ingredients to go to waste, people would use them up by cooking feasts of high-fat foods. This is where the great tradition of the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper originates! With these thoughts in mind, we will have a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Ash Wednesday PRIOR to the worship service. The Pancake dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. Following the meal we will “process” from the basement of the church to the sanctuary where we will begin the penitential season of Lent focusing our thoughts on Christ’s call for us to repent of our sin and on His passion. The Service will start at 7:00pm.

Newsletter: If you would like a printed copy of the February newsletter, we do have them available on the table by the side entrance of the sanctuary and church office.

A Statement on Holy Communion

We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual that comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine, but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

NOTE: We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcohol grape juice. Just let Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.