

Longing for light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

Light for the world to see.

(Christ, Be Our Light, ELW #715)

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY | SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023 | 10:15 A.M.



Longing for Light

United Lutheran Church | Fifth Sunday after Epiphany | February 5, 2023 | 10:15 a.m.

~ WE GATHER ~

PRELUDE

Michelle Henning

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand if you are able.*

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Song: *Christ, Be Our Light [vs. 1 and refrain]*

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In

ELW Hymn #532

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

MINISTRY THROUGH MUSIC

This Little Light of Mine

Cathedral Choir

Michael Marcotte, director, Michelle Henning, accompanist

Prayer of the Day:
The main thoughts of the day are collected, or summarized in this short prayer. The prayers for the season of the church year have come to us from the rich treasury of the church's heritage.

~ WORD ~

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-9a

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

³“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth

and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

First Reading

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

PSALM

Psalm 112:1-9

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with

justice.

⁶**For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.

⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have

Second Reading

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly

human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God.

¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

from ELW Hymn #174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God’s commandments.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For tru-

ly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks 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. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P : The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Kari Torkelson

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW Hymn #712

APOSTLES’ CREED*

ELW page #126

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 to the dead.*

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.

Hymn of the Day:

This hymn follows the theme of the readings and reflects the message of the sermon.

Creed:

We respond to God’s word together when we say the Creed. Creed comes from the Latin word “credo” which means “I believe”. In our worship we use either the Apostles’ or Nicene Creed. These Creeds were written over 1700 years ago so the world would know what Christians believe.

GREETING THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY* *Light Dawns on a Weary World* [vs. 2 & refrain] ELW Hymn #726

2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.

Refrain
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior.

All: Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

These prayers in the service follows the directive of the Apostle Paul to young Timothy, a pastor: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for Kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness".

~ SENDING ~

The Blessing:

This prayer asking for God's blessing upon the assembly as we go out into the world doing God's will.

BLESSING

P: The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN

Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW Hymn #665

POSTLUDE

Michelle Henning

ELW # 715, Christ, Be Our Light,
ELW # 532, 712, 665
Lamb of God from Unfailing Light.
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 *The Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of Meredith Dubuque in honor of her 80th Birthday, by her family.* 

United 
LIVE 
Concert Fundraiser
Saturday, February 25th
3pm | Archives Coffee House
 Free Will Donation towards United Lutheran's youth trip

Join us for a concert at Archives Coffee House with all our favorite United Lutheran Church musicians! Enjoy an afternoon coffee and a chance to listen to all kinds of instruments - guitar, piano, harp, and more! Archives Coffee House is located on UND's campus (3012 University Ave) and has FREE parking on the weekends in the parking lot behind Archives and Christus Rex Lutheran Center.

Complimentary drip coffee and cookies will be provided for the concert! Archives offers a full menu of lattes, sandwiches, pastries, even wine and beer! Come, sit back, and enjoy! Free will donation will be taken at the door and go towards United Lutheran Youth's service and learning trip to Denver, CO this summer. Thank you for supporting United Lutheran Youth and local music!

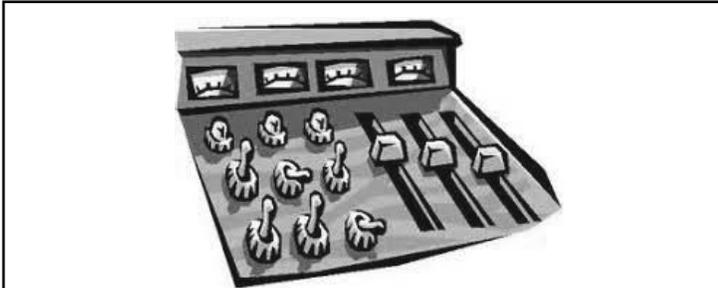
COFFEE
WEDNESDAYS
FEBRUARY 8, & 15
10:30 A.M.
ULC LOUNGE
AND DEVOS



Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023
7pm | ULC Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday
Worship includes the
imposition of ashes
and communion.

Sunday morning Tech people needed!

Each Sunday morning, we broadcast over the radio and Facebook live our worship services. We also have a soundboard to operate and so it works best if we have two people. Therefore, we are currently in need of several folks willing to help out in our sound booth in the balcony to make that go smoothly each week. One does not have to be a technical wizard, just someone willing to learn some very basic tasks. We would like to have a group of volunteers to rotate through so that one person does not bear the full responsibility. If this sounds like something you are willing to do call the office or speak with Pastor Peter.



Love Feast- Volunteers Needed
United will serve THE LOVE FEAST
When: Tuesday, February 28, 2023
Serving from 5:30pm-6:30pm
Where: Zion United Methodist Church
1001 24th Ave S in Grand Forks

The love feast is an accumulation of eleven churches in the Grand Forks area that serves a free meal at Zion UMC on the last Tuesday of each month. All are welcome and this year they are going back to the in-house-sit-down meals. Yahoo! Since Covid 19, the participating churches have been serving this meal as a drive through pickup and go. From the chatter I'm hearing, everyone involved is very happy to hear that it is going back to in-house-sit-down meals.

- Volunteers are needed:**
- **Servers: 11 people** to help at 5pm - arrive before 5:30pm
 - **Clean-up Crew: 6 people** to help clean-up and transport items back to United beginning at 6:30pm until done (usually around an hour).

Sign-up is available on our website or at the QR code provided.

There will also be sign-up sheets on the ushers table outside the sanctuary.



THE WEEK AHEAD AT UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors

Rev. Karla Coen-Tuff
Rev. Peter Coen-Tuff

Director of Youth and Family Ministry
Molly Haagenson

Worship Presider
Kari Torkelson

Worship Accompanist
Michelle Henning

Quarterly Leaders
Steve & Kim Keller

Lector

Kimberly Strom

Special Music
Cathedral Choir

Michael Marcotte, Dir.
Michelle Henning, Acc.

Ushers

Kimberly Strom
Brian Strom
Larry Eickman
Janet Eickman
Bob Quamme
Steve Keller

Radio Broadcast

Darren Lee
Jayson Helseth
Katie Stauss
Ross Hammer

*Worship is aired LIVE
on 1310AM KNOX.*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

- 9:00am - Sunday School
- 10:15am - Worship (SA/1310AM KNOX/Facebook)
- 11:15am - Coffee Fellowship (FH)
- 6:00pm - Jubilee Bells Rehearsal (BA)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

- 1:00pm - PEO (LG)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

- 9:00am - Quilting (FH)
- 11:00am - Staff Meeting (LG)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

- 10:30am - Coffee and Devos (LG)
- 5:30pm - Sing & Ring Rehearsal (CR)
- 6:15pm - Midweek Worship - Prayer Around the Cross (LG)
- 7:00pm - Budget Forum (LG)
- 7:00pm - Faith Friends/Confirmation (FH)/Cathedral Choir (CR)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH - OFFICE CLOSED

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH - ANNUAL MEETING/YOUTH SUB SANDWICH FUNDRAISER

- 9:00am - Sunday School
- 10:15am - Worship/Communion (SA/1310AM KNOX/Facebook)
- 11:15am - Annual Meeting/Youth Sub Sandwich Fundraiser (FH)
- 6:00pm - Jubilee Bells Rehearsal (BA)

2023 BUDGET FORUM

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

7pm in the church lounge

A forum lead by the leadership of United Lutheran to preview the proposed budget for 2023 and to review the financial statement from the close of 2022.

↓ **NEXT SUNDAY AT UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH!** ↓



United Lutheran

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Grand Forks, ND
PH: 701-775-4279
www.unitedgf.org
ulc@unitedgf.org

Office hours:
M-F: 8am - 4pm
+ + +

**ULC is Home to
United Day Nursery**
701-772-3773

Annual Meeting of the Congregation February, 12, 2023

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023 in the fellowship hall following the 10:15am worship.

We need a quorum to complete the business that sets UNITED LUTHERAN in motion for a new year in which to LIVE, LEARN, and SHARE the love of Jesus Christ. We hope to see you there!

Reports will be available at the meeting and in the office following the meeting.



sub sandwich lunch

Fundraiser for Youth Trips!

FELLOWSHIP HALL
DURING ANNUAL MEETING
FREE WILL DONATION

February
12th