



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

February 8, 2026

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

10:30 am Holy Eucharist

~ Everyone is WELCOME here, for everyone is beloved by GOD ~

Today our Lessons last week's theme of justice, with a powerful word from the prophet Isaiah. Jesus continues his "Sermon on the Mount," declaring that his teachings are in line with the Law and the Prophets, not replacing or correcting them. Paul's message to the Corinthians begins to address the topic of "hidden wisdom," or *gnosis*, which some of them insist that they have. Paul has other ideas about wisdom and foolishness.

New to our church? We'd love to get better acquainted. Please leave your name and email or phone number in one of our guestbooks, located at both entrances of the worship space; or by filling out one of the Welcome cards in the pew.

All persons who desire to receive Holy Communion are served here, no questions asked. We will bless homemade gluten-free Bread, which you may dip into the small bowl of wine; or, consume your bread and sip wine from the chalice. Or just cross your arms over your chest to decline receiving the wine. You may also ask a blessing from the Presider.

Hymn # These hymns are located in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.

WLP # These hymns are located in the green hymnal "Wonder, Love & Praise"

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude _____

Opening Hymn (see next page) _____ *Longing for Light*



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Greeting & Collect for Purity _____

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise: *Glory to God* _____ sung "call and response"

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

To God be glory for ever. Alleluia, Amen.

Collect of the Day _____

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray together.

All **Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading *Please be seated* _____ *Isaiah 58:1-9a*

Reader A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Shout 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.

Yet 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.

"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.

Look, 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.
Is 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?
Is 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?
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 them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then 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.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say,
Here I am.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Response **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm _____ *Psalm 112*

- 1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It 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.

- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.

The Second Reading _____ *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

Reader A Reading from Paul's first Letter to the Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet 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. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, 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 human heart conceived,
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 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. Now 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #593 _____ Lord, make us servants of your peace

The Gospel Reading Please remain standing, as able _____ Matthew 5:13-20

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus continued preaching from the mountainside, saying: “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.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, 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 in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly 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. Therefore, 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. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon _____ The Rev. Susan A Williams

Please remain in silence for a moment of reflection following the sermon.

The Nicene Creed Please stand _____

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People _____

Deacon We pray to you Holy God, in the confidence of our belovedness as we say,
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Embolden your church, that it may fearlessly accept its mission to be salt and
light for the world. Bless Sean our Presiding Bishop, Anne our assisting Bishop,
and the leaders of our diocese and parish. Help us to follow the Lamb of God
humbly, with justice, love and peace.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep the needs of all people foremost in the minds and intentions of our elected
leaders, that human dignity may be honored and the welfare of your creation be
improved. Help us to make better choices out of concern for those most
impacted by climate change, warfare, and systems of injustice. Rescue those
being persecuted by agents of chaos and death.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shower your blessings on this congregation, that we might know and feel your presence in our lives, and act in that confidence for the good of all our neighbors. Guide us with your Spirit to loose the bonds of injustice, share our bread with the hungry, and let the oppressed go free.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring wholeness and peace to all who suffer; free them from their afflictions and instill in them the hope of Christ. We pray especially for those on our Prayer List, and others we name...

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcome into your embrace all those who have died, and so bless our lives that we may look forward to our reunion with them in heaven. Especially we lift up those we love and miss today....

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Presider O God of every blessing, hear our prayers for all who are in need, and enable us to do your will; we ask as disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin and Absolution: *the people may kneel* _____

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace *Please stand, as able* _____ *Let us greet one another with the Peace of Christ!*

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Milestones and Announcements_____

Stump the Priest! _____ Answering your questions

The Offertory, following an invitation to generosity from the Presider

If you wish to give online, point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right and tap the webpage that pops up. It will take you to the St. Jude's online giving form!



Offertory Anthem_____ Bring forth the kingdom

The Doxology Please stand & join in singing _____

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Eucharistic Prayer B _____

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus setting by Wendy Vickers

C F C G Am

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

G C F C

might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

G F C

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

F C G 3 Am 3

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the

G F G C

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

F C G 3 Am 3 G

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

F rit. G C

san - na in the high - est.

The people remain standing or may kneel

Presider We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word

spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Presider And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts + that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified + by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Jude, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN!**

The Lord's Prayer _____ *setting by David Vickers*

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we make our prayer:

Our Fath-er in heav - en, _____ hal-low-ed be your Name. _____ your King-dom come, your will be
 done, on earth as in heav - en. _____ Give us our dail-ly bread. _____ For-give us our sins _____ as we for-
 give those _____ who sin a -gainst us. _____ Save us from the time of trial, _____ and save us from
 e - vil. _____ For yours is the king-dom, pow'r and the glo-ry, now and for e-ver more. _____ A _____ men. _____

The Breaking of Bread, *silence follows* _____

Fraction Anthem: WLP #866 _____ *setting by Owen Burdick*

Cantor *Choir* *Congregation & Choir*
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu -
 ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

An Invitation to Communion *is said by the clergy* _____ *source: Iona Community*

Priest Our feast of bread and wine is now made ready.
It is the feast of company with Jesus, and all who love him.
So come and share in this banquet:
You have much faith and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often,
and you who have not been for a long time;
you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed.
Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.
These are gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

The Communion

*Please be seated until invited by the Ushers to come forward, or let them know if you would like Communion brought to you in the pew. **All are welcome** but no one is obliged to receive. If you would prefer not to receive Communion, please cross your arms across your chest indicating you would like to receive a blessing instead. Today we are blessing gluten-free bread. The wine may be sipped from the chalice, or wait to intinct (dip your bread) into the small bowl of blessed wine. Please do not intinct into the chalice.*

Communion Anthem _____ *Eye Has Not Seen, Ear Has Not Heard*

Hymn: WLP #756 _____ *Lead me, guide me, along the way*

Prayer after Communion *Please stand as able* _____

Presider Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us
as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing *is said by the Presider* _____

The Sending Out

Sending Out Hymn _____ *Extol the God of justice*
Sung to “Lancashire,” Hymn 555 (“Lead on, O King eternal”)

1. Extol the God of justice with heart and soul and voice;
remember all his wonders, recount them and rejoice.
God stands with all who labor for what is true and right,
till wickedness and falsehood are banished from his sight.
2. Extol the God of justice enthroned for evermore,
a stronghold in affliction, a refuge to the poor:
God hears the cries of victims and senses their despair;
In faithfulness he honors the faith that sparks our prayer.
3. Extol the God of justice, however dark the day:
the hope that calls for mercy will not be turned away;
for evil shall not triumph, nor human sin prevail:
the Lord is God eternal, whose judgements cannot fail.

Sending Out _____

The Deacon dismisses the congregation, after which the people respond:

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude _____

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Serving at the Liturgy Today

Presider	The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams
Deacon	off today
Choir Director, Guitar	Katie Young
Eucharistic Minister	Mary Louise Susalla
Intinction Cup	Paul Dolza
Reader	Katie Young
Prayers	Dee Grossmann
Ushers	Dave & Denise Rayner
Live-streamer	Dave Rayner
Vestry P. of the Day	Doug Hill
Altar Guild	Mary Louise S., Diane H.
Coffee Hour	The Hills

Next Sunday

Rev. Susan Anslow Williams
off today
Katie Young
Paul Dolza
Amy Freeman
Nancy Day
Pedro Melchor
Charlie J., Jessica M.
Lynn Hopper
???
Dee G., Lisa Cronk
The Sailus Family

This Week at St. Jude's

Wednesday, 2/11 1 pm: Outreach
 6 pm: Choir Rehearsal

Friday, 2/13 7 pm: Euchre Night in Vandenberg Hall (sign up on bulletin board)

Prayer List

Pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Anne, our Assisting Bishop; for all lay and ordained leaders in the Diocese of the Great Lakes; for Susan, our Priest-in-Charge; for Judy, our Deacon; for the Vestry.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Paul's, Flint - Tom Manney, Rector; Trinity Church, Grand Ledge - Clifford Knaggs, Senior Warden; Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan - Corwin Stoppet, Priest Associate

Our prayers for healing and comfort are asked for: Donald, Chuck, Molly, Evelyn, Marcia, Matt, Jenny, Jerry, Harvey, Melissa, Brian, Abby, Marilyn, Jeri, Pam, Ron, Tim, Tony, Emily Jane, Bobby, Gay, Mary Ellen, Wayne, Francine

Euchre Party: Social Committee is hosting a Euchre Party on Friday, February 13 at 7 pm. We will set up the tables, you bring snacks and drinks to share. Sign up in Vandenberg hall.

Coffee Hour: We need someone to sign up for Feb. 22nd coffee hour. You don't need to do anything elaborate. Just make coffee and maybe have a few small snacks like cookies. Many of our members have done coffee hour before and would love to help you if you ask.

Ash Wednesday - Feb. 18

Plan to attend the solemn Ash Wednesday liturgy at 7 pm in the Sanctuary, with music, Holy Communion, and Imposition of Ashes. Or stop by our parking lot in the morning for “Ashes to Go,” if you can’t make it in the evening. This reminder of our mortality sets the stage for Lent’s penitence... and also for the good news of Easter.

St. Jude's History: Kathy Kortge has been working for many years on uncovering the history of St. Jude's and continuing Jack Bretzke's work on the same. The result is finally available: a book with the History of St. Jude's Episcopal Church. A copy is available for each of household in the library. Thank you, Kathy, for all of your hard work!

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