



## **St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School**

7710 East State Boulevard  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815  
749-5816

February 8, 2026 – 8:00am & 10:30am

Rev. Danny Eggold, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Adam McDowell, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Nathan Widener, Associate Pastor & Director of Community of Care  
Rev. James Sharp, Missionary to Puerto Rico  
Tim Degen, Director of Music & Organist  
Chris Brune, Principal  
Barb Christian, Preschool Director

# THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 8, 2026 – 8:00am & 10:30am

## PRELUDES

“Thy Strong Word”

arr. Herbert Gotsch

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

arr. Henry Gerike

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

#398

*(We rise.)*

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

**P** Confident in the assurance of forgiveness through Jesus Christ, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

**P** Almighty God,

**C** We confess to You that we choose to walk in places far from Your light. We neglect opportunities to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with You. We hide the light that is Your gift to us. Forgive us and guide us in our way, that we may shine before others and give You the glory. Amen.

**P** Arise, shine, Your light has come. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for You and for His sake forgives You all Your sins. As a called and ordained

servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive You all Your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** The Christ has appeared to us.

**C** Oh, come, let us worship Him.

## VENITE

*(Tune: "Christ is Our Cornerstone")*

Come, let us praise the Lord, with joy our God acclaim,  
His greatness tell abroad and bless His saving name.  
Lift high your songs before His throne to whom alone  
All praise belongs.

Our God of matchless worth, our King beyond compare,  
The deepest bounds of earth, the hills, are in His care.  
He all decrees, who by His hand prepared the land  
And formed the seas.

In worship bow the knee, our glorious God confess;  
The great Creator, He, the Lord of Righteousness.  
He reigns unseen: His flock He feeds and gently leads  
In pastures green.

Come, hear His voice today, receive what love imparts;  
His holy will obey and harden not your hearts.  
His ways are best and lead at last, all troubles past,  
To perfect rest.

**P** The Christ has appeared to us.

**C** Oh, come, let us worship Him.

*(We are seated.)*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 58:3-9a

<sup>3</sup>“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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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? <sup>6</sup>“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? <sup>7</sup>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? <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALMODY

## Psalm 112:1-9

**P** Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,  
who greatly delights in his commandments!

**C** His offspring will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

**P** Wealth and riches are in his house,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

**C** Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;  
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

**P** It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;  
who conducts his affairs with justice.

**C** For the righteous will never be moved;  
he will be remembered forever.

**P** He is not afraid of bad news;  
his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.

**C** His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,  
until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.

**P** He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;  
his righteousness endures forever; his horn is exalted in honor.

**C** **Glorify be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## EPISTLE READING

## 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup>And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup>and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>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”— <sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*(We rise.)*

## HOLY GOSPEL READING

## Matthew 5:13-20

<sup>13</sup>[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. <sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>“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. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**C** But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

*(10:30 – During the Hymn of the Day, children age 3 through first grade are invited to attend “Kids of the Kingdom” children’s church. They will return following the sermon.)*

*(We are seated.)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Thy Strong Word”**

**#578**

*(Stanzas 1-4)*

**SERMON**

**“A Little Bit Goes a Long Way”**

Text: Matthew 5:13-20 – Pastor Nathan Widener

*(We rise.)*

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**“Thy Strong Word”**

**#578**

*(Stanzas 5-6)*

*(We are seated.)*

**RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and  
GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS**

**VOLUNTARY** *(8:00)*

“Air” (from *Water Music*)

G.F. Handel

## **ANTHEM** *(10:30)*

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

St. Peter's Wildcat Bells

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- P** Gracious and loving God,  
**C** We bring to Your table these gifts of Your creation and fruits of our labor for Your use in the world. Receive them for the sake of Christ, who enlightens our lives and leads us to the feast now and forever. Amen.

*(We rise.)*

## **PRAYERS**

- P** Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,  
**C** have mercy and hear us.
- C** 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.
- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.
- And in Jesus Christ, His 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.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

**P** Blessèd are You, O Lord;  
**C** teach me your statutes!

**P** How can a young man keep his way pure?  
**C** By guarding it according to Your word.

**P** With my whole heart I seek You;  
**C** let me not wander from Your commandments!

**P** I have stored up Your word in my heart,  
**C** that I might not sin against You.

**P** Blessèd are You, O Lord;  
**C** teach me your statutes!

**P** With my lips I declare  
**C** all the just decrees of Your mouth.

**P** In the way of Your testimonies I delight  
**C** as much as in all riches.

**P** I will meditate on Your precepts  
**C** and fix my eyes on Your ways.



**P** I will delight in Your statutes;  
**C** I will not forget Your word.

**P** Hear my prayer, O Lord;  
**C** let my cry come to You.

**P** O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** For all the baptized people of God, that they may shine forth the light of Christ, and reflect His love in their words and deeds. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** For pastors and leaders in the church, that they may draw their strength from Your wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** For all who serve in the government, that they will lead us all to care for victims of poverty and injustice. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** For all who suffer from grief, despair, pain, or illness, that we may minister to them with compassion and love. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** For ourselves, that we may be salt and light in our families, congregations, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** We give thanks for all the faithful departed who have borne witness to the crucified and risen One. Fill us with your wisdom until we behold the dawn of your everlasting glory. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **BENEDICTION and DISMISSAL**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve You.

**C** Amen.

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(We are seated.)*

**CLOSING HYMN**                      **“Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go”**                      **#920**

## **POSTLUDE**

**“Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go”**

arr. Jonathan Kohrs