

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**1 Corinthian 13:1-13      2-3-19**

**“The Greatest of These is Love”**

**A. This is a great reading for the Epiphany Season**

**B. What is there in this reading for Christians and others today?**

**A Luther Sermon Quote:** *But if you say, ‘unless I get something through the brotherhood, of what use is it?’ the answer is: You serve the congregation and other people as love does, and you will have your reward without any seeking or desiring it’. But if love’s service and reward seem mean to you that is a sign that your brotherhood is not of the right spirit. Love serves freely and therefore God gives to her freely all His riches. For as much as all things must be done in love, if they are to be well-pleasing unto God, the brotherhood must also be in love. Yet what is done in love can by its nature not seek its own, rather it seeks the benefit of others, and especially the congregation. (Day by Day We Magnify Thee, From the sermon on the Sacrament of the Body of Christ, 1519, p. 370.)*

~~~~~

---

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

**Luke 5:1-11      2-10-19**

**“They Were Amazed At the Catch of Fish”**

**A. The disciples are amazed to discover that Jesus knows more about fishing than they do...**

**B. The disciples are amazed to learn that their failure becomes the occasion for a different kind of personal relationship with Jesus.**

**C. The disciples are amazed at what Jesus is calling them to do.**

**A Luther Sermon Quote:** [From a sermon preached in 1534 on the Gospel Reading for today.] *If God did not give us anything unless we had earned it and were worthy of it, He could hardly give us bread and plain water. But He does not*

*intend to look at our merit and worthiness but at our need and His grace and mercy. He intends to grant us not only bodily blessing but also eternal life. (Plass, What Luther Says, 2888, p. 922)*

---

---

**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

**Luke 6:17-26      2-17-19**

**Snow Storm No Worship**

---

---

**Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**

**Luke 6:27-38      2-24-19**

**DOING THE UNEXPECTED**

*“Love your enemies.”* Luke 6:27

Have you ever been on the giving or receiving end of something unexpected? If so, or even if not, the outcome can be quite amazing.

People we might view as “enemies” certainly don’t expect us to do the kinds of things Jesus instructs us to do – turn the other cheek, forgive, and give. Yet such undeserved loving actions can produce amazing results.

- First, we recognize this is the kind of love God has shown to us in Jesus.
- Then, because we have received this love from God, we also recognize it is Jesus who empowers us to love others, even our enemies, in this way.

The Apostle Paul says it well. *“For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that*

*those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.” 2 Corinthians 5:14-15*

\*\*\*\*\*

*“How does one come to love... The heart of man is so base that it cannot love unless it has first seen the benefit of loving.”*

Edwin Plass, *What Luther Says*, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO, 1959, #2564, p. 825.