

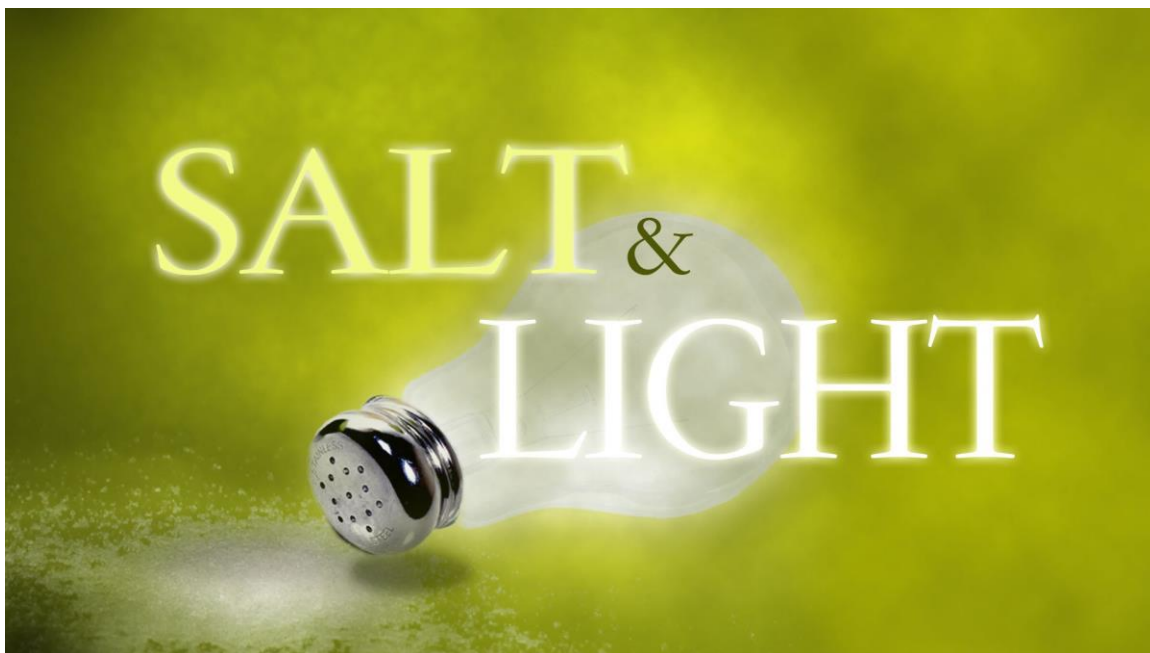
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**PASTOR TOM HURLEY**



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

**“LET YOUR SALT SHINE”**

***Whoever you are...***  
***Wherever you are in your JOURNEY OF FAITH...***  
***YOU are WELCOME here!***

## **WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

Welcome

### **Gathering Music**

*Our celebration begins with this morning's pre-service music selection. Use this time to prepare your heart for worship by reading and meditating on the lessons for today.*



### **Invocation and Prayer**

#### **Introduction of Today's Theme**

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort.

**All: Ascribe to the Lord, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness.**

Leader: The Lord is exalted over all the nations, His glory above the heavens.

**All: Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?**

Leader: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever. The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace.

**All: Sing the praises of the Lord, you His faithful people; praise His holy name.**

Leader: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, sometimes we may feel as if we are no more than one tiny candle in a world of darkness, a pitiful flicker in a malicious environment. But rather than allowing ill winds to extinguish our flame, we remember the word of Jesus to treat others as we want to be treated and we refuse to be snuffed out. Jesus, help us to shine like a lamp in a room of shadows, inspire us to become a beacon of light in a harsh climate. Help us to shine truth into places of injustice, revealing Your will to a troubled world that has forgotten the path that leads to peace. Gracious God, we give thanks for the word of Jesus, the mission of Jesus, the call of Jesus, and the courage of Jesus that kindles our hope and challenges us to shine in Your light-starved world. Amen.

## **WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE**

Leader: The Lord is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us of all unrighteousness.

**All:** Lord, the great and awesome God, we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from You. We confess the sins we have committed against You. We confess our iniquity; we are troubled by our sins. We repent, Lord. And we humbly ask of Your forgiveness.

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. As your Pastor, with joy, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Opening Song: "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" – LW #480

### **GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD** *(SCRIPTURE READINGS ON PAGE 7-8)*



First Reading: Isaiah 58:3 – 12

Reader: This is God's Word.  
All: Thanks be to God.

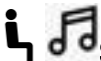
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1 – 16

Reader: This is God's Word.  
All: Thanks be to God.



Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13 – 20

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.  
All: Praise to You, O Christ.



Song of the Day: "This Little Light of Mine" – ELW #677

Message: "You Are Salt and Light" – Pastor Tom Hurley

## **WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS**

**†** Apostles Creed – *(All speak together)*

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.

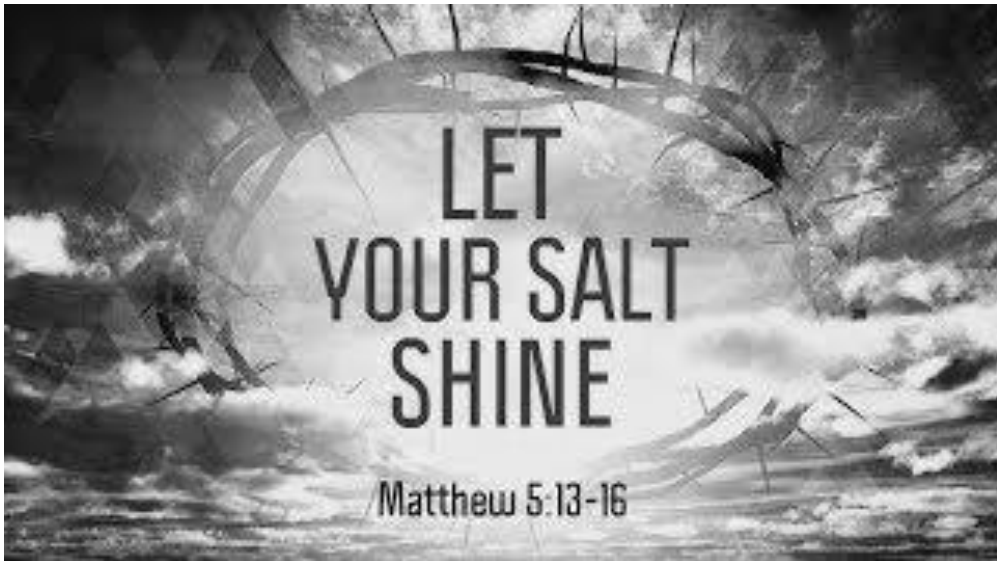
The Prayers – Congregation response, “Hear our prayer.”

Offering – The offering plate is by the door as you exit today.

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.



## **WE GO OUT TO SHARE GOD'S GRACE**

### **Closing Litany: Psalm 112:1 – 9**

Leader: Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.

**All: Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.**

Leader: They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

**All: For the righteous will never be moved, they will be remembered forever. They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.**

Leader: Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

**All: They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.**

### **Benediction**

Pastor: May God fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way.

**All: Lord, help us. Amen.**

Pastor: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace"



**Closing Hymn: "Shine, Jesus, Shine" – Songbook #65**

### **Announcements**

### **Postlude**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADULT FORUM** – Join us Monday morning at 9:30 on ZOOM. Look for the ZOOM invitation in your email each Sunday afternoon.

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### **SERVING IN THE LORD'S FIELD TODAY:**

**Lay Leader:** Judy Montoya  
**Comm. Assistant:** *\*No Comm.*  
**Ushers/Greeter:** Nelson & Shirley Gremmels  
**Reader:** Linda Sotto  
**Altar/Pre-Post Clean:** *Cecilia Bowman\**  
**Counter:** Shirley Gremmels  
**Fellowship:** Linda Sotto & Joy Bloom

### **SERVING IN THE LORD'S FIELD NEXT SUNDAY:**

**Lay Leader:** Nelson Gremmels  
**Comm. Assistant:** Nelson Gremmels  
**Usher/Greeter:** Chuck & Elfi Bakken  
**Reader:** Diana Goebel  
**Altar/Pre-Post Clean:** Marcia Hurley  
**Counter:** Chuck Bakken  
**Fellowship:** Diana Goebel

*\*No Communion on these Sundays. Altar person will fill the candles on the Altar, change and light the hanging candle.*

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**BIRTHDAY:** JoAnne Goldsmith, John Hutson

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:** None

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY:** Dwight & Joseph Worthington (*Grandsons of the Bakken's*), Esteban Ramirez (*Grandson of Mercedes See*), and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Charles Gremmels (*Son of Tom & Kevin Gremmels and Grandson of Nelson & Shirley*).

### **SURGERY/ILLNESS/PRAYER REQUEST:**

**Steve Hendricks** – Still in hospital, pray for continued improvement as he gets rehab for his colon surgery (*Diana Goebel's brother*).

**Irena Surincakova** – Pastor John's cousin in Czech Republic, prayers for successful surgery and post-op healing.

**Ken Benson** – Need prayers to heal his broken shoulder, and continued healing from cancer.

**Carmen Roncancio** – Prayer for God to provide peace of mind and a resolution.

**Alberta Winterboer** – Suffered a stroke and is recovering (*Brigitte's ex-Mother-in-law*).

**Xanthia Warren** – Prayers for sustaining health.

**Fern Johnson** – Having severe asthma problems, pray for restored health.

**Mike Gremmels** – Prayers for successful recovery after surgeries.

**Lance Desmond** – Prayers for a kidney replacement, as he continues dialysis.

**Joyce Semar** – (*8 mos. old*) Prayers for heart surgery recovery (*Parents: Ryan & Barb – related to the Gremmels*).

**Bret Winterboer** – Prayers for continued strength, recovering from stroke (*Brigitte's son & Ken's grandson*).

**Jules Schindler** – Pray for scalp to heal, maximum bed rest and overall health.

**COVID 19** – Prayer for a miraculous solution and remedy from this pandemic for the world.



## **First Reading: Isaiah 58:3 – 12**

***God, speaking through the Prophet Isaiah lets His people know that He is not fooled by their fasting. He knows where their hearts are. When the Israelites complain that it seems God has not noticed their fasting, He answers with what is an acceptable fast to the Lord. It is more than sackcloth and ashes, more than bowing one's head. It involves letting their light shine, helping the poor, and giving glory to God! Then God will answer!***

“Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet. Declare to my people their rebellion and to the descendants of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup> For day after day they seek me out; they seem eager to know my ways, as if they were a nation that does what is right and has not forsaken the commands of its God. They ask me for just decisions and seem eager for God to come near them. <sup>3</sup> ‘Why have we fasted,’ they say, ‘and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed?’ “Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please and exploit all your workers. <sup>4</sup> Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife, and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high. <sup>5</sup> Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for people to humble themselves? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying in sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? <sup>6</sup> “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? <sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? <sup>8</sup> Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup> Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. “If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, <sup>10</sup> and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. <sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup> Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

## **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1 – 16**

***Paul, writing to the church at Corinth (a church with issues), writes of the power of the Spirit--God's power. Paul declares God's wisdom over the wisdom of rulers of earth. God is revealing His wisdom and power to them. Believers have received the Spirit of God who teaches and explains reality and helps them to understand the things of God. Paul makes an amazing claim, “We have the mind of Christ.”***

And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. <sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise

and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. <sup>6</sup>We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. <sup>7</sup>No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"—the things God has prepared for those who love him—<sup>10</sup>these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup>For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. <sup>13</sup>This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. <sup>14</sup>The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. <sup>15</sup>The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, <sup>16</sup>for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13 – 20**

***Matthew has recorded the greatest sermon in history, the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus starts out with the beatitudes, showing how people in the Kingdom of God will be blessed. Now Jesus begins to tell how people in the Kingdom of God will act. They are salt. They are the light of the world and are to let it shine. Jesus also speaks clearly on the law--it is not abolished but fulfilled. And His people are to follow it.***

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. <sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father 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 tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven."