



LIKE THE HEIGHT  
OF THE HEAVENS  
ABOVE THE EARTH

*so powerful  
is his mercy*

TOWARD THOSE  
WHO FEAR HIM.

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*Psalm 103:11*

# The Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany

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February 24, 2019

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are thankful that you've chosen to worship with us.

We love children worshipping with us. But we understand that kids can get restless. We have a few options for your convenience: Quiet Bags in the back of church, filled with activity pages and books; a Quiet Area in the library area of our Commons with a rocking chair, children's books and toys; Changing Tables in both washrooms down the hallway to the right as you exit the chapel.

Most of the service is projected on the front wall. You can also find the service and hymns in the hymnal. Bibles are available on request. If you want, you may follow along with the today's readings from your mobile device.

*Please be sure to silence your mobile device so you don't disrupt the service or distract people's worship.*

## SERVICE NOTES FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

As love has been shone on us from the Lord's anointed, so we reflect that love to all, even to our enemies.

## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Holy Spirit, restore me in Jesus Christ, refresh me in his grace, and renew me in his love. Amen.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

**Liturgist**

**Organist**

**Ushers**

Pastor Erich Westphal

Sasha Schallert

Jean Sulzle

Jackson George

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# **THE COMMON SERVICE** | *Common Worship* (page 15)

## **OPENING HYMN**

*Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul* | **238**

## **THE WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON**

Genesis 45:3–8a, 15

How quick we are to withhold love when we have been wronged, clinging to anger in a pathetic attempt to make the offender suffer from our displeasure. Praise be to God such treatment is not ours in Christ.

<sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?”

His brothers could not answer him, because they were terrified by his presence. <sup>4</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me, please.”

They came closer. He said, “I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>Now do not be upset or angry with yourselves for selling me to this place, since God sent me ahead of you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For two years now the famine has been in the land, and there are still five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me ahead of you to preserve you as survivors on the earth, and to keep you alive by a great act of deliverance. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God.

<sup>15</sup>He kissed all his brothers and wept over them. After that his brothers talked with him.

### **PSALM OF THE DAY**

Psalms 103 | **pg. 105**

### **SECOND LESSON**

Romans 12:14–21

Now that blessing and cursing has been established as the work of the Lord it is not ours to play God. Yet the believer is compelled to show goodness to all as goodness has been shown to us.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless, and do not curse. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who are rejoicing; weep with those who are weeping. <sup>16</sup>Have the same respect for one another. Do not be arrogant, but associate with the humble. Do not think too highly of yourselves.

<sup>17</sup>Do not pay anyone back evil for evil. Focus on those things that everyone considers noble. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, maintain peace with everyone. <sup>19</sup>Do not

take revenge, dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. For it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay," says the Lord. <sup>20</sup>But:

If your enemy is hungry, feed him;  
if he is thirsty, give him a drink.

For by doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

<sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

Luke 6:36

Alleluia. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL**

Luke 6:27-38

The Christ-imitating Golden Rule finds no greater, no more challenging application than this:  
Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you.

<sup>27</sup>"But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. <sup>28</sup>Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup>If someone strikes you on one cheek, offer the other too. If someone takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes away your things, do not demand them back.

<sup>31</sup>"Treat others just as you would want them to treat you. <sup>32</sup>If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? To be sure, even the sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners do the same thing. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you expect to be repaid, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners lend to sinners in order to be paid back in full. <sup>35</sup>Instead, love your enemies, do good and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the unthankful and the evil. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup>Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be poured into your lap. In fact, the measure with which you measure will be measured back to you."

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

*Christian Worship | p.19*



## OFFERING

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.*

*Please record your visit on the Connection Card. This is also where we register for Holy Communion.*

## HYMN

*O God of Mercy, God of Might | 499*  
(verses 1-4)

## CLOSING HYMN

*Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go | 518*  
(verses 1, 4, 5)

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## MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

In the Bible's biographical account of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection, there are several striking "three word" statements. Join us to grasp an understanding of these powerful words. Our Lenten worship will feature an inspiring message, dynamic music, and a place to wonder at the height and depth of Jesus' love.



March 6	Love One Another	Pastor Westphal	Brooklyn
March 13	Watch and Pray	Pastor Russow	Hope, Andover
March 20	I Am He	Pastor Maasch	Redeemer
March 27	What Is Truth?	Pastor Biebert	Christ, Cambridge
April 3	Take Him Away!	Pastor Pederson	Cross of Christ
April 10	Is It I?	Pastor Kaesmeyer	Cross of Christ

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES** are here! Pick up a copy on the table beneath the bulletin board.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God in memory of their parents.

- Dan and Kari Gabrielson

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TREATS** has a new sign-up sheet in the Information Center.

### TREATS AFTER THE MID-WEEK LENT SERVICE

A rotation has been set up for providing the treats.

March 6	Elders
March 13	Tuesday Bible Class
March 20	Pre-School
March 27	Men's Growth Group
April 3	Choir
April 10	Church Staff

**ELDERS MEETING** will be held after the voter's meeting next Sunday.

**VOTER'S MEETING** - to be held next Sunday.  
Purpose of the meeting: To re-ratify the motion previously passed during the 2018 Voter's meeting to consider and grant congregational approval of an Option and Ground Lease Agreement with APC Towers III LLC, for construction of a telecommunications structure on the real estate owned by the Church and to authorize and empower the Elders of the congregation to designate the President of the congregation to execute any and all instruments in writing and to do any and all acts and things necessary or convenient to enter into the Agreement.

Reason for re-ratifying: Per Minnesota Statute, notice of the Voter's Meeting needs to be given to the Voters for 4 successive Sundays. Previous notice was only given for 2 successive Sundays.

## Calendar Week

### Today

Sunday School	9:00 am
Bible Study	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Fellowship	11:00 am
Wise Penny Work Day	

### Monday

No Men's Growth Group

### Tuesday

Bible Class 3:15 pm

### Wednesday

No Choir

### Sunday

Sunday School	9:00 am
Bible Study	9:00 am
Worship	10:00 am
Voter's Meeting	
Fellowship	
Elder's Meeting	

## Serving in The Lord

### Ushers

Today:	Jean Sulzle Jackson George
Next Sunday:	Dan Gabrielson Tom Gabrielson

### Organist

Today:	Sasha Schallert
Next Sunday:	Sasha Schallert

### March Money Counters

We need 2 people to volunteer

## Blessings from The Lord

### Attendance

Bible Study – 7
Sunday School – 4
Sunday Service – 48
Tuesday Bible Class – 9

*Tithes & Offerings* \$ 3,704.25



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