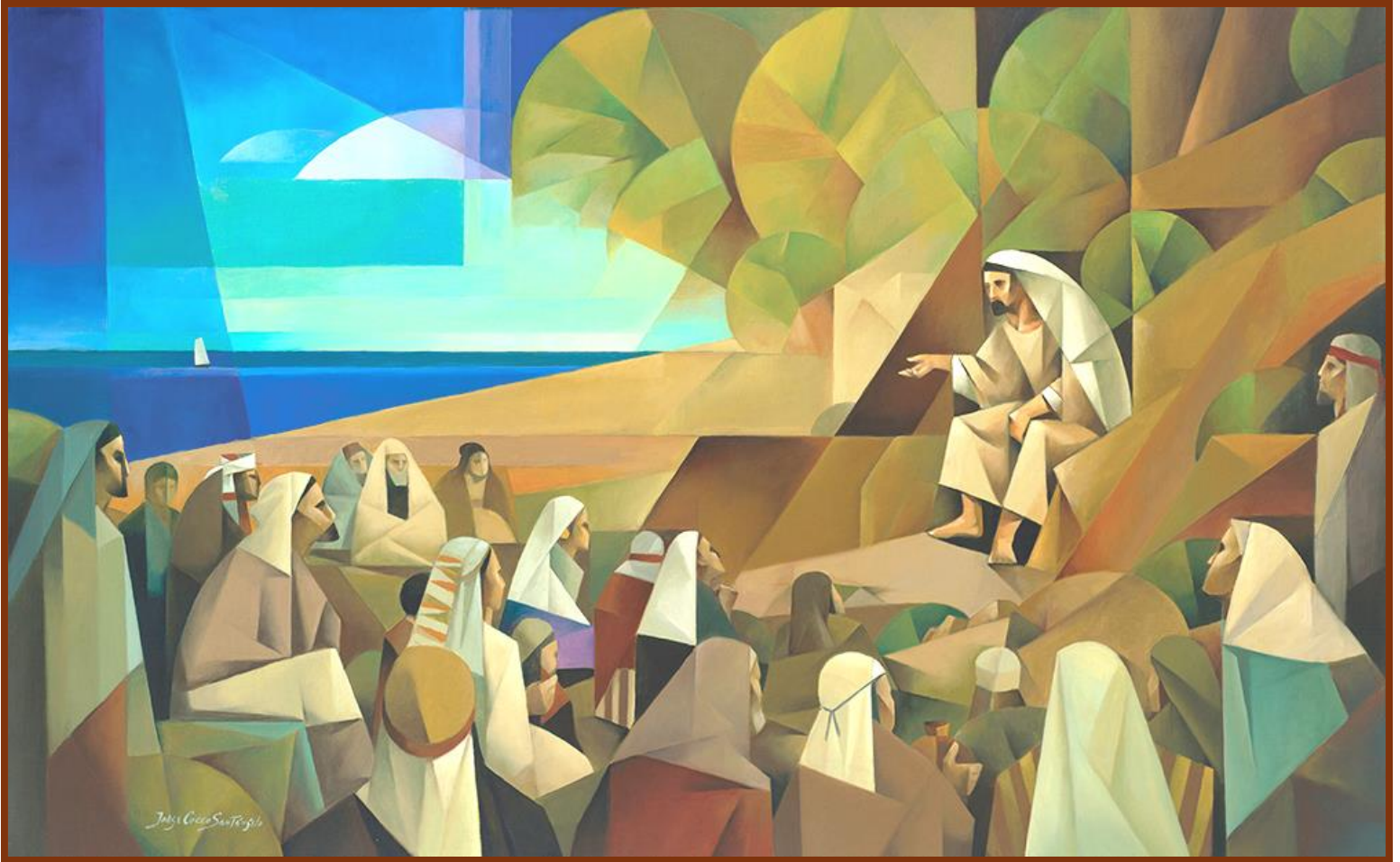


# A Christian's Handbook



**He lifted up His eyes on His disciples, and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.”**

Faith Lutheran Church  
Naples, Florida

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Weekend after the Epiphany

February 15 & 16, 2025

*Divine Service, Setting Two, Page 167*

## **AS WE GATHER**

*What a contrast we hear today, between someone who trusts only in other people, who are like the “chaff that the wind drives away” (Psalm 1:4) and the one who trusts in the Lord, who “knows the way of the righteous” (Psalm 1:6), as Jeremiah writes. But that difference pales when we read the Gospel and Epistle. Luke’s writing of the Beatitudes continues with the woes and laments about people who have all they need right now. And the Epistle tells us plainly that those “who have fallen asleep in Christ” believe with Paul what is “of first importance”: that Christ has been raised and that we shall stand with Him. In fact, our Lord is “the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Corinthians 15:20). Today we reflect on what we believe and confess, on which we receive power to live, and by which we shall stand forever.*

## **· PRELUDE**

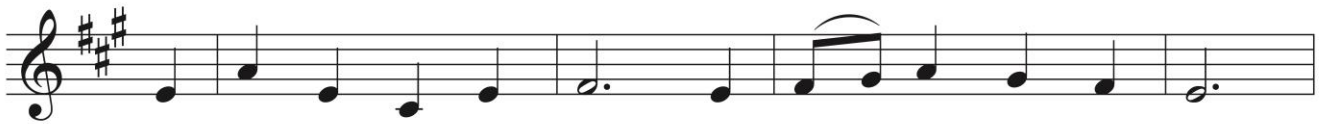
## **· ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **| CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

*(The congregation stands at the ringing of the bell.)*

## | OPENING HYMN

“Arise, Your Light Has Come”



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

## | INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

## | CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

# Service of the Word

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men."

**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and  
Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we  
praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly  
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You  
take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the  
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the  
Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a -  
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Grant us, heavenly Father, to so appreciate Your grace in giving us faith in Your Son that we live each day in thanksgiving for the precious Gospel until we fall asleep in Christ and awaken to the glory You have prepared for us for His sake; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Thus says the Lord: “Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING**

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Luke 6:17-26

And He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all the crowd sought to touch Him, for power came out from Him and healed them all. And He lifted up His eyes on His disciples, and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.





1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y  
 2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -  
 3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, See the cloud and  
 4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God; He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed you  
 ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all  
 fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, Show - ing  
 mem - ber am, Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will



for His own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges found - ed,  
 fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er  
 that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner  
 glo - ry in Your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain plea - sures,



What can shake your sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's  
 Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the  
 Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed up -  
 All their boast - ed pomp and show; Sol - id joys and



walls sur - round - ed, You may smile at all your foes.  
 Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.  
 on the man - na Which God gives them on their way.  
 last - ing trea - sures None but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

## SERMON

## "A Christian's Handbook"

Pastor Bradford Hildebrandt

Text: Luke 6:17-26

## | NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## · OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

*We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

**Prayer Requests:** Please print prayer requests on the blue “Prayer” card and hand it to an usher during this time.

## · OFFERTORY MEDITATION

*“Blessed Assurance”*  
arr. by Alan Bullard

## | PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### | 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.**



# Service of the Sacrament

## | PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## | SANCTUS

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## | WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

## | AGNUS DEI

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**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION** *(Please review our statement of faith inserted into the front of the hymnal.)*

## | BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless You and keep you; the LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD look on you in favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.  
 2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
 3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;  
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you  
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My  
 I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.  
 heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.  
 Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.  
 Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.  
 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.  
 Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

## POSTLUDE

## OFFERTORY INFORMATION

Tune composer Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839-1908) played a melody to Fanny Crosby and asked, "What does the melody say to you?" Crosby replied that the tune said, "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!" and proceeded to recite the entire first stanza of the now-famous hymn. Fanny Crosby (1820-1915), blind at the age of six weeks, was a lifelong Methodist who began composing hymns at age six. She became a student at the New York Institute of the Blind at age 15 and joined the faculty of the Institute at 22, teaching rhetoric and history. "*Blessed Assurance*" was published in 1873 in the monthly magazine edited by Joseph Fairchild Knapp and Phoebe Palmer Knapp, *Guide to Holiness*. The entire hymn is focused on Heaven, a place where "perfect submission" and "perfect delight" [stanza 2] will take place. The earthly existence is one of "watching and waiting, looking above" [stanza 3]. As we submit ourselves to Christ and are "filled with His goodness" and "lost in His love" [stanza 3], we are remade in Christ's image. The refrain calls us to "prais[e]...[our] Savior all the day long," echoing I Thessalonians 5:17, "*Pray without ceasing.*" This hymn can be particularly troubling for some, as the text claims we are in perfect submission, perfect "this," perfect "that"... but that seems not quite right. Why are we claiming to be perfect? We can certainly recognize that we are not perfect by any means – only Jesus is perfect. Throughout our lives we can recount opportunities when we reluctantly submitted or hesitantly surrendered to what God was calling for us or to others. Our pride takes over when we cannot submit or surrender, so how can we sing that we are "perfect" when we know that we are not. As we wait and maintain our vision towards Heaven, the Promised Land, our faith in Jesus' perfection gives us assurance and confidence that our story and song will be of love and praise for our Savior and therefore shall become a story and song of love for each other. Lean into Jesus's perfect submission and His perfect delight – let that be your guide of mercy and love.