

Raising the Widow's Son

Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

February 7, 2021

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Stephanie*)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (*Stephanie*)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here.

C: You, O God, wash us clean.

P: Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair -- ALL are washed away by grace.

C: You, O God, wash us clean.

P: Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer have the power to define us.

C: You, O God, give us new life.

P: The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

C: You, O God, give us new life.

P: Rejoice that God has claimed us in this baptismal grace, not by our own doing or believing but by God's mercy alone.

C: You, O God, give us new life.

P: And so, as we begin worship, we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit's power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"God of Wonders"

Marc Byrd/Steve Hindalong

Intro

Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of all creation,
Lord of heaven and earth.

Verse 1

Lord of all creation,
Of water earth and sky,
The heavens are Your tabernacle;
Glory to the Lord on high.

Chorus 1

God of Wonders,
Beyond our galaxy,
You are holy, holy.
The universe declares Your majesty;
You are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth,

Lord of heaven and earth.

Verse 2

Early in the morning,
I will celebrate the light,
And when I stumble in the darkness,
I will call Your name by night.

Repeat Chorus 1

Bridge

Hallelujah, to the Lord
Of Heaven and earth,
Hallelujah, to the Lord
Of heaven and earth,
Hallelujah, to the Lord
Of heaven and earth.

Chorus 2

God of Wonders,
 Beyond our galaxy,
 You are holy, holy.
 Precious Lord,

Reveal your heart to me;
 Father holy, holy,
 holy, holy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Assistant*)

L: Healing Lord, by your goodness you healed many who were ill, even raising the dead to life. Restore us to new life, healing our hearts, minds, and spirits, so that we may proclaim praise and gratitude for your compassion to all who will hear. In the name of the one who is himself new life, Jesus Christ our savior.

C: **Amen.**

 WORD

FIRST READING (*Betty Bender*)

Psalm 27

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident. One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! ‘Come,’ my heart says, ‘seek his face!’ Your face, LORD, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up. Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 7:1-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, ‘He is worthy of having you do this for him, for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us.’ And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, ‘Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, “Go”, and he goes, and to another, “Come”, and he comes, and to my slave, “Do this”, and the slave does it.’ When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, ‘I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.’ When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health. Soon afterwards he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother’s only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, ‘Do not weep.’ Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, ‘Young man, I say to you, rise!’ The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, ‘A great prophet has risen among us!’ and ‘God has looked favorably on his people!’ This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

Verse 1

O Christ, your heart compassionate,
 Bore ev'ry human pain.
 Its beating was the pulse of God;
 Its breadth, God's vast domain.
 The heart of God, the heart of Christ
 Combined in perfect rhyme
 To write God's love in human deeds,
 Eternity in time.

Verse 2

As once you welcomed those cast down
 And healed the sick, the blind,
 So may all bruised and broken lives
 Through us your help still find.
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
 That none may weep alone,
 And help us bear another's pain
 As though it were our own.

Verse 3

O Christ, create new hearts in us
 That beat in time with yours,
 That, joined by faith with your great heart,
 Become love's open doors.
 We are your body, risen Christ;
 Our hearts, our hands we yield
 That through our life and ministry
 Your love may be revealed.

Verse 4

O love that made the distant stars,
 Yet marks the sparrow's fall,
 Whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
 Embrace and bear us all:
 Come, make your church a servant church
 That walks your servant ways,
 Whose deeds of love rise up to you,
 A sacrifice of praise!

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Assistant*)

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Assistant*)

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

L: Christ our light,

C: we pray to you.

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Pastor Rob*)DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (*spoken*)

ELW pg. 152

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. As we prepare to receive this gift of life and forgiveness, let us take a moment of silent confession.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*Pastor Rob*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SENDING

SHARING OF THE PEACE (*Stephanie*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you!

BENEDICTION (*Stephanie*)

L: As you prepare to go into the world, strengthened by this meal you will receive on your way, please receive this blessing: God most high, God with us, God poured out on us. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

L: God most high, God with us, God poured out on us. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

“Arise”

Paul Baloche, Don Moen

Verse 1

One thing we ask of You
One thing that we desire
That as we worship You
Lord come and change our lives

Arise
Arise
Arise
Arise

Chorus 1

Arise take Your place
Be enthroned on our praise
Arise King of kings
Holy God as we sing

Arise
Arise

Repeat Verse 1

Chorus 2

Arise take Your place
Be enthroned on our praise
Arise King of kings
Holy God as we sing

Arise
Arise

Bridge

Arise
Arise
Arise
Arise

Arise
Arise
Arise
Arise

Repeat Chorus 2

Repeat Chorus 1

DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE