

**Welcome to Worship  
at  
Whitnall Park Lutheran Church**



***Sunday, February 8th, 2026  
Fifth Sunday of Epiphany  
8:30 and 10:30 am Worship***

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead. Please sign our Guest Register and introduce yourself as you leave worship today.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are invited to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating.  
meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection

*Light shines in the darkness for the upright. (Ps. 112:4)*

### CALL TO WORSHIP **302 As with Gladness Men of Old Vs 1**

- 1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose  
mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given  
ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things  
we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you,  
and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in  
newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and  
made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the  
name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you  
with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts  
through faith.

**C: Amen.**

### ENTRANCE HYMN **665 Rise, Shine, You People!**

- 1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story;  
God in him is centered.  
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; he brings us freedom,  
light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven,  
now are forgiven.
- 3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against  
the darkness hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.
- 4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us. Tell of the Son, who life and  
freedom gave us. Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation  
God's new creation.

## GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion  
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

### KYRIE *Page 138 Setting 3*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE 314 *Arise, Your Light Has Come! Vs 1***

- 1 Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray . . . . Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **FIRST READING *a reading from Isaiah 58:1-12***

*Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.*

<sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. <sup>3</sup> "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. <sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? <sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9a</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;

you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." <sup>9b</sup> If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, <sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 112:1-10**

*Light shines in the darkness for the upright. (Ps. 112:4)*

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

<sup>2</sup> **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup> **Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup> It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup> **For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup> They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> **Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup> They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

<sup>10</sup> **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

## **SECOND READING *a reading from 1 Corinthians 2:1-16***

*Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.*

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. <sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup> and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—<sup>10</sup> God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. <sup>13</sup> And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. <sup>14</sup> Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup> Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. <sup>16</sup> "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ. This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW 174 Celtic Alleluia*

**Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel *according to Matthew 5:13-20*

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." This is the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

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

### SERMON

#### HYMN OF THE DAY *688 Lord of Light*

- 1 Lord of light, your name outshining all the stars and suns of space,  
use our talents in your kingdom as the servants of your grace;  
use us to fulfill your purpose in the gift of Christ your Son:

***Refrain***

**Father, as in highest heaven, so on earth your will be done.**

- 2 By the toil of faithful workers in some far outlying field,  
by the courage where the radiance of the cross is still revealed,  
by the victories of meekness, through reproach and suff'ring won:

***Refrain***

- 3 Grant that knowledge, still increasing, at your feet may lowly kneel;  
with your grace our triumphs hallow, with your charity our zeal;  
lift the nations from the shadows to the gladness of the sun: **Refrain**
- 4 By the prayers of faithful watchers, never silent day or night;  
by the cross of Jesus, bringing peace to all and healing light;  
by the love that passes knowledge, making all your children one: **Refrain**

## **APOSTLE'S CREED**

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church,  
all of humanity, and the well-being of the earth.

*a brief silence.*

A: Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized  
true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a  
troubled world. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and  
water sources to wholeness. Guard all animals of the earth from harm  
and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of  
violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion and bring  
peace to all. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,



**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving . . . Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY HYMN 465 *As the Grains of Wheat***

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were  
gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people  
from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray . . .

**C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise  
your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *ELW Setting One Pg 108***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life; Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in His death and resurrection. We look with hope for His coming.

## **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.**

## **COMMUNION**

*As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our  
prefilled cups containing the wafer and juice or by intinction in the fullness of  
faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements.  
We receive the Lord and share in this holy meal; One Body, One Mind,  
One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.*

## **COMMUNION SONG 195 Lamb of God**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

## **COMMUNION HYMNS 717 Let Justice Flow Like Streams 712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service**

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep  
you in His grace.

**C: Amen.**

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE 207 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise**

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.  
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray . . . We give you thanks that you have fed us even now with  
the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence  
in the world around us. Send us now to love and serve all those in need  
and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, ☩ guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN *542 O Living Bread from Heaven*

- 1 O living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing! O cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'er flows.
- 2 My Savior, you have led me within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.
- 3 You gave me all I wanted; this food can death destroy.  
And you have freely granted the cup of endless joy.  
My Lord, I do not merit the favor you have shown;  
and all my soul and spirit bow down before your throne.
- 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened, to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy.

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

