



+ Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2021

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The season after Epiphany focuses on the image of God's Light coming into the world through Jesus Christ and revealed to the nations (as represented by the Magi) by the shining of a star. As we celebrate the gift of God's redemption to people around the world, St. Andrew's worship customarily features music from various places and cultures. In an effort to honor the people from which our hymns come, we will seek to provide background and context to one hymn each week throughout this season. This week's featured hymn is "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me." Please see the paragraph accompanying the text to learn more about this hymn.

+ Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Order for Worship

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. In Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we seek to strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

Prelude

Welcome

Introduction to This Week's Featured Hymn

Thanksgiving for Baptism

People of the congregation are invited to gather near a source of water, or to bring a receptacle filled with water along with them to worship, as we remember and give thanks for God's gift of Holy Baptism.

P: God who sent the Light into our world, who shone in the Bethlehem manger, whose Spirit spreads the Light to all nations, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks for the gift of Baptism.

As we gather at the font, O God, creator of oceans and rivers, rain and snow, we thank you for the water you provide us each day.

We praise your Spirit, hovering over the waters.

We bless you for this cleansing water of rebirth,

this flood of endless mercy,

this fount of blessing and hope.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life, in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as your children,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

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 Hymn

ELW 735



1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright
2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing
3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of



morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor, source of ev - 'ry
me your food of light, grain . . . of life, and grape of
pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I root and



breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413
Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936
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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.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Reading – Isaiah 40: 21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is God who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when God blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
The one who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because God is great in strength,
mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
The Lord does not faint or grow weary;
the Lord's understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹The Lord gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147: 1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor | God with praise!
²**The LORD re- | builds Jerusalem,**
and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.
³The LORD heals the | brokenhearted
and binds | up their wounds.
⁴**The LORD counts the number | of the stars**
and calls them all | by their names.
⁵Great is our LORD and might- | y in power;
there is no limit | to God's wisdom.
⁶**The LORD lifts | up the lowly,**
but casts the wicked | to the ground.
⁷Sing to the LORD| with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp | to our God,
⁸**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds**
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains.
⁹God provides food | for the cattle
and for the young ravens | when they cry.
¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,**
and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,
¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c}| Hallelujah!

Gospel – Mark 1: 29-39

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

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

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Word

Children's Song

Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *R*

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.

Sermon

**1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!" Refrain**

Refrain

**And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. R**

Refrain

**And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

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Prayers of the People

A: Guided by the Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

After each petition

A: God of mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

**your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Benediction

P: God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved accompany you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace.
C: Amen.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.
C: Thanks be to God!

Sending Hymn

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

Following Page

“I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” comes from the tradition of African American spiritual music. As enslaved Africans were brought across the Atlantic Ocean in the Middle Passage, people from different countries and cultures began to use song as a way of communicating, often seeking reconnection with friends and relatives. Naturally, such song developed in a call and response style. At plantations across the American South, song was further adapted for a variety of communications. These included religious expressions of lament and yearning for comfort and hope, but often there was much more involved. A description from the Library of Congress says, “Spirituals are also sometimes regarded as codified protest songs,” which one can see in the reference to bondage in “I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me.” In the time of the Underground Railroad, songs of call and response were likely used to identify allies, indicate danger, and spur action. Like many other African American spirituals, “I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” emphasizes God's promises of salvation and liberation.



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
 2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
 3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad Je - sus lift - ed me,
 Sa - tan had me bound, When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

L: Lector

A: Assisting Minister

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Prelude

Welcome

Hymnody

Lector

Psalm

Children's Song

Assisting Minister

Director of Faith Formation

Presiding Minister

Joseph Paetz

The Kalcich Family

April Galyardt, Vocals

Jeff Denlinger, Piano

Jennifer Stoyko

Laura Reynolds

Joseph Paetz

Colten Rohleder

Christopher Atwood

Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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