

Sunday Worship  
Together on-line as a community of Christ  
Big Spring United Lutheran Church with  
Zion Lutheran Church, Newville

**February 7, 2021**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

MOLLY HAGGERTY, Pastor



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

The *congregation*, or participants, *respond* with the lines in *bold type*.

## PRELUDE

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**C** Amen.

**P** Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Holy God,

**C** you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

**P** How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of **+** Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

**C** Amen.

# GATHERING HYMN (ELW 532 verses 1 & 4)

## Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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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.

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31**

<sup>21</sup>Have 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?

<sup>22</sup>It is he 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;

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

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

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

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because he is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but 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** This is the word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c**

**L/C** *by whole verse*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

<sup>8</sup>**who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

<sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

<sup>10</sup>**God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

<sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love. <sup>20c</sup>Hallelujah!

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*Christ Be Our Light*

Bernadette Farrell

## GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

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

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And 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.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He 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." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

### GOSPEL RESPONSE

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON: HANDS THAT HEAL

*(Silence for a time of reflection)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW 787 verses 1 & 4)

### On Eagle's Wings

- 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*

And he 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. *Refrain*

- 3 You need not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day;  
though thousands fall about you,  
near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

- 4 For to the angels God's given a command  
to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

#### *Final refrain*

And he 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;  
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957

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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

*A brief silence.*

☒ For the church: for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ, let us pray.

☑ **Have mercy, O God.**

☒ For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth, let us pray.

☑ **Have mercy, O God.**

☒ For the nations: for all who lead in cities and towns, states and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and CEOs; for international health organizations, that in times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need, let us pray.

☑ **Have mercy, O God.**

☒ For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you (*especially*), let us pray.

☑ **Have mercy, O God.**

**L** For this congregation: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for parish nurses and visitors; for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people in this place who open us to new understandings, let us pray.

**C** Have mercy, O God.

**L** In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God, let us pray.

**C** Have mercy, O God.

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

**C** Amen.

## **THE LITURGY OF THE COMMUNION MEAL**

### **THE OFFERING**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray. O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

**C** Amen.

## DIALOGUE

**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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 for all people for the forgiveness of  
sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,  
his preaching and healing,  
his dying and rising,  
and his promise to come again,  
we await that day when all the universe  
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,  
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,  
we may be light for the world,  
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

*Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:*

## **THE 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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.  
Come and be fed.

The elements were given as you entered.

**P** Please peel the top film and take your bread.  
The body of Christ given for you.

**C** Amen.

**P** Open your cup by peeling back the foil.  
The blood of Christ shed for you.

**C** Amen.

**P** The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen.


## **THE LITURGY OF SENDING FOR SERVICE**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray. Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name.

**C** Amen.

### **BLESSING**

**P** God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter  keep you in peace.

**C** Amen.

### **DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**C** Thanks be to God. We will!

### **POSTLUDE**

If you have any prayer needs, please reach out to us on our Facebook page or websites.

**Big Spring United Lutheran Church**

101 Crossroad School Road, Newville, PA 17241

Church Office: 717-776-3109

Church E-Mail: [bigspringunited@centurylink.net](mailto:bigspringunited@centurylink.net)

Church WEB: [www.bsulc.org](http://www.bsulc.org)

Pastor E-Mail: [pastormolly.bsulc@gmail.com](mailto:pastormolly.bsulc@gmail.com)

**Zion Lutheran Church**

51 West Main Street, Newville, PA 17241

Church Office: 717-776-3907

Church E-Mail: [zionnewvillepa@gmail.com](mailto:zionnewvillepa@gmail.com)

Church WEB: [www.zionnewville.org](http://www.zionnewville.org)

Pastor E-Mail: [pastor.zionnewville@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.zionnewville@gmail.com)

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## Midweek Lenten Services 2021

This year we will gather virtually with our friends from Big Spring United, Center, Centerville, St. Matthew, St. Peter, and Zion Lutheran churches. We will meet online through our website or Facebook pages on Wednesdays at 7 pm. Each week the ministry leader from two of our collaborative churches will preach and preside with a message from Open My Eyes, Lord liturgy of the Word (no communion).

Ash Wednesday will be online and a Parking Lot service will be offered to receive ashes.

(individual cups will be given to each car).

Ash Wednesday 2/17/21                      7 pm  
 BSULC Parking Lot and online

### ONLINE HOST

Wednesday Midweek 2/24/21	7 pm	Centerville
Wednesday Midweek 3/3/21	7 pm	Center
Wednesday Midweek 3/10/21	7 pm	St. Peter
Wednesday Midweek 3/17/21	7 pm	St. Matthew
Wednesday Midweek 3/24/21	7 pm	Zion