



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE Epiphany

"All knowing Lord, who knows us better than we know ourselves, please help us to freely give away Your Gospel that You freely give to us to give away. Keep our hearts from being hardened. We ask through our Lord, Jesus Christ."

A few years back in February in the year of our Lord 1932, our Savior Jesus blessed Henry & Anna with the their fourth child. Young Henry Lettermann was named after his dad who was a

Lutheran principal.

Baby Henry was called to faith when he was into Jesus. With faith created at baptism, God then used His word to call Henry to go deeper into His Word. His parents filled young Henry's life with

God's Word. Like all Christian parents, they called on their child to show Christ-focused kindness in his life.

To guide him, they provided a Christcentered elementary education in Sharpsburg, Pennsylvania. The education he got was soaked in the Word. It is no wonder that a deep, joyful confidence in God's Word was seen in Henry's life.

But unknown to Henry, our heavenly Father was getting ready to use him to give blessings to many others. Henry started to understand the love that moved his family to provide godly education not only for elementary school at First Lutheran, but continuing through high school and college.

I suppose this is one of the ways God kept Henry interested in Christ-centered learning. God called him go deeper; to find out why learning God's Word and will was so important. After several years, he became "Doctor Henry", and was called to serve Jesus as a professor at a Lutheran college.

Dr. Henry Lettermann loved to teach God's gracious powerful Word. He was so thankful God called him to faith. And he praised God who then called him to service in the public ministry.



Many of his prayer-poems showed up in Lutheran educational journals. It was surely easy to see that Dr. Lettermann wanted to share same joy in Jesus to that God had given him.

Indeed! The full and free forgiveness of all sins through Jesus Christ is simply too good to keep quiet about! Several of his texts entered a Lutheran Music Education Series of the 1960s

And finally, in the year of our LORD 1996, the LORD

JESUS called Henry home to the robust joys of heaven. His hymns are God's gift to God's Familyof-faith. As Doctor Henry once prayed, today God has gathered us together as an answer to his prayer:

LORD, gather all Your children, where-ever they may be. And lead them on to heaven to live eternally with You, our loving Father, and Christ, our Brother dear; His Spirit guards and gives us the joy to persevere.



Today we sing to God using one of young Henry's prayers: <u>LORD JESUS CHRIST. THE</u> <u>CHILDREN'S FRIEND</u>.

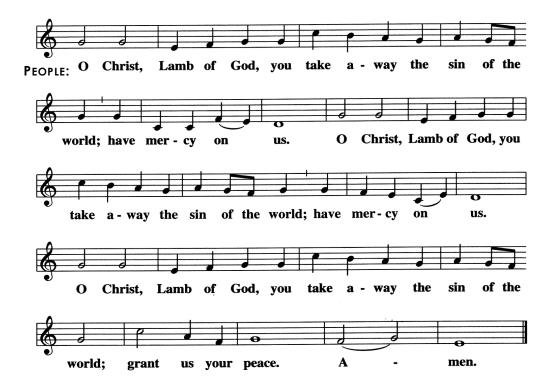


WELCOMING SONG: LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND. (BLUE #910, RED #513)

LEADER: We worship as we live: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: Amen, Amen! God has gathered us to bless us with His Word. *Leader*: Let us confess our sins to Him.

Heavenly Father, I am a sinner. My thoughts, words and activities display my inborn rebellion against You, Your word and Your will. for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for me, have mercy on me.



LEADER: For Jesus's sake and at His command, hear and believe the Good News: I forgive you all your sins! Be at peace in Him. Go and sin no more.





- **LEADER:** Almighty God, You sent Your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Move us to trust what the Scriptures reveal about Jesus Christ.
- *PEOPLE:* Enable us to do things that are pleasing in Your sight. We ask through Jesus Christ. Jesus is Your Son and our Savior. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE LORD GIVES HIS WORD

We hear the Lord's Word recorded in Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above Him stood the seraphim. Each one had six

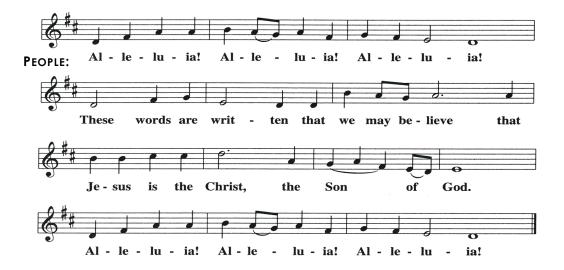
wings. With two they covered their faces. With two they covered their feet. With two they flew. One called to another and said,

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies!

The whole earth is full of his glory!

- The foundations of the thresholds shook at the Voice of the One who called, and the temple was filled with smoke.
- Then I said, "I am doomed! I am ruined, because I am a man with unclean lips, and I dwell among a people with unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Armies!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, carrying a glowing coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with the coal and said, "Look, this has touched your lips, so your guilt is taken away, and your sin is forgiven." Then I heard the Lord's Voice, saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for Us?"

Then I said, "Here I am. Send me!"



We hear the Lord's Word recorded in Luke 5:1ff

In calling the disciples to be full-time fishers of men, Jesus reveals His power as the Lord's Anointed.

One time, while the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the

Word of God, He was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret. He saw two boats there along the lakeshore. The fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. Jesus got into one of the boats, which belonged to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the shore. He sat down and began teaching the crowds from the boat. When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water, and let down your nets for a catch."

Simon answered Him, "Master, we worked hard all through the night and caught nothing. But at Your word I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their nets were about to tear apart. They signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, because I am a sinful man, Lord." For Peter and all those with him were amazed at the number of fish they had caught, and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

Jesus said to Simon, "Have no fear. From now on you will be catching people." After they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed Him.

We hear the Lord's Word recorded in 1 Corinthians 14:12ff

God calls us together to bless us with His clear Word of forgiveness and kindness, mercy and grace

So also with you: Since you are eager for spiritual gifts, seek to use them abundantly in a way that will build up the church.

That is why a person who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. So what is to be done? I will pray using my spirit, and I will pray also using my understanding. I will sing using my spirit, and I will sing also using my understanding.

Otherwise, how will an uninformed person say the "Amen" after you give thanks, since he does not know what you are saying? To be sure, you are giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up. I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. But in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Brothers, do not be children in your thinking, but be like babies in regard to evil, and be mature in your thinking.

We Confess the Christian Faith with the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

- I believe in Jesus, Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church—the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG OF THE DAY: I HEAR THE SAVIOR CALLING #560 RED

Instruction in God's Word

Gathering of offerings, Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Jesus Word teaches us, **"Freely you have received**, **freely give.**"

All are invited to participate, none are compelled to give. Returning offering to God is an act of worship, a thank-You to our generous God. The Holy Spirit blesses us with life-long opportunities to show thanks to Jesus for His awesome salvation. Thank you for your generous gifts supporting the Gospel ministries Jesus is doing through us here. **LEADER:** It is indeed right and good, Lord God, holy Father, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. But most of all we praise You for Your Son who lived among us as a human being and revealed His glory as Your only Son full of grace and truth. So with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we adore and praise Your glorious name:



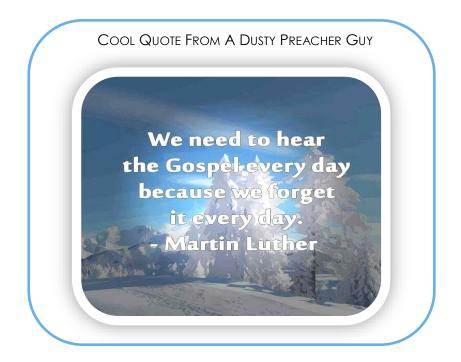
Words of Institution | Distribution of the Holy Communion

Songs from the red song books to use during distribution:416, 440, 508,399 if needed

Prayer, Benediction, Parting Song:

Tune: #325cw

God's Word a Treasure is to me, through sorrow's night my Sun shall be, the Shield of faith in battle. The Father's hand has written there my title as His child and heir, "The kingdom's yours forever." That promise fails me never.



GOOD SHEPHERD Evangelical Lutheran Church and School - WELS 10611 Hwy 13 South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI, USA 54494-9574

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Our mission is simple and bold:

We seek to grow in faith and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We want to *make Him known to others* so they, too, might share in the joy Jesus won for them.

Our divine call to Mrs. Leah (Clark) Vagts who currently teaches grades 3-4 at Redeemer Lutheran School in Tucson, AZ has been returned.

Our next call meeting will be Sunday, February 20, immediately after worship.

We ask that our voting members prayerfully consider attending in person or via zoom online, as we vote for a teacher for our Good Shepherd School.

Your attendance is a vital part of our ministry in sharing the precious Gospel of Jesus.

Thank You!

Let'sGo! is a new Sunday morning Bible class

continuing TODAY!

This 7 week evangelism program encourages and equips us as we become comfortable and confident witnesses in our communities.

May this joint effort by your pastors serve as an opportunity to encourage and learn from one another in a supportive and loving way.

You are warmly invited to participate in-person, by zoom, or in the chat room. See you there!

Our Extended & Growing Family of Faith remains in our prayers to God our Father

Family of Vernon Meyer Family of Todd Kammueller Family of Bobby Heitl Connie Heitl Family of Connie Heise Dr. Roger Newman Lynn Ives Pat & Al Rozelle Elaine Harrington Brad Roberts Elaine Craig Shirley Johnson Chris Ryun Mary Cline Betty Havlik Diane Bannerman Gloria Kraus (Kim Mittelsteadt's mom) Family of Brian Kraus (Kim Mittelsteadt's brother) Dan Raney-IL Troy Marks Dr. Cheli & DeeDee Marichal family Mandy Ehlke & Family Pastor Mike Wolff Rodney & mom, Ruth Sam & Becky Piper Jon Mittelsteadt Judy, DeeDee Marichal's sister's family Elliot Przybylski Donna Marks Julie Bunt Pat Hunziker in IN Sarah Allerding's Grandma Forrest & Elizabeth in CA Junita in Hong Kong Kristin in USA Dvde -France Alberta Schroeder Janet in CA Ben Holbera Sonia in India Gloria Walters in NY Andrew Seidler Elmer Loechler Dave & Jill Melissa in England Baby Oliver Kizewski Robert in Ecuador Erik & Leah Alair & Family (Sem. student) Sean Jenkins in TN Syed Gul in Pakistan

OUR WEEK WITH JESUS AT A GLANCE				
2/6	SUNDAY	9:00 am 10:15 am 2:00 pm	Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School & Bible Study Cable TV Rebroadcast of <i>Last Sunday's</i> Service Solarus Ch 3 & Spectrum Ch 985	
2/7	Monday	11:00 am 6:30 pm	<i>Coffee with Christ</i> at Grace's in WR Board of Education	
2/8	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Council Meeting	
2/9	Wednesday	2:00 pm	Cable TV Rebroadcast of <i>This Sunday's</i> Service Solarus Ch 3 & Spectrum Ch 985	
Birthdays This Week 2/9 Stephen Huber in NV Diane Schroeder 2/12 Karen Heiman Matt Ives				
UPCOMING! Family Movie Night! Friday, February 18 at 6:30 pm				
		Voters C	all Meeting Sunday, February 20 after worship	

From our Evangelism/Fellowship Committee

Good Shepherd will be collecting non-perishable food items and toiletries for the local food pantries. This food gathering comes with a fun twist!



Good Shepherd students will use the canned and boxed items and arrange them in fun and unique ways. The more items you donate the more creative the students can be. The food drive will con-

tinue through mid-February. Items will then be donated to the Adams and Wood County food pantries. Thanks in advance for helping those in need!

Coffee and Treats each Sunday morning in the fellowship hall after worship! A sign-up sheet to serve and clean up is in the narthex.





LISTEN · LESSON 1

VIDEO SEGMENT 1

James 1:10 Remember this, my dear brothers: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.

People's Bible, pg 20: Pastor Mark Jeske "What causes spiritual breakdown in Christian people's thoughts and actions? How can reborn Christians become hypocrites? James has 3 answers: 1) We don't listen, either to God or one another well or enough...2) we talk too much. No one ever learns anything by talking. 3) We don't always deal very well with anger and often let it fill our hearts. Anger poisons all relationships. It never goes away by itself but accumulates daily, leaving less and less room for patience, kindness, understanding, and forgiveness."

The components of Ethical Dialogue (how to handle disagreement by not going on the offensive or expressing frustation because we are being challenged) is mentioned by Professor Paustian. They are:

1) CONFIRMATION: tell them how much they matter to you and you appreciate their honesty

2) EMPATHY: understand what makes a peson think/feel the way they do based on their expeience/where they are coming from

3) PRESENTNESS: you are tempted to disengage from the onversatoin but instead remain fully present

4) SUPPORTIVE CLIMATE: keep the gospel conversation going, pleasant, not obnoxious so they don't mind discussing the gospel with you again



Which of the qualities of Ethical Dialogue challenge you most when you are in strong disagreement? Why?

VIDEO SEGMENT 2 BREAKOUT SESSION



1 Peter 3:15-16 But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you. 16 But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a c lear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.

People's Bible: Pastor Mark Jeske "Be gentle. Nobody can stand evangelism that comes from an aggressive, pushy "know-it-all. Nobody can stand someone wh o talks all the time. In fact, the first principle in effective evangelism is just to listen; ask questions; let the person tell you his or her story." (p.109) Show respect. Nobody can stand an evangelist who puffs up his own denomination by ridiculing other Christian groups. There is a time and place for careful disc ussion of issues of disagreement among Christian church groups, but a conversation with a fallen-away Christian or non-Christian is not it. Respect is also of hug e importance when communicating Christ across cultures. People will be more inclined to open up to your message if they feel respected, that they and their cult ure have worth in your eyes. It is important to lift up Jesus Christ, not your own culture or even your church's traditions." (pp. 109-110)

- 1. Discuss what gentleness might sound like when talking to a skeptical unbeliever.
- 2. Discuss what respect might sound like when talking to a skeptical unbeliever.

VIDEO SEGMENT 3 BEING ON THE OTHER END

Dr. Stephen R. Covey - The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood

Communication is the most important skill in life. You spend years learning how to read, write, and speak. But what about listening? What training have you had that enables you to listen so you really, deeply understand another human being? Probably none, right?

If you're like most people, you probably seek first to be understood; you want to get your point across. In doing so, you may **ignore** the other person completely, **pretend** that you're listening, **selectively hear** only certain parts of the conversation or **attentively focus on only the words** being said, but **miss the meaning** entirely. So why does this happen?

Because **most people listen with the intent to reply, not to understand**. You listen to yourself as you prepare in your mind what you are going to say, the questions you are going to ask, etc. You filter everything you hear through your life experiences, your frame of reference. You check what you hear against your autobiography and see how it measures up. Consequently, you decide prematurely what the other person means before they finish communicating. Do any of the following sound familiar?

You might be saying, "Hey, wait a minute. I'm just trying to relate to the person by drawing on my own experiences. Is that so bad?" In some situations, **autobiographical responses** may be appropriate, such as when another person specifically asks for help from your point of view or when there is already a very high level of trust in the relationship.

SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND

Because you so often listen autobiographically, you tend to respond in one of four ways:

- 1 Evaluating: You judge and then either agree or disagree.
- 2 Probing: You ask questions from your own frame of reference.
- 3 Advising: You give counsel, advice, and solutions to problems.

4 Interpreting: You analyze others' motives and behaviors based on your own experiences.



VIDEO SEGMENT 3

ුසි BREAKOUT SESSION – BEING ON THE OTHER END ස-ස

This is your opportunity to deeply reflect on or explore with other people the experiences you have had of being listened to well and on the people you have known who do it supremely well.

- 1. Describe the best listener you've known. Break it down as concretely as you can. What do they actually do? (For example, recall their non-verbal communication—the look on their face, their eye contact, their tone of voice, their pace, how they handled silences, their posture, their touch...?)
- 2. What do they say? —how they use their turn when it comes back to them, the things they notice and comment on about how you are talking, what you seem to be feeling, and what you are saying, the thoughtful questions they ask, the way they use your name...
- 3. What are the effects people achieve who present themselves and communicate in these ways? What can they accomplish in these ways that otherwise cannot be?
- 4. What do they do to you? Who do you become when you are around them? What do they bring out in you?
- 5. How do you feel about these people?
- 6. Why is true listening so rare? What gets in the way?

VIDEO SEGMENT 4



