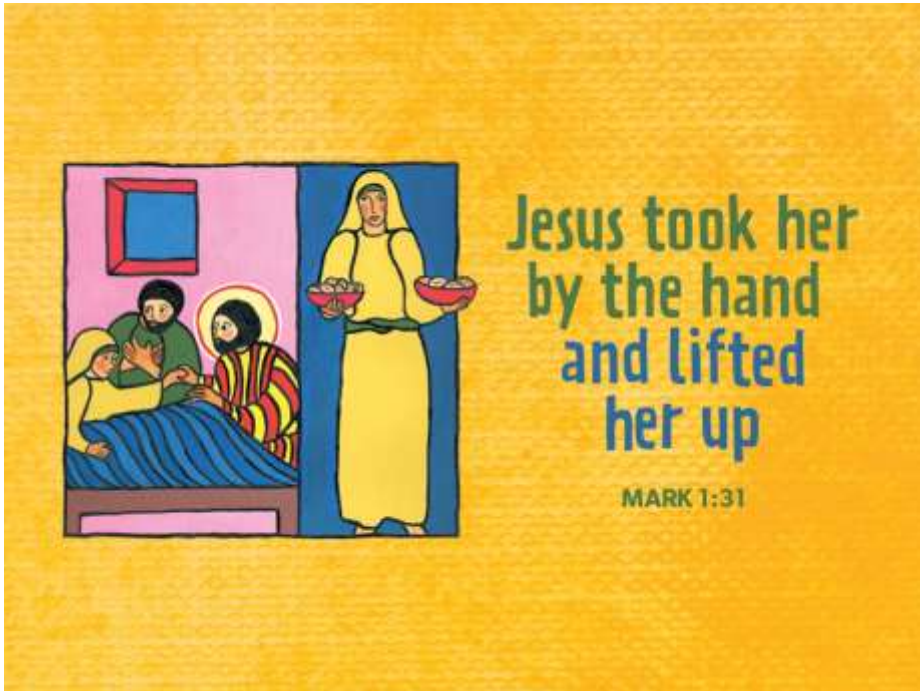


# *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*



*February 4, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.*

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church  
308 North Third Street  
Milan, Minnesota*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

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*Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church...* May God's love be made known to you during your time shared here today.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING HYMN

“Arise, Your Light Has Come!”

ELW #314

## INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

*In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So 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 strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.*

## OPENING PRAYER

P Powerful God, from the very beginning you blessed creation.

C **You have loved and shielded your people  
through all the joys and trials of life.**

P We come to you this day, rejoicing in the many blessings you have given to us.

C **We open our hearts again to hear your word for us  
and to gather strength and joy for service in your world.**

P Be with us and bless us again, we pray. Amen.

## \*\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P We deceive ourselves if we think  
that our ways are hidden from God.  
Therefore let us confess our sin,  
trusting in the mercy of God our Maker.

C **God, you are everlasting,  
the creator of all that is.  
Your understanding is beyond measure.**

*Ps. 147:5*

**We confess to you that we have  
sinned against you and our neighbors.  
In your compassion, forgive us,  
for we place our hope in your steadfast love. Amen.**

*Ps. 147:11*

P Praise the Lord!  
Our God heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up our wounds.

*Ps. 147:3*

God takes pleasure in those  
who place their trust in God's grace.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**      "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

ELW #843

**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.

**C**      **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. Amen.**

**LESSON: Isaiah 40:21-31**

*The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them  
to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the  
earth and gives strength to those who are weary.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## LESSON: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

*God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

### GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

*Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.*

P The Gospel of our Lord.

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

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### SERMON

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

“God, Whose Almighty Word”

ELW #673

#### APOSTLES' CREED

page 105

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 Pilot,  
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 THE CHURCH

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

P God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

*The prayers are concluded with these words:*

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE** “As with Gladness Men of Old” (vs. 1 & 3) ELW #302

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

P O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: 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.**

#### **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.**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

page 154

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.**

#### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

<b>COMMUNION HYMNS</b>	“Lamb of God”	page 154
	“Now We Join in Celebration”	ELW #462
	“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”	ELW #623
	“Abide with Me”	ELW #629

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Giver of every gift,  
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.  
Raise us to life by your power  
for the benefit of all and to your glory,  
now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**P** May you run and not be weary.  
May you rise up on the wings of eagles.  
May you know without doubt  
that the everlasting God goes with you. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

ELW #773

## **DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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