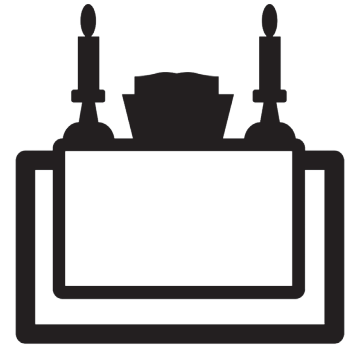


Epiphany 6

February 12, 2023

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jesus teaches that faithful obedience to God is far deeper than just adherence to the letter of the Law. It is reflected in our secret thoughts and motives. As followers of Christ, our lives are exemplified by the outpouring of the Spiritual fruit: lovingkindness, patience, peace, and mercy. This is not something we can bring about on our own — the Spirit living in us produces this sort of joyful response.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

God desires that his people follow his commandments and walk in ways of righteousness. Following God and keeping his commandments will result in life as God intends and thus be filled with true blessing — that of God's holy presence.

Psalm 119:1-8

This hymn echoes the reality that those who walk in the Lord's ways, observing his commands and delighting in his statutes, will experience the fullness of life and thus find themselves "happy." This happiness is not as the world understands; it is a feeling that cannot be snatched away by fickle circumstances or life's trials.

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Paul told the new believers in the Corinthian church that they must not regard themselves as better than one another or continue their factions and divisions. He reminded them that they are all God's workers, and God's work is only accomplished through the work of the Holy Spirit. They are young in the faith, but they will learn the ways of Christ; unity is the sign of the Spirit's maturing power.

Matthew 5:21-37

Jesus continued teaching the ways of the kingdom and called upon those who will follow him to learn to live in the spirit of the law, rather than adhering only to the limits of a traditional understanding of the commandments. His words mirror to us our bondage to sin and our deep need of his grace.

Choose Life

Walk in the Law of the Lord

One Ministry

Expanded Expectations

Liturgical Color: Green

During the Season of Epiphany:

- Use the Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise.
- Use the Apostles' Creed for this Sunday in Epiphany.
- Consider how often in the church we get confused about whose ministry this really is: It is Christ's ministry, not mine or yours. We are unified in Christ for the sake of the world that needs to hear and know the good news.
- If your congregation experiences debilitating conflict, or even marginal conflict that gets you, as a people, off course, consider a Bible Study called "Family Matters." You can find it in the Sola online store.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
O Master, Let Me Walk With You	492	---	---	818	229	229
Arise, Your Light Has Come	---	652	---	314	---	---
Just a Closer Walk with Thee	---	---	---	697	248	248
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing	499	---	686	807	227	227
Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus	487	---	685	802	---	---
Just As I Am	296	---	570	592	193	193
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word	230	---	655	517	71	71
Seek Ye First	---	783	712	---	---	---
O Christ, Our Hope	300	---	553	604	---	***
For the Fruit of All Creation	563	---	894	679	---	---

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW= Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV= With One Voice, ELW= Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB= The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC= The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles:

Grace (What Sets the Sinner Free)
(CCLI# 5807114)
Salvation Belongs to Our God
(CCLI# 24092)
One Voice
(CCLI# 12138)
Kyrie Eleison
(CCLI# 1765776)
The Potter's Hand
(CCLI# 2449771)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.