

Epiphany 5

February 9, 2025

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (Year C)

The call of God can be a mysterious thing. At times it comes in obvious, hard to miss ways like it did for Isaiah. A winged seraph touched his lips with a burning coal and God sent him to be a prophet for His people. Other times it takes a bit of physical evidence, such as a miraculously large catch of fish after a long night's fruitless labor. Either way, God will get our attention and call us to come and follow Jesus.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)

The Burning Coal

Isaiah had a throne-room vision of the Lord sitting on his throne in full glory and beauty. The prophet confessed his sinful nature and unworthiness for the job, but a seraph flew to his side and touched his lips with a burning coal. God chose Isaiah, made atonement for his sin, and commissioned him for service to Israel.

Psalm 138

You Answered Me

The psalmist begins this song by thanking and praising the Lord for his protection and steadfast love. His praises include the joy over answered prayers. God heard his pleas and did not ignore them. God strengthened the psalmist in the midst of his trials. When we call, God answers.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20

Interpretation Necessary

Paul instructed the Corinthians to focus their efforts on building up the church. Together, more can be accomplished as where one person is lacking, another fills the void. It is important to speak aloud our prayers and teaching so that others may be instructed and built up in the faith. Even in regard to speaking in tongues, it is vital to interpret the prayer for the sake of those listening.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 5:1-11

Miraculous Catch of Fish

Jesus entered the boat of Simon Peter and told him to push out into the water. Jesus took the opportunity to teach people from the boat. Afterwards, Jesus told the fishermen to head into deeper water where they caught a net-breaking load.

Suggestions for the Day:

- Liturgical Color: Green
- Use the Kyrie OR Hymn of Praise.
- Use the Apostles' Creed in Ordinary Time.
- Peter was hopeless. He and his fellow fishermen had spent the entire night fishing and caught nothing at all. At least the use of his boat was helpful to Jesus who preached from it as if it were a stage set in the water. At Jesus' suggestion the fishermen finally assented to casting their nets once more and they were rewarded with an incredible catch of fish. Hope was restored! Jesus is our hope!
- Spend some time discussing how God's call comes into our lives. Ask people to share their own call stories.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake	455	---	688	799	---	---
Will You Come and Follow Me	---	---	---	798	---	---
You Servants of God	252	---	---	825	---	web
Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life	513	---	---	816	---	---
Eternal Father, Strong to Save	467	---	717	756	6	6
He Leadeth Me	501	---	---	---	232	232
I Love to Tell the Story	390	---	---	661	265	265
Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult	494	---	---	696	184	184
Lord of Light	405	---	---	688	---	---
For the Bread Which You Have Broken	200	---	---	494	---	---

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:

I Will Follow
(CCLI# 5806878)
Send Me Out
(CCLI# 5621778)
In Christ Alone
(CCLI# 3350395)
I Will Carry You
(CCLI# 7147714)
Fishers of Men
(CCLI# 4705420)

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