

*A city*  
BUILT ON A  
*HILL*

*cannot be*  
HID

MATTHEW 5:14



Complete Worship Folder

February 8, 2026 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

February 11, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8695 Gratiot Road Saginaw, MI 48609 (989)781-2170

Email address: [ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net)

Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

## **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

---

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice, ...**you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**C: Amen**

Hymn: "This Little Light of Mine" (ELW 677)

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

#### 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... **Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Children's Message (10:30 a.m.) & Dismiss to Children's Church

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

<sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments;  
they want God on their side.

<sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9a</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

<sup>9b</sup> If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water

whose waters never fail.  
<sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. <sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup>and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—<sup>10</sup>God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. <sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. <sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. <sup>16</sup>"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation: "Come and See" (ACS 976)

What are you looking for?  
Come, see, come and see.  
What are you looking for?  
Come and see. (Come and see.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter.

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

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. <sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Carry the Light” (CCLI 126402)

In this world of darkness  
We are given light  
Hope for all the dying  
How will they know how will they know  
That Jesus loves them  
And He died to save them

**Chorus** Carry the Light carry the Light  
Go and tell the children  
They are precious in His sight  
Carry the Light carry the Light  
Go and preach the gospel  
'Til there is no more night  
In the name of Jesus Christ  
Carry the Light

Count them by the millions  
Blinded slaves to sin  
Inside they are dying  
How will they know how will they know  
That Jesus loves them  
And His heart is breaking **Chorus**

Go ye into all the world  
Go ye into all the world  
And carry the name of Jesus Christ,  
Carry the Light  
The Light  
carry the Light

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

### The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...Lord, in your mercy,

**Congregation responds...hear our prayer.**

### Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### Offering

Offering Song: "Oh, What Shall I Render" (HFW 983)

Oh, what shall I render in thanks to my Lord  
for all the good gifts by which I am restored?  
No treasure I tender could ever repay  
God's mercy and faithfulness, new ev'ry day.

My hands take the cup of salvation you give;  
I'll praise you, O God, for as long as I live.  
My thanks will rise up as I call on your name,  
with all of your people your goodness proclaim.

### Offering Prayer

A: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### Thanksgiving

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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

**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.**

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

Communion Songs: "Christ, Be Our Light" (ELW 715)

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

**Refrain** Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. **Refrain**

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. **Refrain**

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. **Refrain**

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. **Refrain**

"God's Work, Our Hands" (ACS 1000)

God's work, our hands: working together,  
building a future, repairing the world,  
raising up homes, planting new gardens,  
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.  
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,  
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,  
following Jesus to places unknown,  
walking as friends, marching for freedom,  
running the race with God's future the goal.  
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,  
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our voice: singing together,  
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,  
praying for peace, shouting for justice,  
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.  
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,  
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God is at work in and around us:  
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!  
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,  
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.  
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,  
sharing the good news of your gospel.

#### Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

#### Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

#### Blessing

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise † bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Song: "My Lighthouse" (CCLI 7002032) (*video*)

In my wrestling and in my doubts  
In my failures You won't walk out  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence You won't let go  
In the questions Your truth will hold  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

**Chorus** My Lighthouse my Lighthouse  
Shining in the darkness  
I will follow You oh  
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse  
I will trust the promise  
You will carry me safe to shore  
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings  
With each morning I'll rise and sing  
My God's love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh  
You are the peace in my troubled sea **Chorus**

Fire before us  
You're the brightest  
You will lead us  
Through the storms (hey)  
(REPEAT 3X)  
**Chorus**

### Dismissal

**C: We work together to spread Christ's love with our community, through Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Lives, and an Open Table.**

A: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

This Little Light of Mine, Text: African American spiritual Arrangement Augsburg Fortress P.O. Box 1209 Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209 United States Telephone: 612-330-3530 Email: copyright@augzburgfortress.org Website: <http://www.augszburgfortress.org/copyrights/> All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved All rights reserved

Come and See, Text: Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962, from John 1:38-39 Text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

Carry the Light, Twila Paris CCLI Song #126402 © 1989 Ariose Music; Mountain Spring Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License #2006453

Oh, What Shall I Render, Text: Martin A. Seltz, based on Ps. 116. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

Christ Be Our Light, Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Text © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

God's Work Our Hands, Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954 Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

My Lighthouse, Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson CCLI Song #7002032 © 2013 Thankyou Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License #2006453 Provided through Worshiphouse Media through iworship.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright ©2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006501 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.