



*“The Praise of a Trapped  
Prophet”*

*Sunday, June 21, 2020 at 11:00 am*

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
(Father’s Day/Graduation Sunday)  
(Contemporary Service)**

**AS WE GATHER**

It is great during good times to believe that God is on your side with His blessings. Have you ever seen an old black-and-white photograph of a church’s Divine Service during or just after World War II? Extra chairs were added in the aisles for the great number of worshipers in dedicated attendance! Seventy-five years later, look around. Today Christianity has not only become more unpopular but is even seen by some as the enemy, the oppressor of freedom, the uninvited critic of a society that no longer labels anything as sinful. As it was for the prophet Jeremiah, to remain faithful to God means for now to be shunned, even persecuted. But the truth of God’s Word does not change. It is like a fire that reveals and destroys sin but at the same time inspires and gives strength in the very bones of all who believe.

*Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk (\*).*

**THE PRELUDE**

Praise Team

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**THE WELCOME AND VIDEO GREETING**

Pastor Chris Matthis

**Who am I, that the Lord of all the earth  
Would care to know my name,  
Would care to feel my hurt?  
Who am I, that the Bright and Morning Star  
Would choose to light the way  
For my ever wandering heart?**

**Not because of who I am,  
But because of what You've done.  
Not because of what I've done,  
But because of who You are.**

**I am a flower quickly fading  
Here today and gone tomorrow  
A wave tossed in the ocean  
A vapor in the wind  
Still You hear me when I'm calling.  
Lord, You catch me when I'm falling  
And You've told me who I am.  
I am Yours, I am Yours.**

**Who am I, that the eyes that see my sin  
Would look on me with love and watch me rise again?  
Who am I, that the voice that calmed the sea  
Would call out through the rain  
And calm the storm in me?**

**Not because of who I am,  
But because of what You've done.  
Not because of what I've done,  
But because of who You are.**

**I am a flower quickly fading  
Here today and gone tomorrow  
A wave tossed in the ocean  
A vapor in the wind  
Still You hear me when I'm calling.  
Lord, You catch me when I'm falling  
And You've told me who I am.  
I am Yours, I am Yours.**

*"Our God"*

Chris Tomlin

**Water You turned into wine  
Open the eyes of the blind  
There's no one like you  
None like you**

**Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like you  
None like you**

**Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God**

**Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like you  
None like you**

**Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God**

**Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God**

**And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
Then what can stand against?  
Then what can stand against?**

*"Here I Am to Worship"*

Tim Hughes

**Beauty that made this heart adore you  
Hope of a life spent with you**

**Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that you're my God  
You're all together lovely**

You're all together worthy  
You're all together wonderful to me  
King of all days, oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly you came to the earth you created  
All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that you're my God  
You're all together lovely  
You're all together worthy  
You're all together wonderful to me

I'll never know how much it costs  
To see my sin upon that cross  
I'll never know how much it costs  
To see my sin upon that cross  
I'll never know how much it costs  
To see my sin upon that cross

Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that you're my God  
You're all together lovely  
You're all together worthy  
You're all together wonderful to me

## + PREPARATION +

### **\*INVOCATION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of ✠ the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

### **\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** We come before the Lord this day to be strengthened in faith and to be witnesses of righteousness and truth before a hostile world. Let us first confess our own sinfulness, that we receive mercy, grace, and forgiveness from God.

**People:** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by

**what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

+ **WORD** +

**OLD TESTAMENT**

*Jeremiah 20:7-13*

*(Jeremiah complains about persecution.)*

O LORD, you have deceived me,  
and I was deceived;  
you are stronger than I,  
and you have prevailed.  
I have become a laughingstock all the day;  
everyone mocks me.  
For whenever I speak, I cry out,  
I shout, "Violence and destruction!"  
For the word of the LORD has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.  
If I say, "I will not mention him,  
or speak any more in his name,"  
there is in my heart as it were a burning fire  
shut up in my bones,  
and I am weary with holding it in,  
and I cannot.  
For I hear many whispering.  
Terror is on every side!  
"Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
say all my close friends,  
watching for my fall.  
"Perhaps he will be deceived;  
then we can overcome him  
and take our revenge on him."

But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble;  
they will not overcome me.

They will be greatly shamed,  
for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.

O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous,  
who sees the heart and the mind,  
let me see your vengeance upon them,  
for to you have I committed my cause.

Sing to the LORD;  
praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hand of evildoers.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 91:1-10*

Pastor: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High

**People: will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.**

Pastor: I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,

**People: my God, in whom I trust."**

Pastor: For He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler

**People: and from the deadly pestilence.**

Pastor: He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you will find refuge;

**People: His faithfulness is a shield and buckler.**

Pastor: You will not fear the terror of the night,

**People: nor the arrow that flies by day,**

Pastor: nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,

People: nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Pastor: A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand,

**People: but it will not come near you.**

Pastor: You will only look with your eyes

**People: and see the recompense of the wicked.**

Pastor: Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—

**People: the Most High, who is my refuge—**

Pastor: no evil shall be allowed to befall you,

**People: no plague come near your tent.**

## **EPISTLE**

*Romans 6:12-23*

*(The wages of sin is death...)*

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **\*HOLY GOSPEL**

*Matthew 10:5a, 21-33*

*(You are of more value than many sparrows.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them..."Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Pastor Chris Matthis

## **SERMON SONG**

*“Whom Shall I Fear  
(God of Angel Armies)”*

Chris Tomlin

**You hear me when I call  
You are my morning song  
Though darkness fills the night  
It cannot hide the light  
Whom shall I fear**

**You crush the enemy  
Underneath my feet  
You are my sword and shield  
Though troubles linger still  
Whom shall I fear**

**I know who goes before me  
I know who stands behind  
The God of angel armies  
Is always by my side**



**The one who reigns forever  
He is a friend of mine  
The God of angel armies  
Is always by my side**

**My strength is in Your name  
For You alone can save  
You will deliver me  
Yours is the victory  
Whom shall I fear  
Whom shall I fear**

**I know who goes before me  
I know who stands behind  
The God of angel armies  
Is always by my side**

**The one who reigns forever  
He is a friend of mine  
The God of angel armies  
Is always by my side**

**And nothing formed against me shall stand  
You hold the whole world in Your hands  
I'm holding on to Your promises  
You are faithful**

## **SERMON**

Pastor Chris Matthis

## **\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

## OFFERING

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit [www.epiphanylc.org](http://www.epiphanylc.org) and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.*



*If you wish to mail your gift, send your check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.*

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY\*\*](#)

## RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

### **\*GRADUATION BLESSING/PRAYER**

Pastor: Gracious God, heavenly Father, Your Word teaches that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...” (Proverbs 1:7). As the Creator of all things, You are the source of all true knowledge. Therefore, we ask You to bless all graduates with godly wisdom, strength of character, and zeal for service to nation, community, church, and family. Empower and equip all graduates by Your Holy Spirit to use their gifts and talents to Your glory and the benefit of their neighbor. Reveal the plans You have for them, “plans for welfare and not for evil, to give [them] a future and a hope” (Jeremiah 29:11). Above all, grant them Your grace. We ask this and all things in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **\*FATHER’S DAY PRAYER**

Pastor: Let us pray. Dearest Lord Jesus, You taught us to call God “Father,” and You reveal His power, love, and care for us. Our heavenly Father is the one by whom all fatherhood is named. So on this Father’s Day, we give you thanks for our fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, and other special men you place in our lives to love, protect, guide, and teach us. Help us always to honor our fathers, serve and obey, love and cherish them. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

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

**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.**

## **\*BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*SENDING SONG**

*"Lord, Reign In Me"*

Brenton Brown

**Over all the earth you reign on high  
Every mountain stream, every sunset sky  
But my one request, Lord my only aim  
Is that You'd reign in me again**

**Lord reign in me, reign in your power  
Over all my dreams, in my darkest hour  
You are the Lord of all I am  
So won't you reign in me again**

**Over every thought, over every word  
May my life reflect the beauty of my Lord  
Cause you mean more to me than any earthly thing  
So won't you reign in me again**

**Lord reign in me, reign in your power  
Over all my dreams, in my darkest hour  
You are the Lord of all I am  
So won't you reign in me again  
So won't you reign in me again  
So won't you reign in me again**

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

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### **STEWARDSHIP VERSE**

*Our giving to God is to be done voluntarily.*

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,  
not reluctantly or under compulsion,  
for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7).*



## **Epiphany Lutheran Church of Castle Rock, Colorado**

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Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

*“We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ”*

