



## SECOND READING

*Ephesians 4:25-5:2*

A: The second reading according to Ephesians, the fourth and fifth chapters.

<sup>25</sup> So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup> Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup> Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup> Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup> and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. <sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup> and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 18:15-50*

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

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

<sup>15</sup> “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, Senior Pastor

## SONG OF THE DAY

*“What a Beautiful Name It Is”*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

David Lochner

A: We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

*A brief silence.*

A: You reawaken our hearts to your mercy. We give you thanks for renewers of the church in every age. Enliven the creativity and persistence of all seeking to transform the church into a closer vision of your beloved community. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your presence and gift of life are revealed in the shade of trees, the growth of seeds into flowers, and in the blessing of plants granting food in their seasons. Heal lands scarred by deforestation, pollution, or infestation. Teach us to cultivate the earth with respect and reverence. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Our nations and communities are divided, O God. Teach us again to listen with curiosity and mercy, even in disagreement. Grant us the humility to acknowledge our hardness of heart and make us bold in modeling cooperation for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer. .**

A: Hear the prayers of all who cry out to you from the depths of illness, fear, despair, or hopelessness (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). With haste, rescue victims of slavery, trafficking, exploitation, and abuse, and bless organizations and individuals who work on their behalf. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Grant wisdom and clarity to all who are in seasons of discernment and transition: high school graduates preparing for first jobs or new educational journeys, those who are shifting careers, and those who are navigating changes in their relationships. Accompany them with your peace. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Praise to you for our ancestors in faith who believed, spoke, and lived in you (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Give us confidence that as Jesus was raised, so we too will be raised, with all the saints, into your everlasting presence. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **STEWARDSHIP READING**

*Proverbs 22:22-23*

Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

### **OFFERING**

*"This Little Light of Mine"*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**C: Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

### **POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **BLESSING**

### **SENDING SONG**

*"We're Gonna Shine"*

### **DISMISSAL**

# Healthy Relationships

Life is made up of relationships – relationships between people and other people, between people and communities, between people and institutions, between people and God. During the six weeks spanning Mother’s Day to Father’s Day, we will examine ways to develop healthier relationships in our lives, basing our learning on the timeless wisdom the Scriptures teach us.

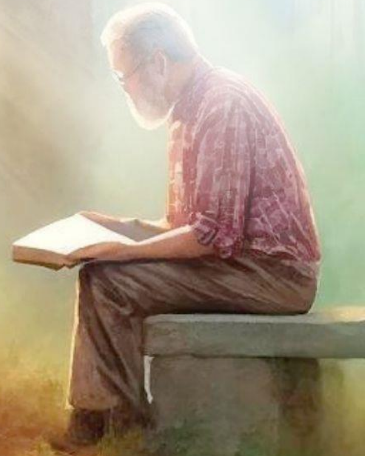
## Sundays

**Mother’s Day to Father’s Day**

May 12 - June 16

9 a.m. Traditional Service

11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service



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