

Pinawa Lutheran Church

A congregation of the ELCIC &
The Brokenhead Shared Ministry
Altruism, Stewardship, Faith, Cooperation

February 4, 2024
5th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Leader: Anita Drabyk

With One Voice - Service of Word and Prayer Page 46

INTRODUCTION: In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

GATHERING SONG WOV 746 – Day by Day **GREETING** – Advent to Transfiguration Page 46 **SCRIPTURE SONG** Page 47

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
 Has it not been told you from the beginning?
 Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

PSALM 147:1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honour God with praise!

²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.

³The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds I up their wounds.

⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;

make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸who covers the heavens with clouds

and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.

⁹God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,

in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20cl} Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY WOV 765 – Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love **RESPONSE TO THE WORD** Page 49 **PEACE** Page 50

OFFERING: The offering plate is on the table at the church entrance.

OFFERTORY: What Have We to Offer?

What have we to offer? What have we to share? Coins from the coffer, hearts filled with care.

God will not falter; so let us dare lay it at the altar there.

What have we to offer? What have we to bring? Love, ripe with laughter; hope that we can sing; dreams of what we're after; promises of when. Lay it at the altar then.

What have we to offer? What have we to give? Eyes that are wide open; lies that we won't live; truth that must be spoken; justice somehow. Lay it at the altar now.

What have we to offer? What have we to give? Lives we will live.

OFFERING PRAYER: Page 51

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

LORD'S PRAYER Page 52

BLESSING Page 53 **SENDING SONG** WOV 771 - Great is Thy Faithfulness

ANNOUNCEMENTS DISMISSAL

BIBLE STUDY: 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. All are welcome.

IRONWOOD WORSHIP: 4th Sunday of each month.

Pastor Stacy Moroz