

## FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 5, 2017

9:30 AM

**Concordia Lutheran Church**  
**6705 Brecksville Road**  
**216-524-2188**  
**clcindependence@wowway.biz**

**Pastor Robert Hendrix**  
**Parsonage 216-520-3993**  
**Fax 216-573-9005**  
**concordialcms.biz**

**Prayer upon entering:** *Dear Lord, Jesus, during this season of Epiphany we give You thanksgiving and praise for the fact that You, the long-awaited Messiah of Israel, came to be a Savior for all nations. We worship You this day as we ponder the mystery of how the promised heir of David came as a Redeemer for all peoples. Please accept our worship this day and send to us Your Holy Spirit, so that, living in a world where people are still divided according to race, we might be strengthened to become instruments that proclaim Your message of Good News for all people. Hear us, for You are our Savior and King. Amen.*

**ELDER:**

E. Kester

**USHERS:**

B. Komandt

Welcome! We want to welcome all of the worshippers who have come to worship our God and Savior as we rejoice in the offer of salvation that we have in Christ our Savior. We at Concordia are very glad that each of you is here with us this morning. Please come back and worship with us next week.

**Visitors!** We are especially glad that you are with us and pray that you will be lifted up by the service this morning. If there is any way we can minister to you this day, please speak to Pastor Hendrix, or an elder or usher.

A sincere welcome to all who have come to worship in the spirit of David who wrote:

*"How good it is to sing praises to our God ..."* (Psalm 147:1 NRSV).

**Let us lift up our minds and hearts to our loving Savior and Lord. May the incomparable blessings that come from Christ alone touch each of us.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Please fill out an attendance card in the pew rack. **Please use only one card per family.** Place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher after the service. If you are visiting with us today, please include your address.

**We want to thank the elders for conducting services** this morning while Pastor Hendrix is visiting his father in Washington State. Pastor Hendrix will be back in the office on Wednesday

*We must not start something by trusting in great power or human reason, even if all the power in the world were ours. For God cannot and will not suffer that a good work begin by relying upon one's own power and reason. (The Christian in Society I:125) – Martin Luther*

*Since in the Lord's Prayer we call God our Father, it is our duty always to behave and conduct ourselves as godly children, that He may not receive shame, but honor and praise from us. (Large Catechism, Lord's Prayer, 39) – Martin Luther*

### **This Week's Schedule**

**TODAY-9:30 AM Worship Service**

10:45 AM SS

**TUE - 7:15 PM Choir**

**SUN - 8:00 AM The Lutheran Hour, WHKW 1220 AM**

**Feb – 12 9:30 AM Communion Worship Service**

10:45 AM SS & BC

**Birthday Wishes** to Dolores Baxa and Pat Smith.

Thank you to the choir members for hosting today's fellowship hour.

Pick up your *new* **Jan-Mar. Portals of Prayers**, and your **2017 Calendar** courtesy of Vodrazka Funeral Home.

**Offering Envelopes for 2017** are available for pickup on the information table under the main bulletin board.

The **weekly bulletin** can be viewed on our web site at **Concordialcms.biz**, under Concordia News.

**A Prayer of Confession**

Dear God, we admit we've fallen short in all areas of our lives. We haven't followed You faithfully, and we haven't shown love to our neighbors. We don't deserve Your forgiveness. But we confess our sins, knowing that You are a God of grace. Thank you for offering us Your riches at Christ's expense. Give us a clean slate and help us live for You, now and always. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## **A Man of Prayer**

One of the most familiar pictures of George Washington, our first President, has him kneeling in prayer in the woods of Valley Forge. Those who knew Washington found that he was indeed a man of prayer. In fact, he thought of his service on behalf of his nation as service to God. Henry Cabot Lodge, historian and U.S. Senator, once said of Washington that what raised him to such high glory was his great talent, guided and guarded by religion.

It is prayer and our talent offered to God that can enable each of us to fulfill the role God desires for us.

## **An Every Day God**

A missionary was telling a Native American about Christ, the Son of God, and how we gather every Sunday to worship our Creator. The man was curious why Christians worship together each week. "Does this God come only on Sundays?" he asked.

How would you have answered?

## **The Art Gallery**

How does the soul wait upon God?

Picture it this way: We're in an art gallery and a certain painting catches our eye. We want to get as much meaning and inspiration from it as possible. Do we rush past it and expect meaning to leap out as we pass? No, we have to wait in its presence, stand or sit in front of the painting and wait for it to speak to our innermost soul.

So it is with God. We have to open our souls to let God's personality invade ours. We must wait and not rush.

In our Christian walk, let us find occasions to be still and come to know God. *"Be still, and know that I am God!"* (Psalm 46:10).

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN WILL BE: A**  
**congregation where everyone knows and loves the Lord, understands what He has done for us in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and seeks to live a life that will glorify Him;**

**A congregation where everyone loves to worship and commune regularly, study God's Word, and build each other up in the faith;**

**A congregation where everyone is willing to use their lives and life's resources to serve their Savior;**

**A congregation where everyone is willing and able to witness to their Savior in their everyday life, inviting those they meet to find in Jesus the same peace which they themselves have found;**

**A congregation where everyone knows what it means to pray and where everyone regularly seeks the Holy Spirit's aid, protection and wisdom, helping the congregation to live and act as God intends it;**

**A congregation where everyone will lovingly welcome *anyone* regardless of race or class who seeks to know the God of Holy Scripture and to live as He directs us;**

**A congregation where everyone will seek to be a fruitful vine in the Lord's vineyard, bearing eternal fruit for Him.**

*It shall be the purpose of Concordia Lutheran Church to **serve God** by the preaching of His Word and the administration of His Sacraments so that people may come to Christ, be strengthened and grow in their faiths, and thus, live lives of joyful purpose (mission) in service to God and one another.*

**"Jesus First in Everything!"**

***It's not words on a page, it's an attitude for life!***