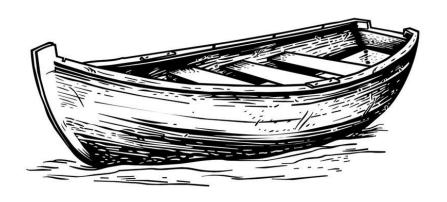
# Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church 419 Bossardsville Road Stroudsburg, PA

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

**February 9, 2025** 

# THEN JESUS SAID TO SIMON, "DO NOT BE AFRAID; FROM NOW ON YOU WILL BE CATCHING PEOPLE."

"WHEN THEY HAD BROUGHT THEIR BOATS TO SHORE, THEY LEFT EVERYTHING AND FOLLOWED HIM."



Welcome to Christ Hamilton! Thank you for joining with us in worship in whatever manner you can. This service is also available anytime on Facebook or our website along with a bulletin at www.christhamilton.org. Please share in the responses, sing the hymns, and pray the prayers. Call us and connect with us whenever you need.

Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

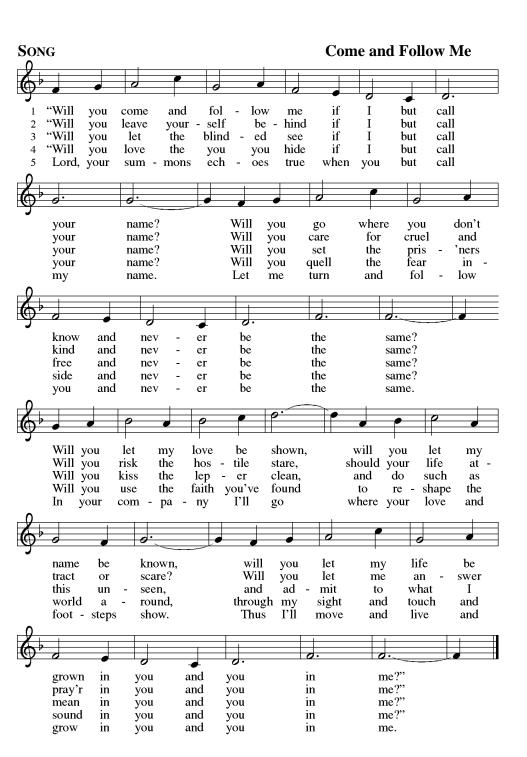
Please know that all are welcome at Christ Hamilton! Life is difficult enough and shouldn't be when you come to church. Regardless of how you got here, we are glad you did. If you don't know your neighbor please welcome them. **All are welcome here!** Please join us for coffee hour after the service in the serving area of the Lighthouse (*building to right as you exit*). At Christ Hamilton we are an intentional community of faith, gathered in worship, united in fellowship and generous in our outreach.

**Today's service:** The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

**Altar flowers** are given in celebration of Kathleen Field and Denise DeVivo's birthdays!

**PRELUDE** 

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME** 



#### GREETING

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

let us

pray to the Lord,



let us

pray

to the Lord.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Minister: Let us pray. . . . Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe.

Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

## FIRST READING

**ISAIAH 6:1-8** 

Reader: A reading from the  $6^{th}$  chapter of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Sung responsively.



Cantor: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with | my whole heart; before the gods I will | sing your praise.

All: I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast | love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things.

Cantor: When I called, you | answered me; you increased my | strength within me.

All: All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O Lord, when they have heard the words | of your mouth.

Cantor: They will sing of the ways | of the Lord, that great is the glory | of the Lord.

All: The Lord is high, yet cares | for the lowly, perceiving the haughty | from afar.

Cantor: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall save me.

All: You will make good your pur- | pose for me; O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands. SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Reader: A reading from the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of First Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup> Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

## Please stand.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Luke 5:1-11

Minister: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

<sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

<sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."

<sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ.

**MESSAGE** 



Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946
Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte
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## **APOSTLE'S CREED**

Minister: Let us confess our faith together.

All: 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.

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

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

# **Prayers**

Assisting Minister: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

God of creation, provide protection from the elements and other hazards to all whose work brings them outside: for fishers, ranchers, line workers, and construction crews. Guide us to live carefully alongside the wonders of the land and waters. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind especially those we raise to you now. . . . Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

We thank you for those who have courageously gone before us in the faith. May we too show a deep trust in you throughout our lives. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

All: Amen.

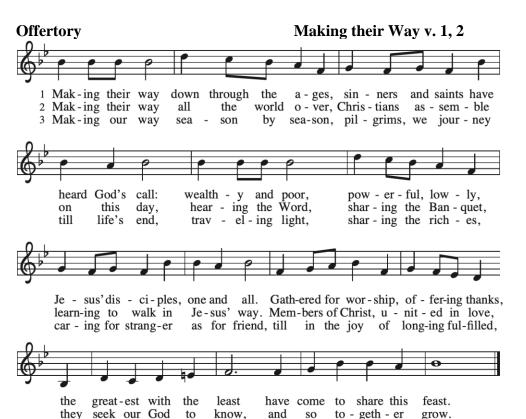
# **PEACE**

Assisting Minister: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

The Peace is shared with one another.

# Offering



#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

to - geth - er

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. . . . God of grace,

will

All: Your love reaches to the heavens,

we

and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

e - ter - nal

home.

Bless what we offer to your service:

our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

come

to

our

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

# **Great Thanksgiving**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## **Preface**

Minister: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, Almighty and Merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,

you pour out your Spirit,

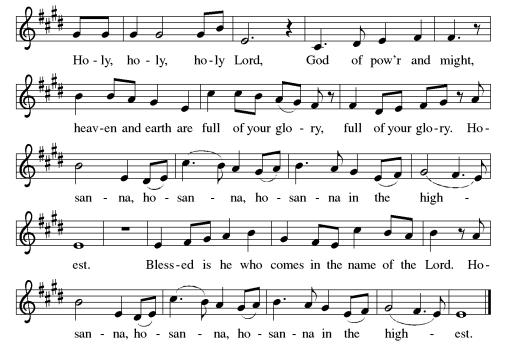
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Minister: You are indeed Holy, Almighty and Merciful God.
You are most Holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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

Minister: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

All: 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, for ever and ever. Amen

### Communion

We invite all baptized Christians to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Those not communing are invited to come forward for a blessing. For those who would prefer not to have wine, pre-filled glasses of grape juice are available in the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the Pastor.

Please come forward by way of the right aisle, receive the bread from the pastor and move to the chalice. Return by way of the left hand aisle as you return to your seat.

Minister: The body of Christ given for you. Communion Assistant: The blood of Christ shed for you.

# Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult



Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895 Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

# Come, Let Us Eat



Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt. Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

Minister: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

#### **PRAYER**

Assisting Minister: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

All: Amen

#### BLESSING

Minister: The God of love, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

All: Amen.

# Holy, Holy, Holy



bless - ed

Trin - i -

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

in

# Dismissal:

God

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

three

per -

sons,

All: Thanks be to God!

#### POSTLUDE

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# **Worship Leaders**

Minister: Rev. Steven C. Claycomb

Organist: Beth McElroy

Lector: Deb Porter

Lay Assistant: John Balas

Greeters: Bud and Rhonda Bonser

Choir Director: Tassy Gilbert

Accompanist: Gail Derrer

Announcements: Amanda Balas, Office Administrator

Videographer: Steve Metzgar, Craig & Anson Cassidy,

Rich Weigand

Coffee Hour: will be hosted by Stephen Ministry today.

**Prayer at the Rail** - Stephen Ministers will be available for prayer at the altar after the service for any concerns that you might have.

**Please Remember in Prayer:** Sandy H., Betty J., Jim H. If you, or someone you know has been hospitalized or needs a pastoral visit please let the office know 570-992-4085.

**Happy Birthday!** Rosie Potochnick 2/1, Emil Suarez 2/1, Denise DeVivo 2/2, Sharon Sabatine 2/3, Michelle Teeple 2/4, Amy Leap 2/5, Eileen Dorshimer 2/15, Ernie Staples 2/22, Ellie Balas 2/23

**Music Planning** will be held on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> in the music room after service.

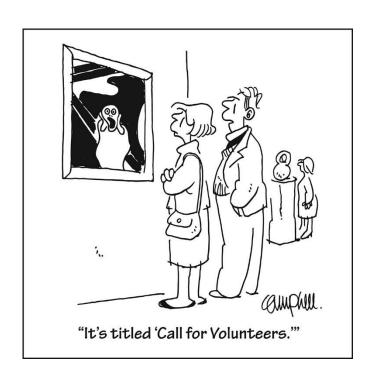
**Genealogy** recently completed oral history interviews with Don Paynter and Sandy Lee about their time attending Christ Hamilton. If you'd like to watch the interviews, they are on our YouTube channel and on our FaceBook page. A copy of these interviews will be saved in the Genealogy Room's database.

**Fellowship Dinner** will be held at The Moor, Stroudsmoor Country Inn's Restaurant at 5:30pm on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday at noon on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 570-992-4085.

**Coffee Hour:** From now on coffee hour will only be held if someone has signed up for it on the board in the serving area. Please consider signing up to host, if you have never hosted coffee hour before please talk with Amanda.

**Please note**: if no one has signed up there will be **NO COFFEE HOUR.** Please check the bulletin every week to see if coffee hour is being hosted.

**Lent Begins!** Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> with a 7pm Ash Wednesday service in the church. Every Wednesday after we will be holding our soup dinners and having the Holden Evening Prayer service in the Lighthouse beginning at 6:15pm.





# **God's Imperfect People**

"Go in peace, share the good news." Week after week Christians gather together, hear the word proclaimed, share a meal, and are sent out to bear the good news of God in Christ Jesus to a hungry, needy world. Inside though, we wonder why God has entrusted such an important mission to people like us.

God's prophets and apostles carried the same anxieties. Isaiah declares, "I am a man of unclean lips." Paul asserts, "I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God." Peter responds to Jesus' miracle of plenty by saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" Yet, without question, God used these flawed and fragile human beings to proclaim God's mercy and love.

In a world where we are constantly being told that we are insufficient—that we do not have enough, know enough, or matter enough—God's trust in our capacities seems imprudent, even irrational. But notice, Jesus precedes a call to discipleship with a miracle pointing to God's abundant provision, signaling that we will be given all we need.

Martin Luther writes in The Babylonian Captivity of the Church, "What I accept, I accept not on my own merits or by any right that I may personally have to it. I know that I am receiving more than a worthless one like me deserves; indeed, I have deserved the very opposite. But I claim what I claim by the right of a bequest and of another's goodness" (Martin Luther's Basic Theological Writings, ed. Timothy Lull [Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1989], p. 302).

Jesus meets us at the shorelines of our own lives, going about our daily work, and calls us to lifelong discipleship. Caught up in God's abundant grace, and fed out of that bounty, we are commissioned to go catch others.