8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP February 5, 2023 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Rev. Paul Swartz is a Lutheran Pastor in "Re-Firement." He has served churches in Ohio, Illinois and Indiana; developed a new congregation; served as an Assistant to the Bishop of the Ohio Synod, LCA; is an Emeriti Board member of his alma mater, Wittenberg University, and is the author of several journal articles.

The Lily Endowment awarded him a Clergy Renewal grant that enabled him to study and trace Luther's steps in Germany. He is enjoying combining his vocation with his avocation stamp collecting and is anxious to complete a book on Martin Luther, "A Life Stamped, Cancelled and Delivered" which will be "illustrated philatelically" from his vast world-wide Luther/Reformation Collection. That project was sidelined when its research began to reveal striking similarities between the reformer and The President which led to this publication. Having a son, now deceased and a daughter, Paul and his wife, Betty of 57 years, reside in Carmel, Indiana.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Prelude in d, op. 109 - C. Saint-Saens

- P. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. Amen.

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

You may either stand or kneel.

- P: God of resurrection life, we come before you today as those who would die to sin and rise to newness of life.
- C: Lower into the grave all selfishness, greed, and envy, all harmful desires and unworthy ambitions.
- P: Raise from death the good that is in us -- and gift us with the good that is not in us.
- C: Help us to love neighbors, strangers, and those we do not even like.
- P: We have failed you.
- C: We have failed our world.
- P: Give us the skill and the desire to bring healing into this world.

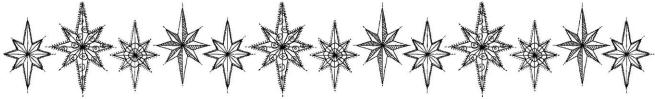
C: Forgive us the sins we can name and the sins we cannot name.

(Silence to ponder our wrongs.)

- P: Lord, make us channels of blessing for the impoverished and injured souls of this world.
- C: In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:

- P: As the Apostle Paul teaches us in Romans chapter 5: If in Adam and Eve all have died so now--in Jesus Christ--all are made alive. Let us rejoice in the lifegiving power of God's unconditional love. Our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake.
- C: Amen.



GATHERING HYMN: "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies"



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

APOSTOLIC GREETING:

- P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. And also with you.



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P. The Lord be with you

C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

READINGS FOR TODAY

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

See below

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. ³"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thonas of the voke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt: you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.1

PSALM 112:1-9 [10] - Spoken responsively, the Pastor speaks the verses in regular print and congregation speaks the verses in **bold** print.

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

²Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

[¹⁰The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.]

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]	see back of bulletin
GOSPEL: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 5:13-20 C. Glory to you, O Lord.	see back of bulletin
After the reading of the Gospel:	
P. The Gospel of the Lord"	
C. Praise to you O Christ.	

SERMON:

Rev. Paul Swartz

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984 Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985 Text © Oxford University Press Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress Used by permission. OneLicense #A-735664 BEACH SPRING 8787D

APOSTLES' CREED:

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

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Christ Is The World's True Light" – Walter Kendall Stanton

Christ is the world's true Light, its Captain of salvation; the Daystar clear and bright of eve'ry race an nation. New life, new hope awakes where e'er we own his sway; freedom her bondage breaks, and night is turned to day. In Christ all peoples meet, their ancient feuds forgetting, the whole round world complete, from sunrise to its setting. When Christ is throned as Lord, we shall forsake our fear; to plough-share beat the sword, to pruning hook the spear. One Lord, in one great name unite us all who own thee; cast out our pride and shame, that hinder to enthrone thee. The world has waited long, has travailed long in pain; to heal its ancient wrong, come Prince of Peace and reign.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

P. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each prayer:

- P: Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.



PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING:



OFFERTORY PRAYER:

- P. Merciful Father,
- C. we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

COMMUNION LITURGY

P. 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.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION:

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.



Please stand as you are able

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
- C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

P. Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift – in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION:

- P. Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. Amen.



DISMISSAL:

- P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Herald March" – M. Thews

Today's altar flowers are given by Gwen Keller in honor of Ray's birthday and by Gordon Star in remembrance of Jane Starr.