

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

A Temple of the Holy Spirit

To Whom Does Your Body Belong?

January 17, 2021



AS WE GATHER

Today we consider the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives. How we live and interact with others is important, for we are representing the Holy Spirit. How we act when we are alone is important, for the Spirit is always present with us, and He has no desire to take part in sin of any kind. As we reflect, we remember the glorious news that we were bought with a price—the blood of Jesus, which forgives all our sins and removes all our shame. For that we are most thankful! Today we are called to remember that our bodies are not our own. Paul reminds us in the Epistle that we were bought with a price: the blood of Christ. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. Our bodies, even our whole lives, belong to the Lord, and we are called to consider how we are to best steward the bodies God has given us for the sake of His kingdom.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION:

Your love, O God, is as immeasurable as the heavens. Your faithfulness reaches higher than the clouds in the sky. Your justice is like the majestic mountains—firm and unshakeable, and your judgments are as deep as the ocean depths. And yet, in your greatness, you care for all of creation—people and animals alike. How precious is your unfailing love, O God! All humanity finds rest in your presence. We eat and are satisfied at Your table; we drink from the river of Your overflowing kindness. For You alone can quench our thirst; Light of Christ, awaken us this hour to the glory of your presence in our midst. May Your love continue to grow deeply in the lives of all who know You. May Your salvation come to all who follow in Your paths. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED:

Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. If you confess the same belief, we invite you to our fellowship of the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME:

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE.... We've come to worship God, who loved us before we were yet born, who knows us even better than we know ourselves, whose presence never leaves us, and whose love for us never ceases. May the Epiphany Light of the Gospel burn all the more brightly in your heart! May God bless you with His Word and so you experience the peace and promise of His presence and know the purpose and power of His plan for you! May you be filled with joy and hope in believing, so you overflow with Christ-like words and deeds, blessing everyone you meet this coming week! Let's worship together!

SELECTION

Min. Terry Dale

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Based on Psalm 139:1–2, 7–8; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20*

Pastor: O Lord, You have searched and known us.

People: You discern our thoughts from afar.

Pastor: Where shall we go from Your Spirit?

People: Or where shall we flee from Your presence?

Pastor: If we ascend to heaven, You are there!

People: If we make our bed in Sheol, You are there!

Pastor: Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.

People: We were bought with a price, the blood of Christ.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Indeed, we were bought with the precious blood of Christ, and God calls on us to glorify God with our bodies, but we have failed to do this. We have lived as if our bodies and lives were our own, as if Your Son had not bought them with His blood. Such sins cause deep shame, yet even now, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him and ask for forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we have sinned by the things we have done and by the things we have left undone. Forgive us, remove the shame that clings to us, and make us new creations for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, in His infinite mercy and grace, sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins. In His resurrection, He removes our shame and makes us more than conquerors. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. Our shame is removed.

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN“ I Belong To God”

I belong to God (8x)

From the top of my head To the soul of my feet I belong to God (2x)

(repeat)

You can't make me doubt Him

I know too much about Him (2x)

(Sop) One day he

saved me

(Sop) One day he

raised me

(Sop) One day he

forgave me...washed me...cleansed me...set me free

I belong to God (8x)

From the top of my head To the soul of my feet I belong to God (2x)

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You paid for our lives with the price of Your blood on the cross. Strengthen us to serve You with pure hearts and minds, that we may be witnesses to the word of Your forgiveness; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *1 Samuel 3:1–10 (11–20)* (The Lord calls Samuel.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

Leader: Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples! For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts!

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 6:12–20 (To whom does your body belong?)*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Isaiah 49:3*

Leader: Alleluia. You are My servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:43–51* (Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael.)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SELECTION

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SERMON

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(We Bring Our Tithes And Offering To The Lord)

CREED The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Response from LSB 500:1

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

People: Holy Spirit, from sin and sorrow set us free;
may we Your living temples be.

Leader: Spirit, inspire all people as they serve in their vocations. Grant them creativity, wisdom, discernment, and courage to follow where You lead. From sin and sorrow set us free;

People: **may we Your living temples be.**

Leader: Spirit, You are the Comforter sent from heaven. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief, [*especially* . . .]. Point them to the hope of the resurrection to eternal peace and life with Jesus. From sin and sorrow set us free;

People: **may we Your living temples be.**

Leader: Spirit, strengthen all those who struggle with addictions. Break their bondage, lead them to get the help they need, and remind them that You dwell within them. From sin and sorrow set us free;

People: **may we Your living temples be.**

Leader: Spirit, aid all pastors, teachers, church planters, missionaries, musicians, and servants in Your Church. Embolden them as they plant and water the good seeds of the Gospel. We humbly ask You to provide growth where and when You will. From sin and sorrow set us free;

People: **may we Your living temples be.**

Leader: Spirit, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially* . . .]. Have mercy upon them, and heal them according to Your good and gracious will. From sin and sorrow set us free;

People: **may we Your living temples be.**

Leader: Spirit, we commend all these things to Your infinite wisdom and guiding, for You live and reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has redeemed and bought us with the price of His blood so that we might live under Him in His kingdom. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" [TLH 246 St. 1]

1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*
People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *Revelation 22:20*

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You purchased and won us by the blood of Christ. We implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us to live as worthy witnesses of Your grace and wisdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Numbers 6:24–26

People: **Amen.**

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