

Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 7, 2021

Hymn

Closer to You

All

Draw me closer to You
Draw me closer to You
Lord, through out the day, when I've lost my way
And I don't know what to do
Draw me close to You, O Lord, I pray

Grant Your mercy and grace
Grant Your mercy and grace
Cleanse me from my sin, a new life to begin
Your Glory to proclaim
For mercy and grace, O Lord, I pray

Draw me closer to You
Draw me closer to You
Lord, through out the day, when I've lost my way
And I don't know what to do
Draw me close to You, O Lord, I pray

Draw me close to You
O Lord, I pray

By Dennis Wazac - used by permission

Invocation

Confession & Absolution

Pastor: O God, You have come to call us to repentance and faith, to salvation and life.
We come before You to confess and repent of our sins.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the times we have tried to keep our faith a private concern, failing to be
all things to all people for the sake of Your kingdom, instead seeking Your
blessings only for ourselves.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the times we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have neglected
prayer and concern for the community in need around us and for people
throughout the world.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the many faults and failings that are known only to You.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: We hear today in God's Word, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable." As we run to our Savior in repentance and rely on Him to receive the crown of life He alone has earned, and upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:29-39

²⁹ And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed 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.

³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." ³⁸ And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Nicene Creed

People: 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 His 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 at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped 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.

Sermon

Exodus 5:1-9, 19-6:1

Pastor Ryan Hochgrebe

5 Afterward Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.'" ² But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and moreover, I will not let Israel go." ³ Then they said, "The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God, lest he fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword." ⁴ But the king of Egypt said to them, "Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people away from their work? Get back to your burdens." ⁵ And Pharaoh said, "Behold, the people of the land are now many, and you make them rest from their burdens!" ⁶ The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their foremen, ⁷ "You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as in the past; let them go and gather straw for themselves." ⁸ But the number of bricks that they made in the past you shall impose on them, you shall by no means reduce it, for they are idle. Therefore they cry, 'Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.' ⁹ Let heavier work be laid on the men that they may labor at it and pay no regard to lying words."

¹⁹ The Israelite overseers realized they were in trouble when they were told, "You are not to reduce the number of bricks required of you for each day." ²⁰ When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them, ²¹ and they said, "May the LORD look on you and judge you! You have made us obnoxious to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us."

²² Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Why, Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Is this why you sent me? ²³ Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble on this people, and you have not rescued your people at all."

⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country."

Prayer

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.

Benediction

Closing Hymn

You Are My King

All

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken; I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me, Because You died and rose again

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken; I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me, Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be? That You my King would die for me.
Amazing love, I know it's true It's my joy to honor You

Amazing love, how can it be? That You my King would die for me.
Amazing love, I know it's true It's my joy to honor You

For all You do, I honor You

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken; I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me, Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be? That You my King would die for me.
Amazing love, I know it's true It's my joy to honor You

For all You do, I honor You - For all You do, I honor You