

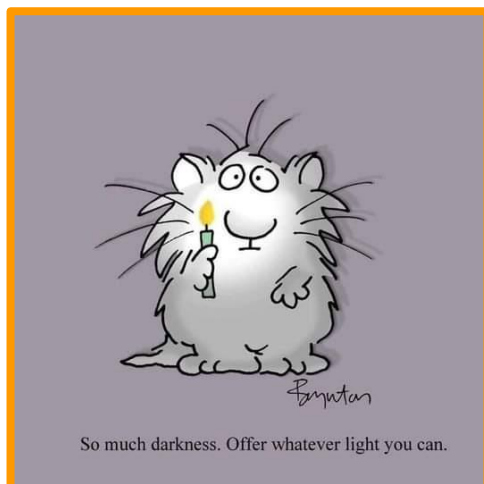
SUNDAY, February 5, 2023

5th Sunday After Epiphany

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

*Eternal Spirit, bless us this day as we gather to worship in your name. **Amen.***

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God said, "Let there be light."

And there was light.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

And the light shone in the darkness.

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."

And the light shall not be quenched.

***HYMN #185**

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

1 When morning gilds the skies,

My heart awaking cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer

To Jesus I repair:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

2 To Thee, my God above,

I cry with glowing love,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

The fairest graces spring

**In hearts that ever sing,
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**3 Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine,
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this th' eternal song
Through all the ages long,
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5: 13-16

Jeannie Laureano, Reader

Salt and Light

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR

"Bread of Life from Heaven"

THE MORNING PRAYER

Pastor Karen

THE MESSAGE

Pass the Salt, Turn Up the Light

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Lord, you placed us in the world to be its salt.

We were afraid of committing ourselves, afraid of being stained by the world.

We did not want to hear what 'they' might say and our salt dissolved as if in water.

Forgive us, Jesus.

Lord, you placed us in the world to be its light.

We were afraid of the shadows, afraid of the poverty.

We did not want to know 'difficult' people and our light slowly faded away.

Forgive us, Jesus.

Lord, you placed us in the world to live in community.

Thus you taught us to love, to share in life,

to struggle for bread and for justice, Your truth incarnate in our lives.

So be it, Lord Jesus.

As we await the table of the Kingdom yet to come,

and as we dedicate ourselves again to you,

thankful, and transformed, as living and holy sacrifices,

salt and light for the world, great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup & Prayer after Communion

*HYMN #583 "You Are the Seed"

1 You are the seed that will grow a new sprout;

you're a star that will shine in the night;

you are the yeast and a small grain of salt,

a beacon to glow in the dark.

You are the dawn that will bring a new day;

you're the wheat that will bear golden grain;

you are a sting and a soft, gentle touch,

my witnesses where'er you go. REFRAIN

**Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all,
messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead I arose;
"Lo, I'll be with you forever, till the end of the world."**

**2 You are the flame that will lighten the dark,
sending sparkles of hope, faith, and love;
you are the shepherds to lead the whole world
through valleys and pastures of peace.
You are the friends that I chose for myself,
the word that I want to proclaim.
You are the new kingdom built on a rock
where justice and truth always reign. REFRAIN**

**3 You are the life that will nurture the plant;
you're the waves in a turbulent sea;
yesterday's yeast is beginning to rise,
a new loaf of bread it will yield.
There is no place for a city to hide,
nor a mountain can cover its might;
may your good deeds show a world in despair
a path that will lead all to God. REFRAIN**

***BENEDICTION**

May the Spirit of power and love attend you,
may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ uphold you,
and may the great faithfulness of our God sustain you,
now and forever. **Amen.**

*** POSTLUDE**

***Stand as able.**

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of our music director,
Maxine Alstrom & the Caldwell United Methodist Church choir by **Joan Coleman.**

CALENDAR

Monday, February 6

**10:00 AM
7:00 PM**

**Prayer/Discussion Group
Nurture/ Outreach/ Witness**

Tuesday, February 7

12:00 PM

West Essex Ministerium here