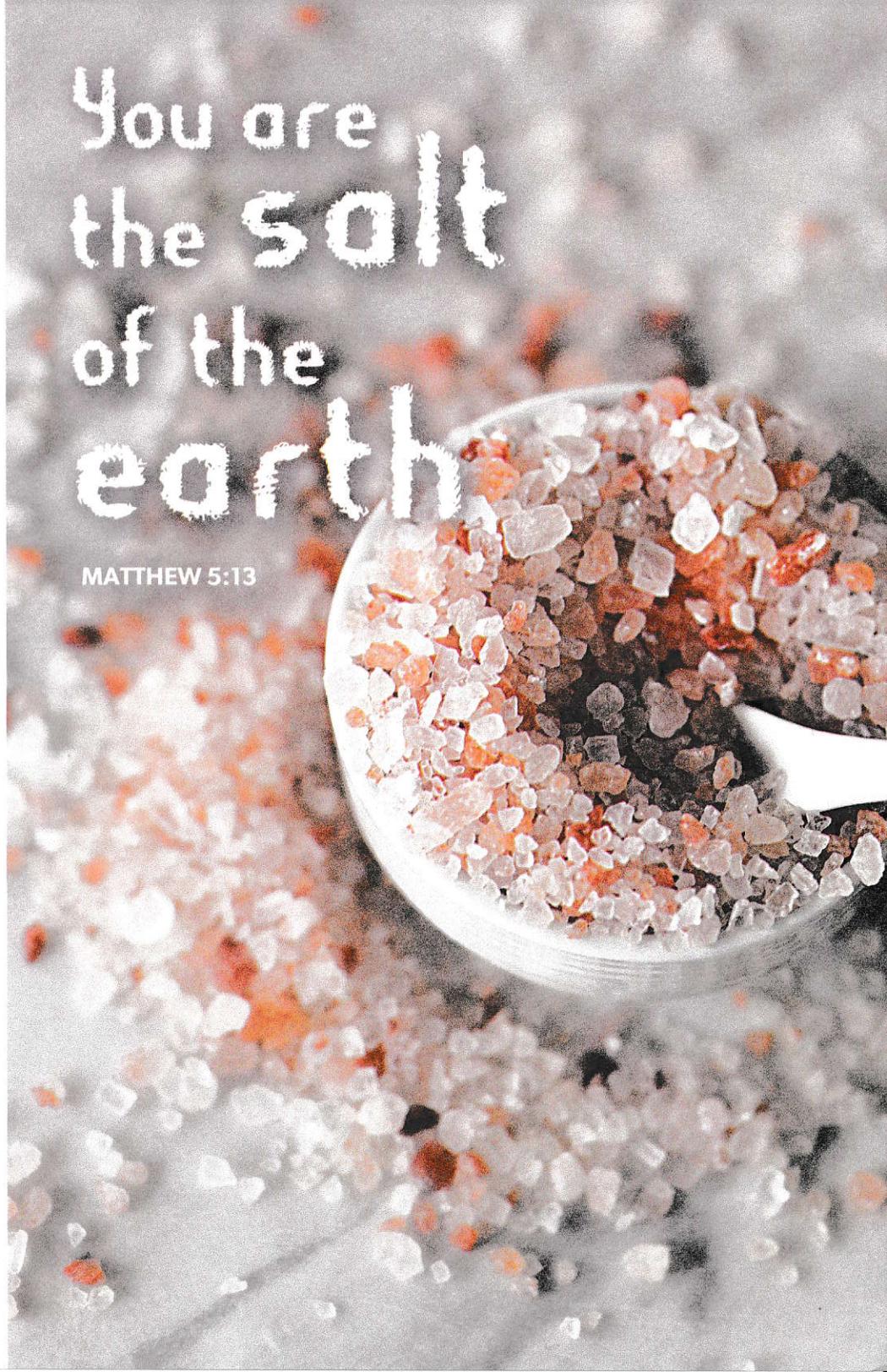


## Salt and Light

What we believe about ourselves has the power to shape our behavior in profound ways. If we believe we aren't good enough or are unwanted, that will likely show up in the way we carry ourselves, in the way we interact with others, and in the opportunities we seek out or don't. On the other hand, if we know that we are loved or if we feel like we belong, we will probably bring more assurance to our interactions with others, and will be more likely to take risks and to reach out and engage with our communities.

Similarly, our identity as disciples of Jesus has the power to shape the way we live. It all starts with who Jesus says we are. "You are the salt of the earth," Jesus tells his disciples. "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14). Salt preserves food and adds flavor. Used masterfully, it brings out the best in the other flavors of a dish. It can pull other elements together to help create a new thing. Light nurtures life. It can comfort, energize, and help make things clear. Together, salt and light sustain, nourish, and welcome new life in the world around them.

What kind of people would we be if we really believed we were the salt of the earth and the light of the world? Nurturers, sustainers, co-creators with God in making all things new? What fears could we let go if we simply trusted that we are who Jesus says we are? What risks would we take? How would we show up in our communities? As we gather for worship today, we are invited to hear anew this identity we are given in Christ. Then, nourished by word and sacrament, we are sent forth with the promise that Christ is forever at work in us, keeping us as salt and light in all times and places.

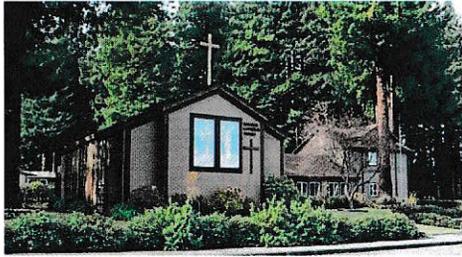


You are  
the salt  
of the  
earth.

MATTHEW 5:13

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
3230 Harrison Avenue  
Eureka, California 95503



Pastor David Groe

Telephone 707-498-1046

[immanuelutheraneureka@gmail.com](mailto:immanuelutheraneureka@gmail.com)

[www.spselca.net/immanuel-lutheran-eureka](http://www.spselca.net/immanuel-lutheran-eureka)

## Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 05, 2023, 10 AM

P) Christ is in our midst!

**C) He is and always will be!**

*Hymn #712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*

P) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C) And with your Spirit.**

**Hymn of Praise:** Glory to God in the highest... (Hymnal Page 148)

**Prayer of the Day:**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

**Psalm:** Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

**C) Alleluia Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:13-20

**Sermon:**

*Hymn #717 Let Justice Flow Like Streams*

*Special music by Seabury Gould, bamboo flute*

## Apostles Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence He shall come 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 life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of the Faithful:

### Offering:

P) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restoring to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. **Amen.**

### Holy Communion Liturgy:

(page 152 - front of the red hymnal)

### Blessing:

P) The Lord bless you, and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace. And the blessing of almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now, and forever. **Amen.**

### Hymn #720 *We Are Called*

P) Go in peace to Love and serve the Lord and your neighbor.

**C) Thanks be to God!**

### Announcements, Birthdays, and Anniversaries:

- Jesse Bareilles, February 10<sup>th</sup>

### Holy Communion Liturgy:

P) The Lord be with you.

**C) And also, with you.**

P) Lift up your hearts.

**C) We lift them to the Lord.**

P) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C) It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P): Prayer.

**C) Holy, holy, holy Lord. Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

P) Words of Communion.

**C) The Lord's Prayer:**

**C) Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

P) Peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C) And also, with you.**

**Distribution:**

#### *Spiritual Communion Prayer*

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

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Pastor is continuing to make a good recovery. He met with his surgeon this past week and everything looks good. He starts PT today.

There is no way to make up for Pastor being out for a few weeks but we are trying to make church special during this time. Elizabeth has arranged special musicians for the next three Sundays. On the 5th [Seabury Gould](#) will be playing a bamboo flute. On the 12th [Greg Granoff](#) will be playing piano and Elizabeth will sing. Finally, on the 19th [Howdy Emerson](#) will be playing the harp.

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### Zoom Immanuel Lutheran Church Service, Sunday, 10 AM

Via Website Link:

[www.spselca.net/immanuel-lutheran-eureka](http://www.spselca.net/immanuel-lutheran-eureka)

Via Direct Zoom Link: *Hold the control key and click.*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84655587701?pwd=Q1hMSFRRdDNhQXZTCisvUTNLdWN0dz09>

Via Phone: 1-669-900-9128

Meeting ID: 846 5558 7701 Passcode: 00000

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The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice (*injustice such as systemic racism, church sanction of colonialism, church protection of sexual abusers may be named*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

## Preparing for Next Week

**Monday** Psalm 119:105-112. **Tuesday** 2 Corinthians 4:1-12. **Wednesday** John 8:12-30. **Thursday** Psalm 119:1-8. **Friday** 1 John 2:7-17. **Saturday** Deuteronomy 30:1-9a. **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany** Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37.

CELEBRATE February 5, 2023

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12 of 14  
Tracks 1 and 2

Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for (*the Martyrs of Japan and*) all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**



# Celebrate

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 5, 2023

*Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.*

## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## First Reading

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

*Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.*

Shout 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.

<sup>2</sup>Yet 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.

<sup>3</sup>“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.

<sup>4</sup>Look, 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.

<sup>5</sup>Is 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?

<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup>Is 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?

<sup>8</sup>Then 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.

continued



Hallelujah! Happy are they who <sup>1</sup> fear the LORD  
and have great delight in <sup>1</sup> God's commandments!  
<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty <sup>1</sup> in the land;**  
**the generation of the upright <sup>1</sup> will be blessed.**  
<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be <sup>1</sup> in their house,  
and their righteousness will <sup>1</sup> last forever.  
<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness <sup>1</sup> for the upright;**  
**the righteous are merciful and full <sup>1</sup> of compassion. R**  
<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be gener- <sup>1</sup>ous in lending  
and to manage their af- <sup>1</sup>fairs with justice.  
<sup>6</sup>**For they will nev- <sup>1</sup>er be shaken;**  
**the righteous will be kept in everlast- <sup>1</sup>ing remembrance.**  
<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any <sup>1</sup> evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting <sup>1</sup> in the LORD.  
<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and <sup>1</sup> will not shrink,**  
**until they see their desire up- <sup>1</sup>on their enemies.**  
<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands <sup>1</sup> fast forever;  
they will hold up their <sup>1</sup> head with honor. [R] *here only if psalm ends at v. 9*  
<sup>10</sup>**The wicked will see it and be angry;**  
**they will gnash their teeth and <sup>1</sup> pine away;**  
**the desires of the wick- <sup>1</sup>ed will perish.] R**

## First Reading, continued

<sup>9a</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will  
answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say,  
Here I am.  
<sup>9b</sup>If you remove the yoke from  
among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the  
speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup>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.  
<sup>11</sup>The 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.  
<sup>12</sup>Your 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.]

*Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.*

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who  
love him"—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [<sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup>"For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?"  
But we have the mind of Christ.]

## Gospel

## Matthew 5:13-20

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.*

[Jesus said:] "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 under foot.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."