**Worship Plan for Sunday, February 16, 2020, 6th Sunday after Epiphany**

**SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**GATHERING SONGs** *Here I Am to Worship  
 Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord*

**INTRODUCTION OF TODAY’S THEME (11:00 only)**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS (8:30 only)**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,   
the eternal voice from heaven, the anointed and beloved one, the Spirit moving over the waters.  
**Amen.**

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession, trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God who searches and knows us,  
**you have shown us what is good, but we have looked to other lights to find our way.  
we have not been just in our dealings with others. We have chosen revenge over mercy. We have promoted ourselves instead of walking humbly with you. With what shall we come before you? Forgive us our sin, and show us your salvation   
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved of God,  
you have not received the spirit of the world, but the Sprit that is from God,  
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.   
Receive the promise of baptism: You are God’s child; + your sins are forgiven.   
Rejoice and be glad, for your is the kingdom of God.  
**Amen.**

**GREETING**

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

**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.**

**SONG OF THE WORD** *Change My Heart, O God*

*(The reading is read by the lay assistant)*

**The lesson 1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

*A reading from First Corinthians*

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

6Yet 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. 7But we speak God’s wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9But, 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”— 10these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11For 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. 12Now 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.

*The reading may be concluded:*Word of God, word of life.**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

*(The gospel is read by the pastor)***THE GOSPEL Matthew 5:13-20**

The holy gospel according to Matthew:  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

17“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 18For 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. 19Therefore, 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. 20For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

*The gospel concludes:*The gospel of the Lord.**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**THE MESSAGE**

**PEACE (11:00 only)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
 **And also with you.**

**SONG OF THE DAY**  *Let It Shine*

*(The pastor reads the introduction and the ending,   
the lay assistant reads the indented petitions.)*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (8:30 only)**

Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, it is your desire that all people might come to know you intimately. Lead our communities into deeper relationship with you. May your church radiate your righteousness to all whom we encounter.

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

God of creation, you quench the dry ground, bringing water that sustains life. Satisfy the needs of all the earth, so that all living things bear witness to your verdant grace and continue to shout your praise.

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

God of glory, during your time here on earth you were crucified by powerful rulers who did not understand you. Grant leaders in our day wisdom and discernment, that they may recognize you in the lives of the people they serve.

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

God of justice, you free us from the oppression that binds us, and exhort us to serve one another. Liberate us from all fear, bigotry, and greed, and set our hearts and minds on love, equality, and justice.

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you reveal your saving love to us through the power of your Spirit. Bless those among us who are preparing to encounter your invigorating will in a new way, especially those preparing for or affirming baptism.

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

God of all eternity, we give you thanks for the lives of the saints who have pointed us towards faithfulness in you. May we trust in your endless mercy and grace.

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.   
**Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

On the night 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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come. Be filled with the light and life of Jesus, our Lord.  
 **Thanks be to God.**

**COMMUNION**

Distribution Songs (11:00 only)

*Lamb of God  
 Reckless Love*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (8:30 only)**

O Morning Star, fair and bright,  
You have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure.   
Go with us now – today, tomorrow, every day – that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord shine on you with grace and mercy  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.  
**Amen.**

Please turn to your neighbor and share this blessing with him or her:

To tell you the truth…

God loves you…

**ALWAYS!**

(those 3 lines are displayed on the screen to remind people)

**Sending Song**  *Marvelous Light*

*(The dismissal is given by the lay assistant)*

**DISMISSAL**Go in peace. Live in the truth.  
**Thanks be to God!**