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Sixth Sunday after Epiphany | February 16th, 2025

\*Please stand as you are able

**Welcome and Announcements**

Trinity Chimes

**Prelude**  *Serenade*  Richard Strauss

Kathryn Snodgrass and

Janet Tolman piano

\*Call to Worship

One: Come, all who long to live in God’s grace. The world tempts us with fleeting power, but—  
All: God, Yours is the kingdom.

One: Come, all who hunger for a different way. The world seeks control and might, but—  
All: God, Yours is the power.

One: Come, all who yearn for meaning. The world dazzles with temporary greatness, but—  
All: God, Yours is the glory

One: From age to age, in every trial and temptation, we turn to the One who is faithful.  
All: For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

\***Hymn of Praise** 110 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

EIN' FESTE BURG

1. A mighty fortress is our God,

a bulwark never failing;

our helper he amid the flood

of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe

doth seek to work us woe;

his craft and power are great,

and armed with cruel hate,

on earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,

our striving would be losing,

were not the right man on our side,

the man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same,

and he must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,

we will not fear, for God hath willed

his truth to triumph through us.

The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;

one little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers,

no thanks to them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

Opening Prayer

**Mighty God of heaven and earth, all things are in Your hands. Remind us that You wait with us, walk beside us, and work within us, weaving our lives into Your pattern of grace and hope. Wake our hearts and widen our imaginations to the possibilities found in Your presence. Amen.**

Scripture Reading Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,  
    who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,   
will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress;  
    my God, in whom I trust.”

Because you have made the Lord your refuge,   
    the Most High your dwelling place,  
**no evil shall befall you,  
    no scourge come near your tent.**

For he will command his angels concerning you  
    to guard you in all your ways.  
**On their hands they will bear you up,  
    so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**You will tread on the lion and the adder;  
    the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

**Those who love me, I will deliver;  
    I will protect those who know my name.**When they call to me, I will answer them;  
    I will be with them in trouble;  
**I will rescue them and honor them.**  
**I will satisfy them with long life   
   and show them my salvation.**

Music of Preparation *My Jesus I Love Thee* arr. Dan Forrest

The Chancel Choir

**Scripture Reading Luke 4:1-13**

**Sermon** Greatest temptations: Kingdom

Pastor Beth

Musical Response

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Confession

God of Grace, we all know the pull of temptation—the lure of what seems greater, stronger, richer, or more secure. We chase after what dazzles but does not last, forgetting that our true home is in You. When we are drawn away from You, reorient our hearts to Your love. When fear makes us grasp for control, rekindle our faith in Your provision. When we wander in the wilderness, remind us that Christ has walked this road before us, and that step by step, You are with us still. Amen.

Pastor: Hear the Good News, Christ is among us renewing us for life with love. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Christ you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God, Amen.

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.

\*Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *His Eye Is On the Sparrow*

Gabriel/Berry

Kathryn Snodgrass, piano

\*Doxology LASST UNS EFREUEUN

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!

\*Offertory Prayer

**\*Sending Hymn** 2105 *Jesus, Tempted in the Desert* EBENEZER

1. Jesus, tempted in the desert, lonely, hungry, filled with dread:

"Use your power," the tempter tells him; "Turn these barren rocks to bread!" "Not alone by bread," he answers, "Can the human heart be filled. Only by the Word that calls us is our deepest hunger stilled!"

2. Jesus, tempted at the temple, high above its ancient wall: "Throw yourself from lofty turret; angels wait to break your fall!"

Jesus shuns such empty marvels, feats that fickle crowds request: "God, whose grace protects, preserves us, we must never vainly test."

3. Jesus, tempted on the mountain by the lure of vast domain: "Fall before me! Be my servant! Glory, fame, you're sure to gain!"

Jesus sees the dazzling vision, turns his eyes another way: "God alone deserves our homage! God alone will I obey!"

4. When we face temptation's power, lonely, struggling, filled with dread, Christ, who knew the tempter's hour, come and be our living bread. By your grace, protect, preserve us lest we fall your trust betray. Yours, above all other voices, be the Word we hear, obey

\*Benediction 130, *God will take care of you*

No matter what may be the test,

God will take care of you;

lean weary one, upon his breast,

God will take care of you.

God will take care of you,

through every day, o'er all the way;

he will take care of you,

God will take care of you.

Postlude *Toccata in F Major*

Dietrich Buxtehude

Thank you to all of the volunteers and staff who made this service possible!

Liturgist: Peggy Bartlett

Stephen Minister: Bob Stoebe

Golf Cart Drive: Don Waugaman

ONE LICENSE A-738133 | CCLI #12393 | Perform Music #662 | CVLI #03793174

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Words: Martin Luther, ca 1529; trans by Frederick H Hedge, 1853 (Os,46)

“God Will Take Care of You”

Words: Civilla D Martin, 1904

“Jesus, Tempted in the Desert”

Words: Herman G Stuempfle, Jr. (Matt. 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13)

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