

Epiphany 7

“Extreme Love”

February 20, 2022

As We Gather

Are there any limits regarding whom we are to love? Can we exclude anyone from the call to love our neighbor? Jesus answers this question in His command to love even our enemies. This is a hard command, but it is one rooted in the Gospel itself. We are saved and forgiven because our Savior’s love extends to those who have sinned against Him. Jesus’ call to love our enemies is a call to love like He does.

Welcome

+ Gathering +

“Great Things”

Come let us worship our King
Come let us bow at His feet
He has done great things
See what our Savior has done
See how His love overcomes
He has done great things
He has done great things

You’ve been faithful through every storm
You’ll be faithful forevermore
You have done great things
And I know You will do it again
For Your promise is yes and amen
You will do great things
God You do great things

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every
chain
O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things

Hallelujah God above it all
Hallelujah God unshakable
Hallelujah You have done great things
(REPEAT)
You’ve done great things

You have done great things
O God You do great things

Invocation *(From Divine Service 4, page 203)*

Liturgist: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Liturgist: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Liturgist: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Liturgist: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Liturgist: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Kyrie

All: Lord have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

**People: To God on high be glory, and peace to all the earth;
Good will from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly king**

**To You, O sole begotten, the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us Jesus; receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high –**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High
In God the Father's glory, "Amen! Our glad reply.**

Prayer

Children Excused to Children's Church

+ Service of the Word +

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

⁸ "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. ⁹ Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. ¹⁰ You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

¹² "You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. ¹³ Tell my father about all the honor accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly."

¹⁴ Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Romans 5:6-11

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸ Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You O Christ!

Nicene Creed

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 *“Extreme Love”*

Ministry Moment *“Mission India”*

Offering

Musical Offering **“Goodness is Stronger than Evil”** **Sanctuary Choir**
Desmond Tutu & John L. Bell

Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours;
Victory is ours
Through God who loves us.

Prayers

Please add your prayer requests to the live chat

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

St. John’s People and Families

Paulette Cooper
David, Kristin, Jack, & Bennett Goller
Mark & Corrin Kornovich, Annavon & Kaden Kennedy
Steve & Judi Rock
Gail Valeskie
Brian, Brittany, Cade, & Kieran Cassayre
Andrew, Lauren, & Averie Hanson
Thomas, Christine, & Audrey Kvamme
Ryan, Amanda, Finnli, & Ronni Proctor
Cardiff, Jennifer, & Emma Scott-Robinson

The Service of Holy Communion

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish by have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**People: 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.**

The Words of Institution

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Communion

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

People: **Amen.** *(Take and eat)*

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

People: **Amen.**
(Take and drink)

Communion Hymns

“Seek Ye First” LSB 712

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And His righteousness,
And all these things
Shall be added unto you,
Allelu, alleluia.

Ask, and it shall be given unto you.
Seek and ye shall find.

Knock and it shall be opened unto you
Allelu, alleluia.

Man does not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord
Allelu, alleluia.

“Love Is Here”

Come to the water you who thirst
And you'll thirst no more
Come to the Father you who work
And you'll work no more
And all you who labor in vain
And to the broken and shamed

Love is here love is now
Love is pouring from His hands from His
brow
Love is near it satisfies
Streams of mercy flowing from His side
(yeah)
(‘Cause love is here)

Come to the Treasure you who search
And you'll search no more
Come to the Lover you who want
And you'll want no more

And all you who labor in vain
And to the broken and shamed yeah

And to the bruised and fallen
Captives bound and broken-hearted
He is the Lord He is the Lord yeah
By His stripes He's paid our ransom
From His wounds we drink salvation
He is the Lord He is the Lord

Love is here love is now
Love is pouring from His hands from His
brow
Love is near it satisfies
Streams of mercy flowing from His side
Streams of mercy flowing from His side
'Cause love is here
Love is here yeah

Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. His peace be with you.

People: **Amen.**

Prayer

Benediction

“Lord of All Hopefulness” LSB 738

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares can
destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of
the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane
and the lathe,
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord at the noon
of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to
embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the
day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence
is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of
the day.

Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John’s (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

Memory Verse for This Week

But God demonstrates His own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Romans 5:8

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Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Liturgist	Kevin Mathison
Lay Readers	Sarah Kramer, Susan Clark
Communion Assistants	Rev. Greg Stringer, Trudi Stringer, Rebecca Vitkus, Tim Huss
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Sound Technician	Bill Clark
Streaming Technician	Josh Wright
Worship Preparation Team	Bob & Doris Klein, Betsy Gewirz
Ushers	The De Young Family
Projection Technician	Brian Schoenfeld
Children's Church	Jeni Schluter, Sarah Santora
Worship Band	Gabriel Gutierrez, Chris Vecera, Jacob Bartelt