

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025

The First Reading

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Psalm

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD;
*
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 6:27-38

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Norah Lindsey
 4th: Carolyn Deakins
 6th: Robert Brown
 9th: Tommy Smith
 13th: Claire Renzetti
 21st: Rusty Akinson
 28th: Jonathan Roberts

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, March 2, 2025

9:00 am Bible Study

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Forward Day by Day

Pick up your Daily Devotion for February, March, & April in the entryway.

UPCOMING IN MARCH

Shrove Tuesday

March 4th at 6:00 PM. We need volunteers to help get ready for Shrove Tuesday. If you can be here between 4PM and 5PM, we should have enough time to accomplish everything.

Ash Wednesday Service

March 5th at 6:00pm

Bishop Doyle

The Bishop will be with us on **June 1st, 2025**. If you are interested being confirmed, please contact Mtr. Tracey.

THIS Sunday's Servers (02/23)

Acolytes: Need a person

Cameras & Streaming: Devin McLaughlin

Danny's Team: Susan Kuhlman

Eucharistic Ministers: Wayne Workman

Greeter: Roxanne Brink

Lector: Wayne Workman

Nursery Helper: Becky Supercinski

Ushers: Bryan White, Louis Zak

Vestry People: Need a person, Joshua Martinez

Worship Tech: Amy Brown

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- JoLee Ferguson
- Danny Carroll
- Sheila Carlisle's Family
- Tom Cobb
- Andrew McWhorter
- The Akinson & Brown Families
- Lorraine and Margie Litterski

Other Prayer Request:

- Jonathan secures employment, enabling the Bowman family to relocate to Longview.

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
01/26/25	\$2,626	\$3,431	-\$806
02/02/25	\$1,500	\$3,431	-\$1,931
02/09/25	\$4,719	\$3,431	\$1,288
02/16/25	\$1,558	\$3,431	-\$1,873
YTD TOTALS	\$23,895	\$24,017	-\$122

NEXT Sunday's Servers (03/02)

Acolytes: Joshua Martinez

Cameras & Streaming: Robert Brown

Danny's Team: Michael Greathouse

Eucharistic Ministers: Amy Brown

Greeter: Becky Supercinski

Lector: Harrison Brown

Nursery Helper: Diane Buffington

Ushers: Tommy Read, Chip Doran

Vestry People: Stan Williams, Patti Maxwell

Worship Tech: Wayne Workman

St. Michael & All Angels' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Tracey F. Carroll

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