

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 12, 2012



*All Things Are Made New by the Washing of Water  
with Jesus' Word*

### AS WE GATHER

“*Moved with pity,*” the Son of God has come in the flesh, willing and able to save us. He goes to the Cross to give His body as a sacrifice and to shed His blood for the forgiveness of all our sins. Now He stretches out His hand to touch us with His body and His blood in the Sacrament, and with His Word He cleanses us of all iniquity (Mark 1:40-42). Already in the Old Testament, by the promise of His coming, the Word that He spoke by His prophets had the power to cleanse and restore the flesh of fallen man. Thus, “*according to the word of the man of God,*” Naaman, the Syrian warrior, was cleansed of his leprosy when he washed in the Jordan, and “*his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child*” (2 Kings 5:14). By the washing of water with His Word, we also are cleansed of all our sins and set free from the burden of the Law. As little children of God, we now seek the good of our neighbor and “*do all to the glory of God*” (1 Cor. 10:24-31).

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

2 Kings 5:1-14 (Naaman is cured of leprosy.)

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. {2} Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. {3} She said to her mistress, “If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.” {4} Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. {5} “By all means, go,” the king of Aram replied. “I will send a letter to the king of Israel.” So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. {6} The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: “With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy.” {7} As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, “Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!” {8} When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: “Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he

will know that there is a prophet in Israel.” {9} So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. {10} Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, “Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.” {11} But Naaman went away angry and said, “I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. {12} Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?” So he turned and went off in a rage. {13} Naaman's servants went to him and said, “My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, ‘Wash and be cleansed!’” {14} So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

1 Corinthians 10:31 ---11:1 (*Do everything to the glory of God.*)

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. {32} Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God-- {33} even as I try to please everybody in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. {11:1} Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

Mark 1:40-45 (Jesus cures a leper.)

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." {41} Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" {42} Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. {43} Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: {44} "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." {45} Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

All scripture quotations from NIV Publishing House 1973

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## EPIPHANY SIX

February 12, 2012

### Order of Service

*LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK  
DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE*

### PRELUDE

**HYMN** "Father Welcomes" p. 605

† **LITURGY** p. 151

† **HYMN OF PRAISE** p. 154

### † COLLECT OF THE DAY

**OLD TESTAMENT** 2 Kings 5:1-14

**EPISTLE** 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

† **VERSE** p. 156

† **GOSPEL** Mark 1:40-45

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Sts. 1-3 p. 394  
"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

### SERMON

† **NICENE CREED** p. 158

† **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** p. 159

### OFFERING

† **OFFERTORY** p. 159

† **COMMUNION LITURGY** p. 160

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"The People That in Darkness Sat" p. 412

"God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It" p. 594

"Salvation unto Us Has Come" p. 555

† **POST COMMUNION CANTICLE** p. 164

*Thank the Lord...*

### † BENEDICTION

† **CLOSING HYMN** p. 525

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### POSTLUDE