

Reading for February 5th, 2023
Woodbury Methodist Church

A reading from the book of Matthew 5:13-20

Salt and Light

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 hidden. **15** No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. **16** In 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.

The Law and the Prophets

17 `Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. **18** For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter,^[a] not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. **19** Therefore, whoever breaks^[b] 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. **20** For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

**This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God**

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