

CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 21, 2024 - 10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Introduction

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

Each Call Unique

Aside from the proclamation that “the kingdom of God has come near,” Mark records no introduction on Jesus’ part about who he is or what he is about. He simply invites people, “Follow me.” Simon and Andrew, James and John make it look so easy: they just follow—no questions asked! If this is what true discipleship looks like, how can we ever measure up? But that’s not the point.

Jesus calls people in countless ways. Even these four fishers were likely not all moved by the same things. Perhaps Simon was frustrated by Roman dominance over his country, and the news of a new kingdom caught his ear; maybe Andrew was itching to do something different and inspiring. Did James and John sense a call other than inheriting their father’s business? Jesus would go on to invite dozens of others to join him—surely each discerning the call in a unique way. Their responses were also likely not as fast and easy as it appears from the outside. The four fishers might have been wrestling with matters of spirituality for months before Jesus showed up. Others who joined Jesus may have long prayed for solutions to injustice in society. The Gospel of Mark gives a summary, a tightened-up version, of Jesus’ earthly ministry. Many details are lost to time; others were only ever known by an individual and the one they came to call Messiah.

What we learn from these brief call narratives—and others in scripture—is that God reaches out in as many ways as there are people. God may get your attention in worship on a Sunday morning, at your work on a weekday, or in the night as you comfort a child in your care. Or—one never knows—God might just call from the shore when you are out in a fishing boat. Jesus’ “Follow me” might lead you somewhere you’ve never been, maybe away from friends and family and the career you planned. Or his invitation might nudge you right back home, taking up familiar routines in a new way, seeing loved ones with fresh vision.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jamie Vannoy

** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, **we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

** GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In (ELW 532)



- 1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
- 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



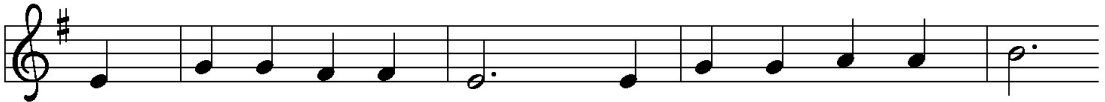
blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

**** GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**** KYRIE***Assistant Minister*

- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

**** CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth;
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

**** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, **by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

A reading from the book of Jonah.

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 62:5-12

God alone is my rock and my salvation. (Ps. 62:6)

For God alone I wait in silence;
truly, my hope is in God.

**God alone is my rock and my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.**

In God is my deliverance and my honor;
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

**Put your trust in God always, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.**

Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted.
Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

**** GOSPEL READING**

Mark 1:14-20

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ..**

YOUTH MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pastor Jamie Vannoy

**** HYMN OF THE DAY**

I Will Follow

(Music Ministers)

Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow.

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

All your ways are good, all your ways are sure;
I will trust in you alone.
Higher than my sight, high above my life;
I will trust in you alone.

(Refrain - All)

**Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow you.
Whom you love, I'll love. How you serve, I'll serve.
If this life I lose, I will follow you, yeah.
I will follow you, yeah.**

(Verse 2 - Music Ministers)
Light into the world, Light into my life,
I will live for you alone.
You're the One I seek, knowing I will find,
All I need in you alone.

(Refrain - All)
Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow you.
Whom you love, I'll love. How you serve, I'll serve.
If this life I lose, I will follow you, yeah.
I will follow you, yeah.

(Music Ministers)
In you, there's life everlasting.
In you, there's freedom for my soul.
In you, there's joy, unending joy,
And I will follow!

(All)
Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow.
Whom you love, I'll love. How you serve, I'll serve.
If this life I lose, I will follow you, yeah.
I will follow you, yeah.
I will follow you, yeah.
I will follow you, yeah.

**** APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Each intercession concludes:

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OFFERING

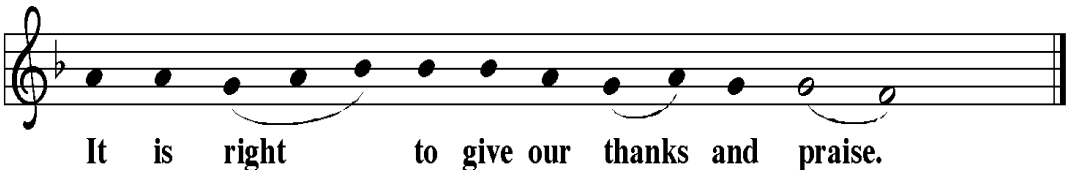
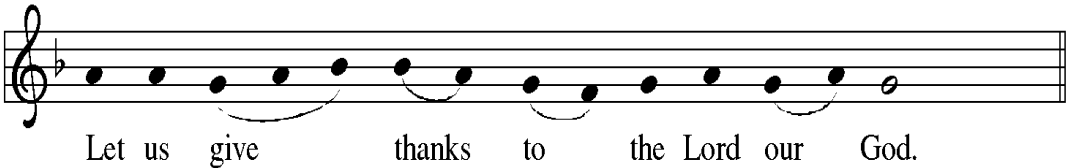
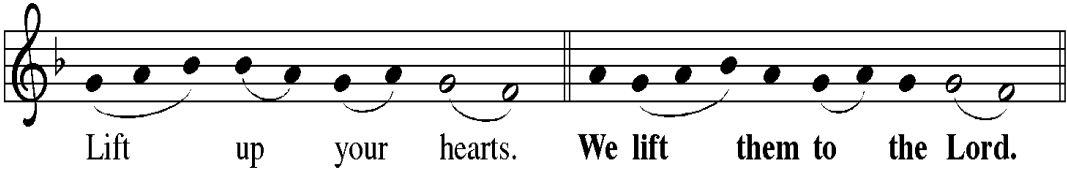
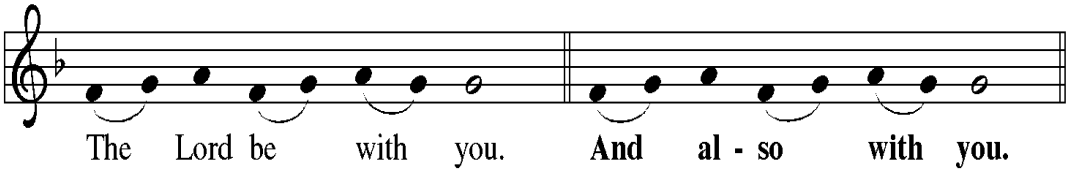
OFFERING PRAYER

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

** DIALOGUE



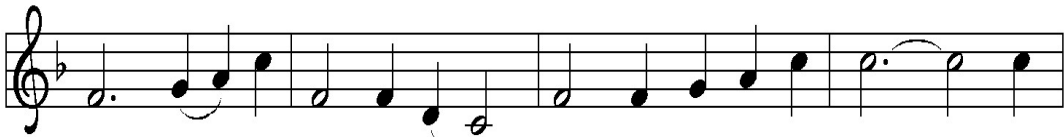
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



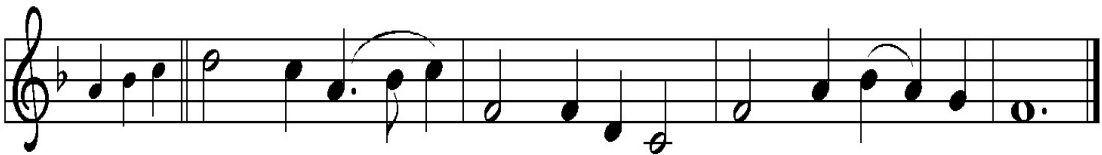
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

** WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

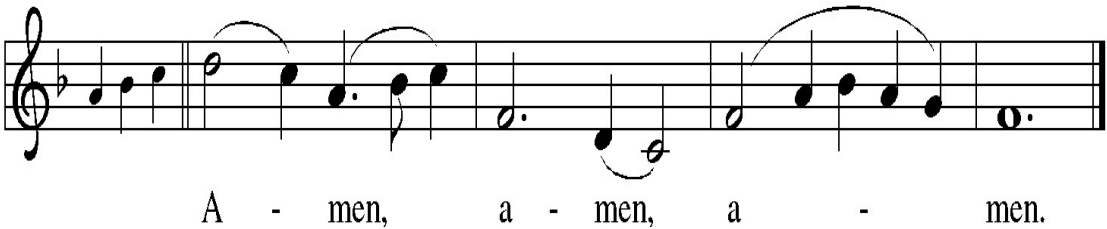


Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.



**** THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**** LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

HOLY COMMUNION - *Receiving the Lord's tangible presence.*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Each person may respond: **Amen.**

Communion Statement ~ *If you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is your Savior and Redeemer and would like to receive Holy Communion, then come forward to receive the elements. If you would just like to come forward and receive a blessing, then you may do that also.*

NOTE: *We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion. If you have a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request when receiving Communion. Also, if you prefer not to receive wine at Communion, apple juice is available upon request.*

LAMB OF GOD



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (ELW 674)



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

** TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and always keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

** BLESSING

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

** SENDING HYMN

Step by Step (W&P 132)

D(no3) G G² G D/F# D C/E C/D

O God, you are my God, and I will ev - er praise

G D(no3) G G² D/F# D

you. O God, you are my God, and

C/E C/D G G² G Em C/E Em

I will ev - er praise you. I will seek you in the morn-

D_{sus} D Am/E Am/C Am

- ing, and I will learn to walk in your ways, and

G G² G D/F# D C/D Am/D D^{7sus}

step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my

¹G D(no3) ²G G² G Em

days. O days, and I will fol - low you all of my

Dsus D Am⁷ F C D⁷sus

days, and I will fol-low you all of my days, and

G²/D D C/D G

step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

**** DISMISSAL**

Assistant Minister

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Created, saved and gifted by God, we seek, serve and share Jesus Christ.

Hallelujah, thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“W + 2” = Worship Plus Two

**Make a commitment to not only worship each week
but also try to find a way to serve in the congregation
and seek out a way to serve our community.**

YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD

Upcoming Commemorations

Agnes, martyr, died around 304

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

Conversion of Paul

Thursday, January 25, 2024

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.

Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries

Friday, January 26, 2024

These three early Christian men were missionary companions of the apostle Paul. Timothy became bishop of Ephesus, Titus bishop of Crete, and Silas was imprisoned with Paul at Philippi until they were delivered by an earthquake.

Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith

Saturday, January 27, 2024

Women as well as men were important Christian leaders from the beginning, as demonstrated by these coworkers of the apostle Paul. Lydia, a seller of purple goods, lent her home for a church; Dorcas was known for charitable works; and Phoebe was a deacon in the church at Cenchrae.

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