

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 24, 2021

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Reminder next week is our Annual Meeting. You will be able to enter Zoom at 11:45am using the specific Annual Meeting link. Upon entering you will be asked to confirm your name and the number of voting members represented on your device. This an abbreviated Annual meeting. We will only be voting on the Budget and Ballot for 2021. All reports will be written only and if there is any new business we ask that it be brought to Council to be addressed at Congregational Meetings later in the year.**

***Today Ann Clark and Heidi Johnson will be sharing Discipleship Faith Talks in placed of our sermon time. We thank them for sharing.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus calls “Come follow me”

P: **We drop what we are doing. We leave behind what holds us back. We come to follow.**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

P: **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: “Come All You People”

Come all you people, come and praise the Most High (3x)

Come now and worship the Lord.

Come all you people, come and praise the Savior (3x)

Come now and worship the Lord.

Come all you people, come and praise the Spirit (3x)

Come now and worship the Lord.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

P: **Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Holy God,

P: **you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin – our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

P: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray. 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.

P: Amen.

FAITH TALK: Heidi Johnson

SONG: *"Everybody's Got Something to Offer"*

Chorus: Everybody's got something to offer;
young and old the prince and the pauper.
Everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord

Verse 1: To the lost and the lowly ones the message it is clear;
we have all got a gift to give our hands, our hearts, our tears. (*Chorus*)

Verse 2: To the believers gathered here the message it is true;
we have all got a gift to give in all we say and do. (*Chorus*)

CCLI#1330601

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So 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. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God had second thoughts about the calamity that God had said would be done to them; and God did not do it.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 62:5-12

⁵For God alone I wait in silence;

truly, my hope is in God.

⁶God alone is my rock and my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

⁷In God is my deliverance and my honor;
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

⁸Put your trust in God always, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

⁹Those 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.

¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; (*continued on next page*)

though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it,
that power belongs to God.

¹²Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord,
for you repay all according to their deeds.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who are married be as though they were not, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the dominion of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for human beings.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As Jesus went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately Jesus called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.



FAITH TALK: Ann Clark

SONG: “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

You have come down to the lakeshore
seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,
But only asking for me to follow;

Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;
Kindly smiling, you’ve called out my name...
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;
Now with you, I will seek other seas.



You know full well what I have, Lord;
Neither treasure, nor weapons for conquests,
Just these my fishnets and will for working.

You need my hands, my exhaustion,
Working love for the rest of the weary –
A love that’s willing to go on loving.

You who have fished other waters;
You, the longing of souls that are yearning;
O loving Friend, you have come to call me.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE 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 Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. 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.

THE OFFERING

OFFERING SONG: "Make a Difference" by Rachel Kurtz

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfGOMWnRdqs>

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Responding together to Christ's call, let us offer our prayers for all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "Our hope is in you."

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, especially our bishops, pastors, deacons, musicians, and servers, that God's Spirit empower all the baptized with wisdom to follow Christ's call. O God our salvation, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for Sunday schools and for all parish education, for teachers and participants, young and old, that God form the faithful even when classes cannot regularly meet in person. O God our power, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for the earth, its seas, lakes, and rivers, for their myriad creatures, and for those whose livelihood depends upon them, that God raise up advocates and scientists to guide an ecological care for creation. O God our rock, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for the nations, for our elected and appointed leaders, for racial concord in our cities, and for those who have been considered our enemies, that God lead the world into commonwealths of justice and peace. O God our stronghold, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for those who are charged with maintaining an ordered society, for state and local law enforcement, and for the military, that God guide the powerful to serve the common good. O God our refuge, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for relief from COVID-19, for the fearful, the sick, and the dying, for medical workers, for all who await the vaccine, for the unemployed and the quarantined, that God uphold the world's people through this time of affliction. O God in whom we trust, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for all who are sick, distressed, or grieving, especially for . . . , that God sustain and comfort those who suffer. O God our deliverance, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray finally for ourselves, that as we pour out our hearts to God, our faith in divine mercy be renewed.

A longer period of silence.

O God of steadfast love, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We join in thanksgiving for all your people from ancient times until today who have lived and died in faith, and we pray that at our end God unite us with them in everlasting peace. O God of eternal might, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

Merciful God, receive the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

P: 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.

BLESSING

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: "I Have this Hope" 10th Avenue North

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cjetZn5lrBc>

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

P: Thanks be to God.



AFTER THOUGHTS
January 24, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

In the Nets of the Kingdom

Jan, wandering seat to seat on the bus, was crossing state lines from Michigan to Wisconsin. Bruce had sent her the ticket. The two met at a church youth convention; now she was going to be his high school prom date. Here's how it happened: At the youth gathering, during each morning's worship, the two held the same green hymn book. During the afternoon Bible studies, sitting cross-legged in a circle on the floor, she read compellingly from her red leatherette Bible. For evening reflections, the prayers she pulled from her blue plastic packet of devotions swept the room. Bruce was bedazzled. That's why he bought the ticket. When Jan stepped off the bus, she shimmered, telling him how from seat to seat along Highway 2 she had saved souls, netting fourteen converts on a colorful missionary journey.

As delighted as Jan might have been, her proselytizing was not the kind of fishing for people Jesus was after when he passed along the Sea of Galilee, calling oily fishermen to "follow me." What shook Simon and Andrew, James and John, and countless women and men throughout the ages to—immediately, impulsively—give up their nets, quit mending, abandon boats, and leave families and homes?

Jesus' wild, sea-changing challenge demands courage. It dares us into a way of living, a manner of seeing, and a risk of not knowing but earnestly believing that when he asks us to step up, something more meaningful than all we have awaits us.

Jesus' "follow me" comes amid a lifetime of rigorous monotony, in which we are constantly casting nets to catch more of what never satisfies. Jesus' "follow me" is an epiphany. It is an invitation, not to "save souls," but to be gathered and to gather the weak and despairing, to minister to the ruined and abandoned, scared and starving, to show compassion to the mean and unloving, and to embrace the great, greedy, proud, and demanding; all of this awaits us in the nets of God's kingdom.

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress.
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.
