

A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

8:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

JANUARY 21, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pick up the pink announcement sheet for important information.

PRELUDE

“Wade in the Water” Raney

BETH AND COURTNEY PITTMAN

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.

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

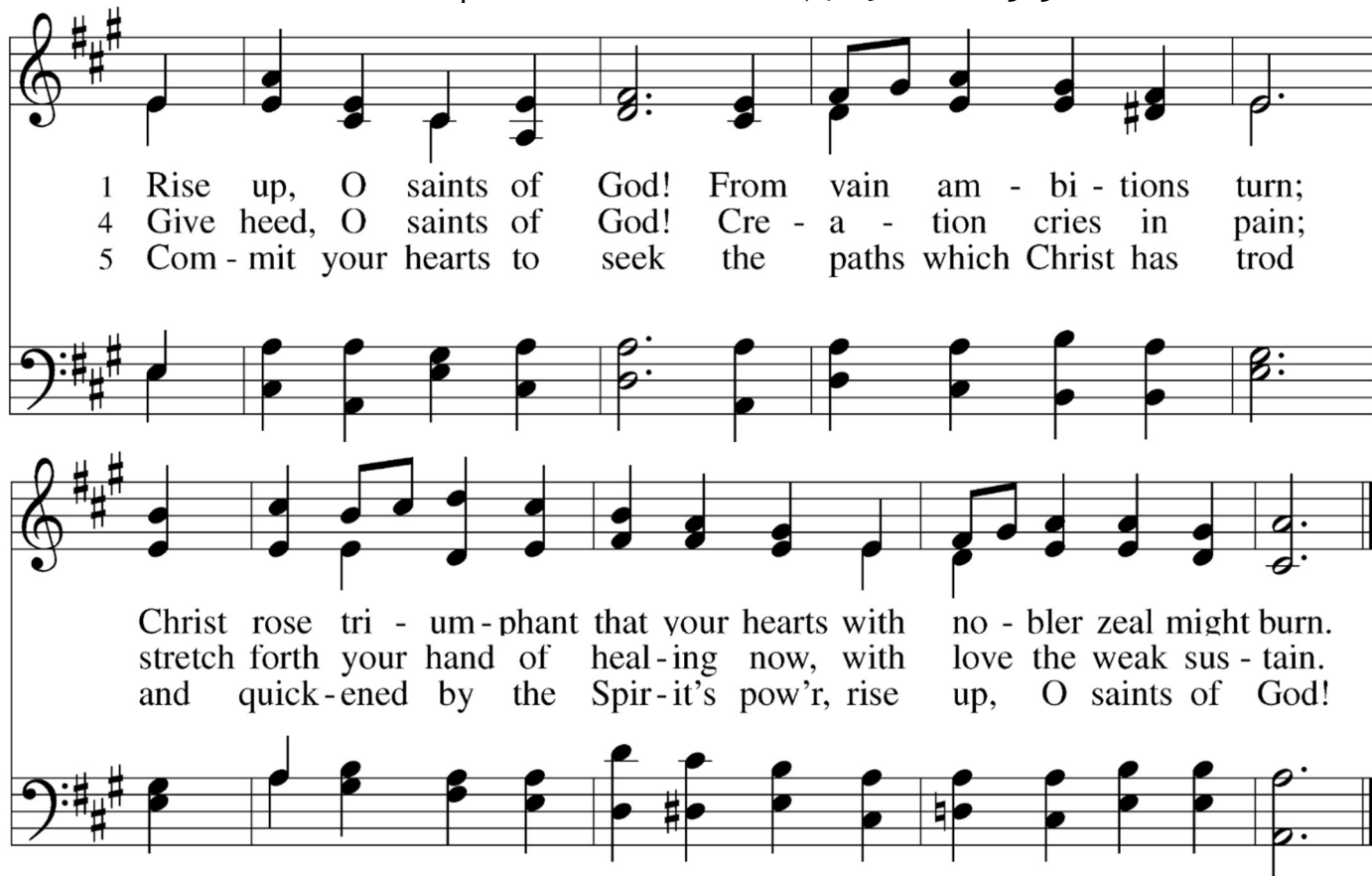
Silence is kept for reflection.

P God, our rock and refuge,

C **we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C **Amen.**



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE



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!

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
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:
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.
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.
For the peace that we in-her-it, glo-ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

C 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.

WE HEAR THE WORD

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?"

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²Get 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!" ⁵And 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 changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

A ⁵For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.

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

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

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

A 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.

C ¹⁰**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.**

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

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, 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.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELULIA VERSE



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C **Glorify to you O Lord.**

GOSPEL: 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.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom 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 people."

¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

REV. REBECCA GRATE

SPECIAL MUSIC

"BE THOU MY VISION"

RANEY JEAN PONTIOUS

Stand

OFFERTORY



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.
- C Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

- C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

A 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.

A God our rock and deliverance, do not let your church be shaken. We trust you never abandon your promises to the most vulnerable among us. Give your church wisdom and empathy in its varied ministries. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God our hope and refuge, you placed the fish in the sea. Guide our care of oceans and all creatures that live in them. Hold us accountable for actions that endanger water sources and the people who depend on them. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God who proclaims judgement and offers mercy, be a model to the leaders of our nation and the world. As they lead, may they follow in your way of justice and truth. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God who cares for the suffering, care for survivors of assault and sexual abuse and sustain all who minister to them. Keep safe any who live under threat of violence, those living in poverty, and any among us who are ill or in pain (*especially*). God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God of resurrection and new life, as the first disciples shared the good news, empower us and this faith community to be open to your call. When we are uncertain of your call, assure us. When we have strayed from your ways, redirect us. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A God who holds the saints against your tender bosom, we trust you welcome them into your care. Comfort those who grieve, even as we place our hope in your salvation. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A 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.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P 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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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

P 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

A Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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**



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.

DISTRIBUTION

SEE ANNOUNCEMENT SHEET FOR COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

- P And now may the body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and His most holy and precious blood, strengthen you and preserve you and keep you to true faith unto life everlasting. May we depart in peace and may the Lord be with you.
- C **Amen**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us pray. 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.
- C **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BLESSING

- P May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face smile upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance on you, and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit
- C **Amen**

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me. Lord.

thou my best thought by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Worship God, Follow Jesus, Serve Others and Make Disciples.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE