

*Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.”  
And immediately they left their nets and followed him.*

*~Mark 1: 17-18*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**The Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 25, 2015**

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Rev. Marcella Esseck, Guest Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an \*, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 25, 2015**

*Stories of the call to discipleship continue as the Time after Epiphany plays out 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 fisherman brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.*

### ***Conversion of Paul***

*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.*

**PRELUDE:** *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* – John Carter

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.  
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.  
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.  
**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG #810: *O Jesus, I Have Promised***

**\*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.**

**\*GLORY TO GOD**

Assisting minister  
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All  
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,  
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.  
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.  
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1–5, 10** (page 860 in Old Testament)

*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?"*

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

<sup>10</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 62: 5-12**



1. My soul in si-lence waits for God, Who my own hope has proved.  
2. All peo-ple are but van-i-ty, The best of us a lie;  
3. For tru-ly God has spo-ken once, And twice to me made known:



A rock and strong-hold is my God, I nev-er shall be moved.  
Both high and low es-tate com-bined Are light-er than a sigh.  
That strength and pow'r be-long to God, and un-to God a-lone.



In God a-lone my hon-or rests, Who brings de-liv'-rance sure;  
In your own strength, then, place no hope. For rich-es, have no lust;  
For so it is that sov'-reign grace Be-longs to you, O Lord;



My rock of strength is found in God, My ref-uge most se-cure.  
Though for a mo-ment they ap-peal, They are not worth your trust.  
For You, ac-cord-ing to our work Shall ev'-ry-one re-ward.

Text: Psalm 62:5-12; para. *The Psalter*, 1912, alt. by Fred R. Anderson  
Music: English traditional

FOREST GREEN

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7: 29–31** (page 170 in New Testament)

*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.*

<sup>29</sup>I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and 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, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though

they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat alleluia*

The time is fulfilled,  
and the kingdom of God has come near repent, and believe in the good news

**\*GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:14 –20** (page 35 in New Testament)

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.*

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

<sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>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.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #720: *We are Called***

**\*NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;**

**through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called to know, love, and follow you, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Lord God, call your whole church beyond small hopes and half-hearted witness. Stir your people to risk everything for the sake of your plan of salvation among us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Call our hearts to greater love for your creation, that we see its goodness and bounty as a common trust to preserve for ages to come. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Call parliaments, councils, legislatures, and all governing bodies to put aside divisive rhetoric and partisan rancor. Diminish our thirst for personal victory and move us to seek the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Call to the brokenhearted and all who hunger for healing. Enfold them in the fullness of your embrace. Restore wholeness of body and soul to all in need especially Nan, Jim, John, Robert, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Call this assembly to expand our vision to see your kingdom present and working among us. Free us from all that hinders us from following you, and be with our bishop and call committee as they seek a new pastor for this congregation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Call us to greater service through the example of your saints. We thank you for the faith of those who have led us to know and follow you especially the apostle Paul. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting your love and healing, O God, we commend to you all for whom we pray, knowing you will hear and answer, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERING HYMN #817: *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

(All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward)

#### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful,  
you bring forth food from the earth  
and nourish your whole creation.

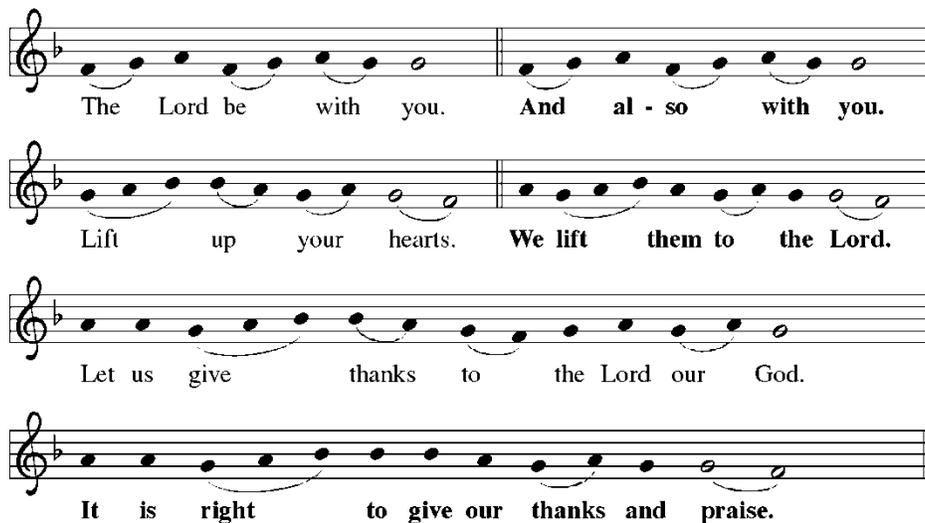
Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way,  
that all may know your care;

and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

#### **\*DIALOGUE**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **\*PREFACE**

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:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:  
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
You have filled all creation with light and life;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:  
the promise to Israel,  
the rescue from Egypt,  
the gift of the promised land,  
the words of the prophets;  
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.  
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,  
we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in Christ's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.  
**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants  
of every time and every place,  
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest  
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty of the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is yours, al -  
- might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

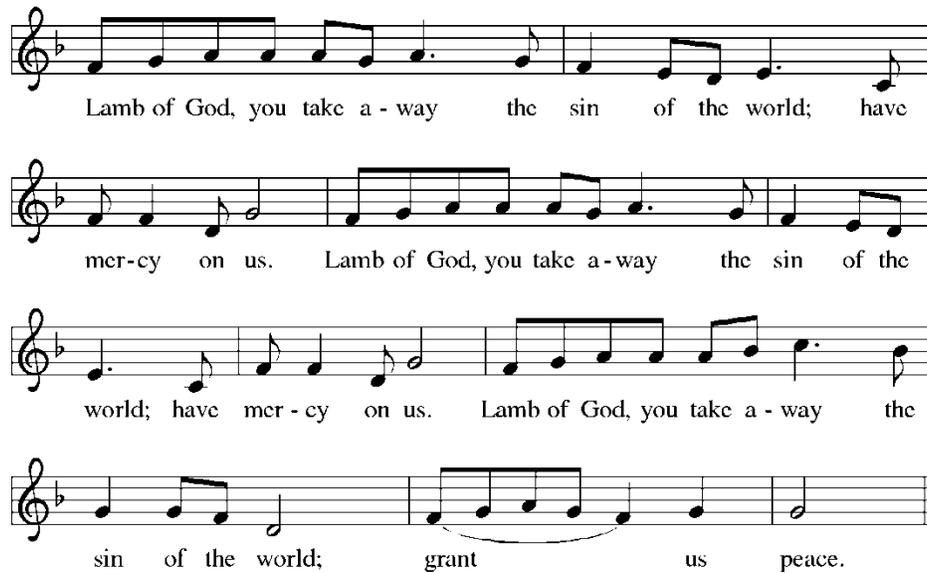
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**  
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

*In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.*

**COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God***



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

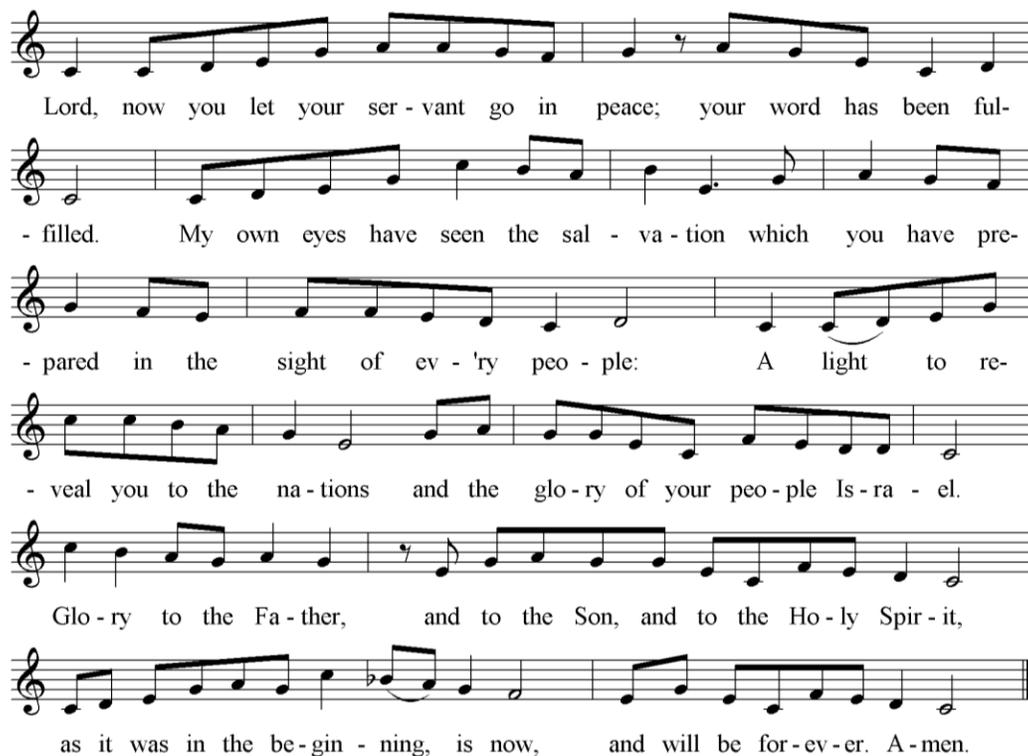
**COMMUNION HYMN #815: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light***

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

**Amen.**

**\*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



Lord, now you let your ser - vant go in peace; your word has been ful-  
- filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-  
- pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-  
- veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance,  
with this bread of life and cup of salvation  
you have united us with Christ,  
making us one with all your people.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue forever in the risen life  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG #661: *I Love to Tell the Story***

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PRELUDE: *Praeludium in C* – Dietrich Buxtehude**

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**8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Dave Knauff  
**Communion Assistant:**  
**Acolyte:**  
**Lector:**  
**Usher:** Clarence Strabel  
**Attendance Last Week:** 49  
**Weekly Budgeted Need:** \$  
**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$ 5,510.88  
**YTD Actual Expense:** \$ 5,153.85

**10:30 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Sally Foster  
**Communion Assistant:**  
**Acolyte:** Madison Cardinal  
**Lector:** Valerie Cardinal  
**Usher:**  
**Attendance last year:** 71  
**Last Week's Giving:** \$ 2,248.00  
**Year to Date Receipts:** \$ 7,206.00

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