



*“...Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him.”*

*~Matthew 4:19-20*

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany – January 22, 2023  
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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister  
Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!  
Know that you are welcome here just as you are*

*If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time visiting us, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.*

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**.*

*All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of Peace, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of Offering, you are invited to share a gift as you are comfortable. You may also place any prayer requests for the pastor in the offering plates.*

*If you need a restroom, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.*

*As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of the people.*

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### \*GATHERING SONG *Dearest Jesus, at Your Word* (ELW 520)



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est  
3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from  
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,  
God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;  
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -  
fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and  
help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and  
all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.  
all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.  
songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.  
earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

## \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

We praise you, O God, for water—  
the rain that nourishes animals and plants,  
the water for drinking and bathing.  
We praise you, O God, for water.  
**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We praise you, O God, for our water stories—  
a flood that cleansed the earth, the sea that drowned the enemy,  
a river that healed leprosy.  
We praise you, O God, for water.  
**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We remember the waters of Jesus—  
baptized in the Jordan River, calming the Sea of Galilee,  
drinking from Jacob's Well, healing at the pool of Bethesda,  
washing the disciples' feet.  
We praise you, O God, for water.  
**We praise you, O God, for water.**

We praise you, O God, for this font, for through this water  
you have birthed us into the family of Christ,  
bathed us in forgiveness, and enlivened us in the Spirit.  
We praise you, O God, for baptism.  
**We praise you, O God, for baptism.**

We praise you, O God, today, tomorrow, forever.  
Amen, and amen.  
**Amen, and amen.**

## \*THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values and rests, also with lyrics underneath.


(cont'd)



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray,

**Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4**

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

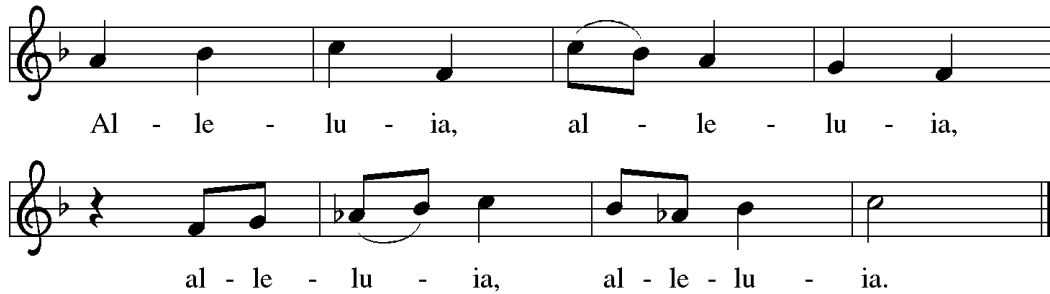
<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:12-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

### SERMON



**\*HYMN OF THE DAY *Will You Come and Follow Me* (ELW 798)**

*(Blue prayer cards are collected during the song.)*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**



## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and tend to the earth sustainably. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely. Especially we pray for Jeff, Bob, Katie, Marcia, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Chuck, Henry, Harry, Roy, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Beverly, Karen, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, both known and unknown. Help us to leave our nets and follow. Bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, lifting up the prayers on the hearts of this congregation this day, especially (*received prayer cards are read*). Trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified, we commend these prayers, spoken and unspoken into your everlasting mercy.

**Amen.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY HYMN *Light Shone in Darkness* (ELW 307)**

*\*Rise on 3rd verse*



1 Light shone in dark - ness at the world's cre - a - tion,  
2 Light shone in dark - ness at the new cre - a - tion;  
3 Light shines in dark - ness till the full cre - a - tion;



bath - ing in beau - ty na - ture's rev - e - la - tion. All that has be - ing,  
Christ rose in glo - ry, won for us sal - va - tion. Sing, earth and heav - en,  
Christ's bod - y, groan - ing, suf - fers trib - u - la - tion, longs for God's jus - tice,



cry in ad - o - ra - tion, "Praise for the light. A - men!"  
hymns of ju - bi - la - tion, praise for the light. A - men!  
glob - al trans - for - ma - tion, prays for the light. A - men!

**\*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.**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

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:

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en 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..". The score ends with a double bar line.

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

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

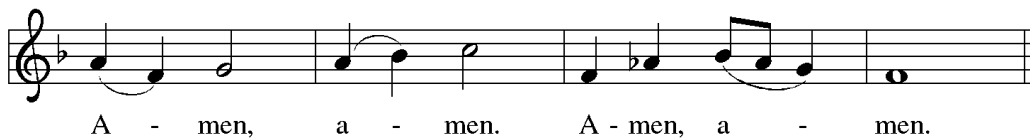
In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

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.

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.

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





## COMMUNION HYMN *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* (ELW 817)



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -  
 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing  
 2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther  
 3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing  
 4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo  
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly  
 trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my  
 love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's  
 long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.  
 ask - ing for me to fol - low.  
 fish nets and will for work - ing.  
 will - ing to go on lov - ing.  
 Friend, you have come to call me.

### Refrain / Estribillo



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,  
 Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi  
 you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
 small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.



**\*BLESSING OF COMMUNION OUTREACH**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we are sent forth. Bless those who carry your heavenly food to those unable to be with us this day. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence. **Amen.**

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*BLESSING**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod

✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus* (ELW 802)**



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.  
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.  
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.  
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.  
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,  
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:  
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;  
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.  
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.  
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.  
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.  
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.  
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.  
Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

**\*DISMISSAL**

“May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus . . . May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing. (*Romans 15:5, 13*)

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Assisting in worship today:**

**Assisting Minister: Valerie Cardinal**

**Acolyte: Ava Niklewicz**

**Ushers: Larry Werner**

**Offering: Luca Knauff & Eva Knauff**

**Attendance last week: 39 + 6 zoom**

*Notes for the day's texts:*

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.

We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

**Today’s Music**

*Jesus, at Your Word.* Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt., Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673. Public Domain.

*Will You Come and Follow Me.* Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949, Music: Scottish traditional. GIA Publications, Inc. / Public Domain.

*Light Shone in Darkness.* Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939, Music: Mark Sedio, b. 1954. GIA Publications, Inc. / Augsburg Fortress.

*You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore.* Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936-1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946, Music: Cesáreo Gabaráin. OCP (Oregon Catholic Press).

*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus.* Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, alt., Music: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent. Augsburg Fortress / Public Domain.

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