

*“And 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  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany – January 21, 2024  
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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. You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. Visitor information cards and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

*At the time of **Holy Communion**, all are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*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 intercession.

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

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

**\*GATHERING SONG *Listen, God Is Calling* (ELW 513)**

Refrain  
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

1 2

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.  
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.  
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All Refrain

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.  
that he came to save us and set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.  
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.  
We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*THIS IS THE FEAST**

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



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

*Refrain*



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of  
 vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. 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 - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*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.**

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

A reading from Jonah.

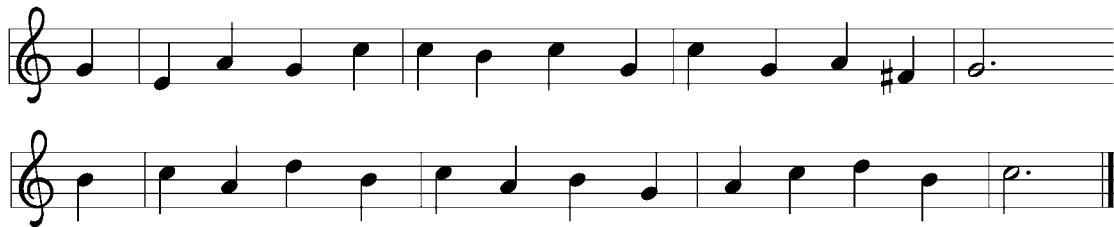
<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a 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**



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. My soul in silence waits for God,<br/>I hope in God alone;<br/>My rock and health, I shall not be<br/>Shaken or overthrown.</p> <p>2. In God, my refuge and strong rock<br/>My true salvation lies;<br/>Pour out your hearts and trust the One<br/>In whom our refuge lies.</p> | <p>3. The great are but a fleeting breath,<br/>Trust in the lowly fails;<br/>They all are lighter than a breath<br/>When tested on the scales.</p> <p>4. Once has God spoken, twice I heard<br/>That power is God’s alone,<br/>And steadfast love is yours, O Lord,<br/>To whom all deeds are known</p> |
|---|---|

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>29</sup>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. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### \*GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:14-20

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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’s 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 *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord* (ELW 580)**

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



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind  
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

**\*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**

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.*

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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 Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Roy, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Katie, Debi, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

God who hears our cries, we lift before you the prayers we do not yet know how to speak and those we lift before you now (*received prayer cards are read*). Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer this prayer in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **\*SHARING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us share God's peace with one another.

## MEAL

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

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY HYMN *You Are Holy* (ELW 525)

*sing twice*

*\*Rise on second half of second time through*



*Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer*  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



*än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.*  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



*Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,*  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



*väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.*  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



*Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,*  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



*du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!*  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



*Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,*  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



*ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.*  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is 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,  
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'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

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.  
**Amen.**

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

**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**

Come and taste the joy of God!

*Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.*

**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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

# DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

## 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.

## \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

## \*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 *I Love to Tell the Story* (ELW 661)



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

### *Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.



## **\*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: Jen M**

**Acolyte: Abigail C**

**Young Reader: Carissa M**

**Greeter: Ruth Ann T**

**Ushers: Todd N**

**Offering: Ave N and Emma N**

**Attendance last week: 38 + 7 zoom**

### **Notes for the day’s texts:**

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.

### **Today’s Music**

*Listen, God Is Calling.* Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922, Music: Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919. Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

Psalm 62. Text: The New Metrical Psalter, Christopher L. Webber, © 2008. Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731-1776, Public Domain.

*How Clear Is Our Vacation, Lord.* Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000, Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP) / Public Domain.

*You Are Holy.* Text: Per Harling, b. 1948, Music: Per Harling. 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).

*I Love to Tell the Story.* Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911, Music: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936. Public Domain.

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### **Next Week’s Readings**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 *The prophet speaks with God’s authority*

Psalm 111 *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom*

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 *Limits to liberty: the case of food offered to idols*

Mark 1:21-28 *The healing of one with an unclean spirit*