Third Sunday after Epiphany January 21, 2024 10:30 AM



"The time has come," he said.

"The kingdom of God is near.

Repent and believe the good news!"

Mark 1:15, NIV



"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

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In today's gospel reading, Jesus uses the common experience of fishing and turns it upside down. Each baptized Christian, born in God's gracious sea, is called to fish for people. We are given the net of God's mercy and the gift of the Holy Spirit's presence as we go forth and invite others to join us in our communal journey of discipleship.

PRELUDE

Stand

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

P With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

C Thanks be to God!

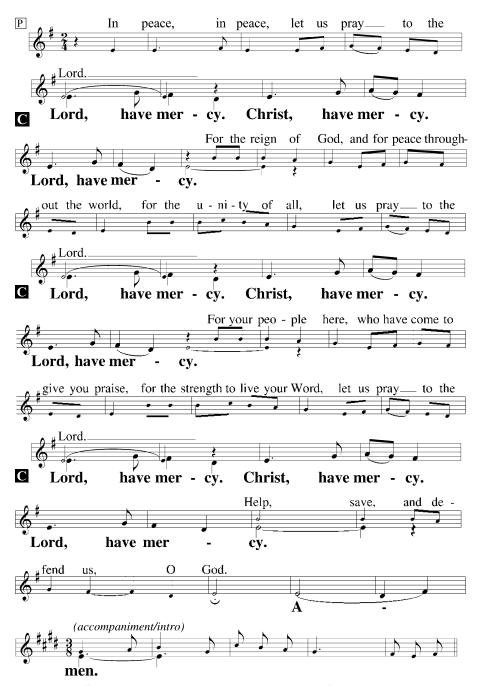
Stand

SHARING OF THE PEACE

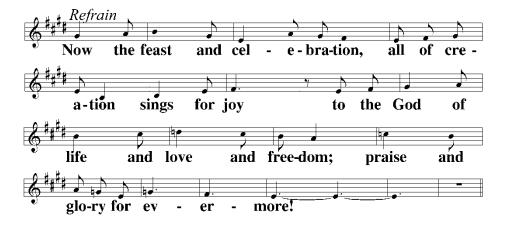
Introduce yourself to those around you, greeting them with the greeting of peace.

SERVICE OF THE WORD





Continue the following without interruption. All sing the Refrain.



- 1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. (brief interlude, then sing the Refrain)
- 2. Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. (brief interlude, then sing the Refrain)
- 3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new. (brief interlude, then sing the Refrain)

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.

Sit

Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.

FIRST LESSON Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Unlike other prophetic books that focus on the prophet's message, this book focuses on the prophet himself. The book of Jonah is really a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. 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, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." 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. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

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.

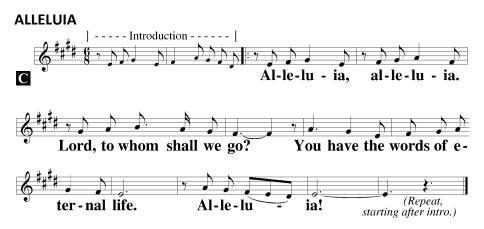
R This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

In his letters to the Corinthians, Paul addresses many problems experienced by those who want faith to shape daily life. Here he insists that our future hope in Christ ought to affect the way we conduct ourselves in the present.

R Brothers 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 1, beginning at verse 14. 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 recognize this good news will respond with repentance and faith.

P Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.

Sit

MESSAGE

HYMN "O Christ, Who Called the Twelve"



5 O Christ, th'apostles' Lord, The martyrs' strength and song, The crucified and risen King To whom the saints belong: Though generations pass,
Our tribute still we bring,
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise,
Our lives an offering.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., b. 1923 Tune: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930; setting: Stanley Oliver, 1892–1964 TERRA BEATA S M D

Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Public domain

Matt. 10:1-42; Matt. 4:18-22

PRAYERS

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," to which the congregation responds, "hear our prayer." The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF THE TABLE

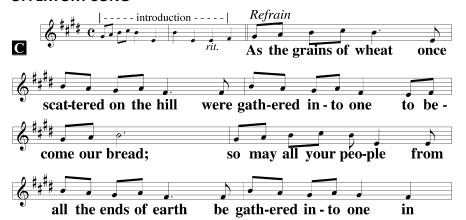
OFFERING

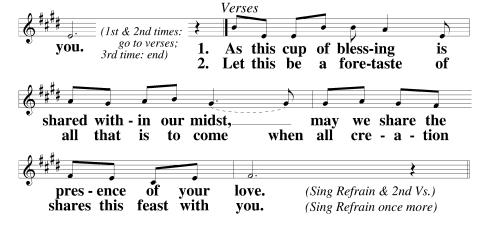
You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



Stand

OFFERTORY SONG





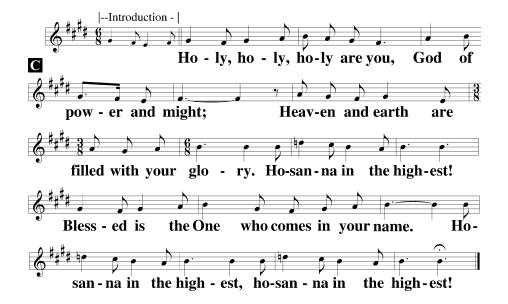
P Let us pray. Merciful God,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P It is our duty and delight... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

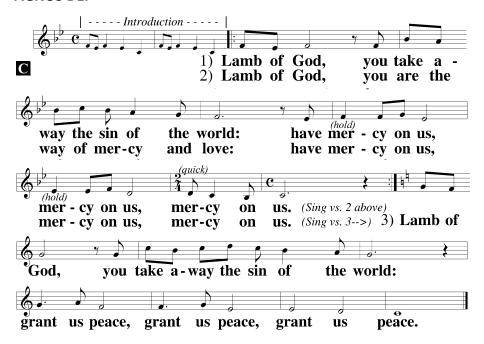
P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

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

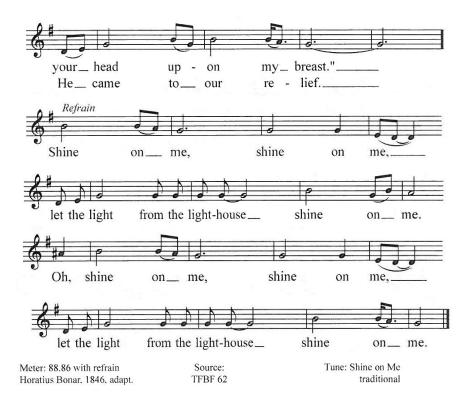
AGNUS DEI



Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION You are invited to approach the altar to receive the elements from the common loaf and an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Prepackaged gluten free options are also available.



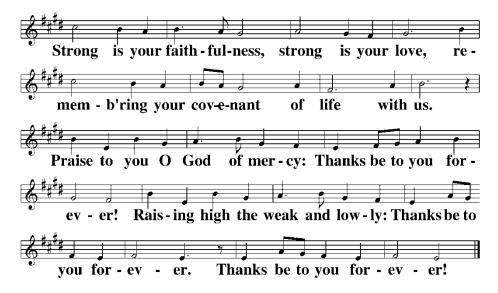


Stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER





P Let us pray. We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith towards you and in fervent love towards one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen.
- P Go in peace; serve the Lord. C Thanks be to God.



Ripe the promise of its yield. But the reapers, oh, how few For the work there is to do!

5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;

Text: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. composite
Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1704, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.;
setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text and music: Public domain

6 Lord of harvest, great and kind, Rouse to action heart and mind; Let the gath'ring nations all See Your light and heed Your call.

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Ps. 96:1-5; Matt. 22:9-10; Luke 10:2; 24:47-48; Rom. 8:32; 10:15

POSTLUDE

---- The liturgy is ended; let the service begin -----

Our Confession about Communion

Our Confession

- 1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.
- 2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."
- 3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

- a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession:
- b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

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