

# THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Peachtree City, Georgia  
January 21, 2024  
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor    Miriam Beecher, Pastor  
Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

☐ = Pastor    ☒ = Lector [reader]    ☑ = Congregation    *ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)*  
⬆ Please stand as you are able.

## PRELUDE

*Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion. Communion is offered by intinction: you may receive a wafer and dip it in the chalice with wine or white grape juice. Or you may pick up a prefilled communion "kit" on the altar rail as you approach the altar. Please tell an usher if you need a communion kit brought to you where you sit.*

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Miriam

## ⬆ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

☐    The peace of the Lord be with you always

☑    **And also with you.**

*We share a sign of God's peace.*

## ⬆ 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.**

↑ **GATHERING HYMN:** *O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True* *ELW Hymn 675*

- 1 **O Christ, our light, O Radiance true, shine forth on those estranged from you,  
and bring them to your home again, where their delight shall never end.**
- 2 **Fill with the radiance of your grace the wand'ers lost in error's maze.  
Set free all those whose hearts and minds some deep delusion haunts and binds.**
- 3 **Lord, open all reluctant ears and take away the needless fears  
of those who tremble to express the faith their inmost hearts confess.**
- 4 **Lord, let your mercy's gentle ray shine down on others strayed away.  
To those in conscience wounded sore show heaven's waiting, open door.**
- 5 **Make theirs with ours a single voice uplifted, ever to rejoice  
with wond'ring gratitude and praise to you, O Lord, for boundless grace.**

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. composite

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission OneLicense #A-701929

↑ **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.**

↑ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- ☐ 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**

*see insert*

**SECOND READING: Psalm 62:6-12a**

*see insert*

↑ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *I Love to Tell the Story*

*ELW Hymn 661, st. 1*

- 1 **I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.**

*Refrain*

**I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

Text in public domain.

↑ **GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20**

*see insert*

**SERMON**

Pastor Miriam

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult*

*ELW Hymn 696, sts. 1, 3, 5*

- 1 **Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea,  
day by day his clear voice sounding, saying, "Christian, follow me":**
- 3 **Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."**
- 5 **Jesus calls us! By your mercy, Savior, may we hear your call,  
give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.**

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

Text in the public domain.

## ↑ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

**P** Let us confess our baptismal faith together.

**C** **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 THE CHURCH

*When the petition concludes "God of grace," please respond, "Receive our prayer."*

*The prayers are ended with these words, "Knowing the Holy Spirit ...in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.." Please respond, "Amen."*

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

*Link to give:* <https://coslutheran.org/give/>

We acknowledge that you may have already offered your gifts electronically or by mail. Thank you.



## MUSICAL OFFERING (11:00)-Two Fishermen, Suzanne Toolan

Sanctuary choir

## ↑ THE 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 our thanks and praise.**

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

—ELW page 153

## ↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### ↑ THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Please approach the altar using the diagonal aisles and return by the side or middle aisles.*

*You will be offered a wafer, which you may dip in either the chalice of wine or the white grape juice.*

*You may also choose a packaged cup with wine or grape juice, or a gluten-free wafer with wine.*

**C** **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

—ELW page 154

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

ELW Hymn 815

**1** **I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

### *Refrain*

**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

*Hymn continues on next page.*

4

- 2 **I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.**

**Refrain**

**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

- 3 **I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain**

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Text © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

↑ **PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION**

- ☞ God who names you, Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
✚ bless you and remain with you always.
- ☞ **Amen.**

↑ **SENDING HYMN: *Go to the World***

*ACS Hymn 991*

- 1 **Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 2 **Go to the world! Go into ev'ry place. Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 3 **Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 4 **"Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you till the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry, Amen!" Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993  
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

↑ **SENDING**

- ☞ Go in peace. You are God's beloved.  
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

↑ **POSTLUDE**

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000345.  
Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, administered by Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

*Altar Guild: Paul & Carol Talbot*

*Lector: (8:30)-Brian Robinson; (11:00)-Marian Groover*

*Tech crew: (8:30)-Davida Kilgore, Dakota Atkins  
(11:00)-Brad Milburn*

*Ushers: (8:30)-Buddy Troy; (11:00)-Paul Talbott*

*Altar flowers are given by Laura Hawkins in honor of Kevin's birthday.*

# THE LESSONS

Sunday, January 21

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

The first reading is from Jonah, the 3rd chapter.

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.

*New Revised Standard Version Bible-Updated Edition, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.*

Ⓐ The Word of the Lord.

ⓐ Thanks be to God

## SECOND READING: Psalm 62:6-12a

The second reading is from Psalm 62. We read it responsively.

Ⓐ <sup>6</sup>He alone is my rock and deliverance, my citadel *high on a hill*;  
I will not be shaken.

ⓐ <sup>7</sup>**My salvation and my significance depend *ultimately* on God;  
the core of my strength, my shelter, is in the True God.**

Ⓐ <sup>8</sup>Have faith in Him in all circumstances, *dear* people.  
Open up your heart to Him; the True God shelters us *in His arms*.

[pause]

ⓐ <sup>9</sup>**Human beings disappear like a breath;  
*even* people of rank live artificial lives.  
Their weight is that of a breath in a balance—*nothing*.  
Added together, they’re still lighter than air.**

Ⓐ <sup>10</sup>Do not resort to oppression;  
resist the temptation of ill-gotten gain.  
If you achieve wealth, don’t let your heart get attached.

ⓐ <sup>11</sup>**The True God spoke this once, and twice I’ve heard:  
That *You*, the True God, hold all power;**

Ⓐ <sup>12</sup>and your love never fails, O Lord.

*Scripture taken from The Voice™. Copyright © 2012 by Ecclesia Bible Society. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

*The Gospel reading is on the back.*

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

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter. **C** **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 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.

*New Revised Standard Version Bible-Updated Edition, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.*

**P** The Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**