

Third Sunday after Epiphany January 24, 2021

In Person worship, Saturday, 5 pm and Sunday at 8 am and 10:30 am
Sunday service will be livestream on Facebook at 10:30 am

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Make Me A Channel of Your Peace arr. Lloyd Larson

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the leader begins.

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these words.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***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.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

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?"

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So 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. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When 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.

PSALM: Psalm 62:5-12 responses are to be quietly spoken

⁵For God alone I | wait in silence;
truly, my hope | is in God.

⁶God alone is my rock and | my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall nev- | er be shaken.

⁷In God is my deliverance | and my honor;
God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

⁸Put your trust in God al- | ways, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who | is our refuge.

⁹Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate can- | not be trusted.
Placed on the scales together they weigh even less | than a breath.

¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.

¹¹God has spoken once, twice | have I heard it,
that power be- | longs to God.

¹²Steadfast love belongs to | you, O Lord,
for you repay all according | to their deeds.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

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.

²⁹Brothers 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,³¹ 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.

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

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.

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately 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.

REFLECTION OF THE DAY

HYMN OF THE DAY – "We Are Called" ELW#720

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For the church throughout the world, for pastors and teachers, for deacons and deaconesses, and for musicians and servers, that all proclaim the good news of God's reconciling love, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For skies and seas, for birds and fish, for favorable weather and clean water, and for the well-being of creation, that God raise up advocates and scientists to guide our care for all the earth, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who provide leadership in our cities and around the world, for nonprofit organizations, for planning commissions and homeless advocates, that God inspire all people in the just use of wealth, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those who are sick, distressed, or grieving; for the outcast and all who await relief (*especially*), that in the midst of suffering, God's peace and mercy surround them, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For our congregation and community, for families big and small, and for our ministries that reach out to those in need, that God's steadfast love serve as a model for all relationships, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for our ancestors in the faith whose lives serve as an example of gospel living, that they point us to salvation through Christ, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

BELL ANTHEM Jesus Shall Reign arr.Sandra Eithun

*** GREAT THANKSGIVING** – *to be spoken quietly.*

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.**

***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;
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:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven 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.

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The presiding minister continues.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

COMMUNION

After those online are communed, the pastor will distribute communion to those who are assisting in worship.
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

***TABLE BLESSING**

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

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.
Christ, Jesus at this table we have feasted on your very life
and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet
nourished in body and spirit to proclaim your good news
and serve others in your name. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Improvisation on The Ash Grove

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Prayer Requests – Please email, text, or call Pastor Kathy with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. Please direct Pastoral care requests in the same way.

In Home Holy Communion kits for February will be available starting the week of January 25th. There will be no communion on January 31st or February 7th. If you would like to receive a contactless home communion, please call the church office.

Online Bible Study meets Thursday nights at 7 pm using ZOOM for about an hour. The group has just started the book of Job. Can virtue exist in a world that relies on the principle of reward and punishment? What about innocent suffering? How should we act when bad things happen and do we? While parents might name their boys Abraham, Jacob, or Samuel, why doesn't anyone name their boy Job? Contact Charles Hawk or Pastor Kathy for the information to connect with the group. Please join us!

Attendance for the weekend of January 17, 2021: 34 physically present, 120 virtual views, 4 shares as of 1/19/21. Not comfortable worshipping in person, join us for our Sunday livestream at 10:30 am or check out the recording on our Facebook page. Thank you to everyone who shares our service!

Sponsoring bulletins and flowers is a great way to honor a special event in your loved ones' lives or to remember a loved one who has died. (Please only two vases of flowers per week.) If flowers are not sponsored, this is an added cost to the church. Many dates are available in 2021. Weekly mailings may also be sponsored.

The statements for 2020 are available. In order to limit the number of hands touching the statements and offering envelopes for 2021, Eva will have statements and/or offering envelopes available at the door, if you are signed up to attend an in-person service. If you are not attending an in-person service, please call the office to make arrangements to pick-up your statement and/or offering envelopes. Consider requesting statements and/or envelopes for other members of your family.

Report for Coat Drive for Servants for All: 24 Coats and jackets, and 11 shirts, sweaters and sweatshirts. Thank you!

Souper Bowl Sunday will be observed the weekend of February 6th and 7th. Containers will be in the Narthex to accept food donations and monetary donations. The food will be given to the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry and the money to the Pottsville Soup Kitchen. Thank you for your generosity.

Newsletter articles for the March newsletter are due by February 15th.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR ONLINE GIVING/MAIL-IN/DROPPED OFF FOR LAST WEEK

Synod/ELCA Benevolence	\$145.00
Local Benevolence	\$162.00
Current	\$3405.04
Building	\$40.00
Initial	\$9.00
Plate	\$6.00
Soup Kitchen	\$1750.00
<u>Total Received</u>	\$5517.04

QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon: Psalm 46; Genesis 12:1-9; 1 Corinthians 7:17-24
Tues: Psalm 46; Genesis 45:25—46:7; Acts 5:33-42
Wed: Psalm 46; Proverbs 8:1-21; Mark 3:13-19a
Thu: Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 3:23-29; Romans 9:6-18
Fri: Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 12:28-32; Revelation 2:12-17
Sat: Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 13:1-5; Matthew 8:28—9:1

THE WEEK OF JANUARY 24th AT A GLANCE

Sunday: 8 am and 10:30 am Holy Communion
9:15 am Sunday School and Confirmation Class
Tuesday: 6:30 pm Bell Rehearsal
Thursday: No Bible Study this week
Saturday: 5 pm Holy Communion
Next Sunday: 8 am and 10:30 am Holy Communion
9:15 am Sunday School

We Are Called

720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
 2 Come! O-pen your heart! Show your . . mer-cy to all those in
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king-dom, to
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope-less so
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth-er as



live in the free-dom of the cit-y of God.
 ha-tred and blind-ness . . . will be . . . no more.
 sis-ters and broth-ers . . . u-nit-ed in love.



We are called to act with jus-tice, we are called to



love ten-der-ly; we are called to serve one an-



oth-er, to walk hum-bly with God.