## Second Sunday after Epiphany

**January 24, 2021**

### Introduction

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.

**Prelude**

**Gathering**

*God calls us together in worship*

**Call to Worship**  
“The time is fulfilled;  
**Repent, and believe in the Good News.**  
The reign of God has drawn near;  
**Repent, and believe in the Good News.”**  
Jesus is calling out to us;  
**“Repent, and believe in the Good News.**  
“Come, follow me, and gather people,  
**Repent, and believe in the Good News.”**

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose voice is upon the waters,

whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways.**

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—**

**our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.**

**We distrust those who are not like us.**

**We exploit the earth and its resources**

**and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone.**

**Even before the words are on our tongues,**

**you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

How vast is God’s grace! Through the power and promise of ☩ Christ Jesus,

our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God’s own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God’s forgiveness,

we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ’s justice

and the Spirit’s reconciling peace. **Amen.**

### ****GATHERING HYMN:**** *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult*

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*"*:

2 As of old Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake,

turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus' sake.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

**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**

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

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.

### Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

### Psalm: Psalm 62:5-12

5For God alone I wait in silence;  
  truly, my hope is in God.  
 6**God alone is my rock and my salvation,**  
  **my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.**  
 7In God is my deliverance and my honor;  
  God is my strong rock and my refuge.  
 8**Put your trust in God always, 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 cannot be trusted.  
  Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.  
 10**Put 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 belongs to God.  
 12**Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord,**  
  **for you repay all according to their deeds.**

**Psalm Hymn:** ***You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore***

*Tú has venido a la orilla*

1 You have come down to the lakeshore

seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,

but only asking for me to follow.

*Refrain*

Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;

kindly smiling, you've called out my name.

On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;

now with you, I will seek other seas.

2 You know full well what I have, Lord:

neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,

just these my fish nets and will for working. *Refrain*

### 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, 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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### 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 holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

### 43The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” 44Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” 46Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” 47When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” 48Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” 50Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” 51And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

### The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon**

### HYMN of the day: *Will You Come and Follow Me*

1 "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

2 "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**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**

*Each petition will end with: “Hear us, O God,”*

*You may respond with:* ***“Your mercy is great.”***

**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.**

**Sending**

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

**Blessing**

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG: *This Is My Song*

1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,

a song of peace for lands afar and mine.

This is my home, the country where my heart is;

here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;

but other hearts in other lands are beating

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,

and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.

But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,

and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.

So hear my song, O God of all the nations,

a song of peace for their land and for mine.

3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,

your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.

O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,

and hearts united learn to live as one.

So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;

myself I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**