

St. Paul's and St. Matthias Lutheran Churches Sunday Worship Service Bulletin



Sunday, January 23, 2022

Third Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 3, Year C

Introduction

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

Welcome:

Prelude: “Arioso” by Scarlatti

Fremont

Confession and Forgiveness - Vicar Teresa

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

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 have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.**

Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn: Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak - ELW# 676



1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -



liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.
they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y●a heart.
glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856

Prayer of the Day

Vicar Teresa

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Carol Dunn

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that “the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

A reading from the prophet Nehemiah

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 19

Loretta & Matthew Brockmeier

The teaching of the LORD revives the soul. (Ps. 19:7)

Please leave your microphones on MUTE.

Women: The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Men: Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,
their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

Women: It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

Men: The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the simple.
The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.

Women: The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

Men: By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

**ALL Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Linda Toth

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Open Your Ears, O Faithful People ELW#519
PASTOR ANNE

Verse 1 and Refrain is Sung before the Gospel
 Verse 2 and Refrain is sung following the Gospel.



1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo - ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.
 2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;



O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.
 they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.



Refrain
 To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
 God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal-le-lu-jah!
 To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
 God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
 God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
 God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version
 Music: YISRAEL V'ORAITA, Hasidic tune
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Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 4th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: "Fulfilled in Your Hearing" - Pastor Anne Harman

Silence

Hymn of the Day: We All Are One in Mission - ELW #576



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var-ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem-ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris-ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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Prayers of Intercession

Diane Harrop

Please respond: Hear our prayer

BLESSING OF QUILTS

Pastor Anne

The Quilt and Bag group has 12 men and women from our congregations and our local community who share a passion for creating blankets of love for people who are experiencing a crisis, such as tornadoes or floods.

The quilts are shipped worldwide to assist people in need through Lutheran World Relief. Our last shipment of 96 quilts went to Nepal and Burkina Faso. In 2020 the Suncoast conference sent 7,401 quilts which included our 96. We have completed 20 quilts this year between covid shutdowns.

Each member brings special talents to the group. Some sew. Some cut fabric, Some iron. Some pin and tie the quilts together. Fellowship is shared by all. If you are interested in joining, please let Pastor Anne know and she will forward your name along to the Quilt and Bag group. All skills are needed and appreciated and no quilting or sewing experience is required.

Pastor: The quilts we dedicate today represent the many quilts which have been prepared and sewn with love over the past year. We commend the women and men of our church and community who so faithfully have gathered to make these beautiful symbols of God's love, mercy and comfort to those in need.

Let us pray:

God of all comfort and peace, you have called us to reach out to our neighbors around the world, and in doing so remind us that all people are created out of your love and in your image. Send forth your Spirit today to bless our work and make it holy.

We give you thanks for those who have generously shared their time and resources to make these quilts. We pray for those who will receive these quilts, may they wrap our struggling neighbors in love and fill them with the hope and peace that is only found in you.

We lift before you the staff and partners of Lutheran World Relief who will distribute these quilts. Give them strength and encouragement as they reach out to those most in need throughout the world.

And finally, may our hearts be warmed and inspired by these local and global efforts. May the work of our hands remind us that all people are one before you, the Creator, Redeemer, and Saving Lord.

ALL: Amen

Offering Hymn - We Are an Offering #692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you;
we are an offering, we are an offering

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Thanksgiving for the Word – Vicar Teresa

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

ALL: we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

ALL: we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

ALL: we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

ALL: 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.**

A Prayer of Peace and Reconciliation Announcements

Blessing - Pastor Anne

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.
May the God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Recessional: Build Us Up, Lord - ELW #670

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain
Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in
faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your
word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna
Text and music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

Dismissal - Vicar Teresa

Go out with Joy to be the hands of Christ in the world.

All: Thanks be to God.

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