Service of the Word and Sacrament
January 22nd, 2023
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy One, source of our renewal,

**C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.
We have not always practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts can turn away from you.
For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,
that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

L: God said:
"The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare."
God's mercy makes us new.
We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn *"Here I Am Lord"* **#574**

"I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who make the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

REFRAIN

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

"I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?"

(Refrain)

"I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?"

(Refrain)

Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the path of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Kids' Sermon

First Reading Isaiah 9:1-4

L: [1]There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

[2]The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. [3]You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. [4]For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (read responsively)

L: [1]The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

C: [4]**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

L: [5]For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

C: [6]**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

L: [7]Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

C: [8]**My heart speaks your message—"Seek my face."**
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

L: [9]Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

Second Reading **1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

L: [10]Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. [11]For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. [12]What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." [13]Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? [14]I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, [15]so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. [16](I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) [17]For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

[18]For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel **Matthew 4:12-23**

L: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

L: [12]Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. [13]He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, [14]so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
[15]"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—[16]the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." [17]From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

[18]As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. [19]And he said to

them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” [20]Immediately they left their nets and followed him. [21]As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. [22]Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

[23]Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *“Will You Come and Follow Me”* **#798**

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?

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?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris’ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

“Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you

and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where you love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of love. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of malice in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, are isolated and lonely, or are living health concerns. Especially we pray for: Cathy Gottschalk, John Schneider, Barb Yeast, Jeanette Carlson, Lenore Kaste, Kathy Brown, Steve Petterson, Elizabeth Moede, Betty Kempf,

Mike Buhl, Diane Hennan, Laurie, Jay Broederson, June Champagne, Wren Kirkpatrick, Frank Koerten, Donny Rivers, Miriam Haines, Clay Bundick, and those we name in our hearts... Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. We pray especially for these members of the congregation: Jacob Kislow; Job and Jamie Kislow; Jordan and Ava Kislow; and Michael, Logan, and Kayle Kislow.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, both famous and unknown, including Jack Zubella (Linda Konkel's father). Help us to leave our nets and follow, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified and resurrected.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offering Prayer

L: Liberating God,
you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
for all your works of merciful power,
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

C: Amen.

THE COMMUNION

Dialogue

L: The Lord be with you,

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy p.153

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.

Words of Institution

L: 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.

The Mystery of the Faith

L: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!

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.**

Invitation to Communion

L: Come and taste the joy of God!

Communion

Communion Blessing

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

C: Amen

Prayer After Communion

L: Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
+ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song *"God's Work, Our Hands"* **#1000 ACS**

God's work, our hands; working together,
building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our feet; trav'ling together,
following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom,
running the race with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our voice; singing together,
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice,
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

God is at work in and around us;
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,
sharing the good news of your gospel.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude