
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 23 & 24, 2021

Listening to God's Call

AS WE GATHER

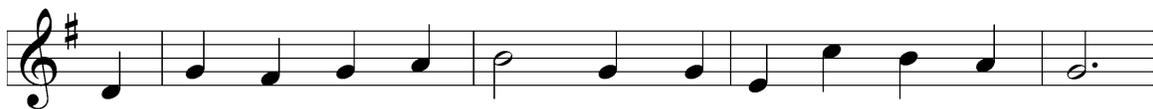
When someone calls you on your phone, do you always answer? In our present day with caller identification, many are apt to let the call go to voicemail to wait and see what the message is and who it's from and at times wait to respond depending on the level of importance. How about when God calls? Especially, if that call is one to repentance? Do you answer? We hear in today's Readings of the response of some. Jonah was a reluctant follower. He went to Nineveh begrudgingly, but through him God would issue a call for the Ninevites to repentance. Jesus would call Simon, Andrew, James, and John to follow Him, and promised that through them, God would issue a call of repentance to many. In Baptism, God has called us to follow Him in a life of faith and repentance, and He promises that through us, others will also be called to that same repentance and new life.

PREPARATION

HYMN

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 113:1-3

- P** Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD,
C **praise the name of the LORD!**
- P** Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!
C **From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Mark 1:15; Psalm 113:1-3

- P** Gracious Lord, by Your name You have called us Your own, and we are to pray, praise, and give thanks to You.
C **Yet we often do not live as You have called us to live as Your own. We do not always honor Your name nor Your calling with our praise.**
- P** We confess our sins to God in repentance, turning from those things that lead us away, turning back to You as we follow in faith.

Silence for reflection

- P** Almighty and ever-compassionate Lord,
C **we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess our many failures as we have not followed You joyfully and trustingly. We have not loved others as ourselves, and our thoughts, words, and deeds have not been pleasing to You. We have not always welcomed Your call for us to follow You and You alone.**
- P** The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel. Hear and rejoice in the Good News. Jesus Christ died for you, and for His sake, God has compassion. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in His stead, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**
- P** Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD,
C **praise the name of the LORD!**
- P** Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!
C **From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!**

WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 113:1-2, 4, 7-8; antiphon: v. 3

- P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the LORD is to be praised!
C **Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD,
praise the name of the LORD!**
Blessèd be the name of the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore!

**The LORD is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens!**
He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
**to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the LORD is to be praised!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

LSB 940 sts. 1–5

*1 Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.*

*4 Thou art King of Glory, Christ; Son of God, yet born of Mary.
For us sinners sacrificed, As to death a Tributary,
First to break the bars of death, Thou hast opened heav'n to faith.*

△ *5 Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;
Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery.*

Text: Public domain

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jonah 3:1–5, 10

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. . . .

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 7:29–35

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live 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 goods, 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.

³²I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. ³⁵I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Mark 1:15

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

A The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:14–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
 2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 When my life is al - most gone,
 And the day is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
 Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
 At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

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SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Please remain seated for the prayers.*

P Lord, as You have called us as Your own, gathered us together, and enlightened us by Your Spirit through Your Word, we bring to You our prayer and praise. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for all people of the world, that the Epiphany light that shines the radiance of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, shine in the hearts and minds of all people. For those who are wayward and lost and for those who have rejected Your call to repentance and faith, we pray You use us in our words and witness to point to You that many more would faithfully follow.

HYMN

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839 sts. 1–2

- 1 *O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice And in Your fold with us rejoice.*
- 2 *Fill with the radiance of Your grace The souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.*

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P Ever-present Lord, be with Your Church on earth and the congregations in their work to serve and praise You and to be nourished by Your Word and Sacraments. Bless those You have called in roles of pastors and church workers that they faithfully speak and live Your Word of truth and that the call to a repentant and faithful life in Christ be followed. Continue to raise up called servants and leaders within Your Church for Your work and mission to continue that many more may know You and follow where You lead.

HYMN

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839 st. 3

- 3 *O gently call those gone astray That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed In You find peace and heav'nly rest.*

P Lord of comfort and peace, be present with those who face various needs in mind, soul, and body, [*especially . . .*]. Grant healing according to Your will. Be with those who grieve that the assured promise of Christ's victory over death and the grave brings hope in times of hopelessness. For those who live in doubt, fear, and distress, extend Your call of grace through Your Word and those who proclaim it.

HYMN

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839 st. 4

- 4 *Shine on the darkened and the cold; Recall the wand'ers to Your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart; Confirm the weak and doubting heart,*

P Lord, we praise Your name for You gave Jesus Christ, whose love for us compelled Him to go to the cross that we by faith are saved. Unite us in Him and in our fellowship together, that in repentance we faithfully receive the gifts of life and grace He gives to us through His body and blood. Help us to draw our strength, love, compassion, and mercy through You.

HYMN

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839 st. 5

5 *That they with us may evermore Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.*

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

Psalm 113:2-3

P Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!

C From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

P As the Lord sent His life-renewing Word through Jonah and the prophets, be assured of His forgiveness and love. As the Lord called and sent His apostles to be fishers of men, hear His voice and follow Him. As we have received God's grace this day for the sake of Christ our Lord, heed His call to repentance, rejoice in His forgiving grace, and give Him thanks and praise.

C Amen.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,

The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.

The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,

The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
U-nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing

To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Prayers

Ruth Zeidler, Herman & Darlene Mayer, Lauren John

Family and friends of Rick Mathis, Bruce Mathis' brother, who passed away on Sunday, January 17th.

Continuing Prayer Concerns

Elijah Rabacchi
Alice Knop

Debra Guebert
Sam Huffman
Denise Young

Ann Vallett
Victor Brelje
Jamie Fletcher

Ali Gerlach
Don Ritter

Patricia Ford (Larry Grab sister)
Arnold Mueller (father of Alice Wydeck)

Genna Biermann (Connie Kirkland's sister-in-law)
Andy Schorr (Carol Mayer's brother)

Care Center Residents

Delores Doss
Wayne Mueller

Mary Lou Goetting
Leonard & Darlene Dierks

Norma Wolters
Delbert & Carolyn Koen

Eileen Clements

Military Personnel & Their Families

Please help us keep this list updated, if you know of any changes in status call the church office 965-3192.

Justin Asbury
Bill Ingles
Richard Thompson
Zach Mogavero
Karley Kothe

Casey Vallett
Justin Parker
Denny Ernsting
Rodney Anderson
Dylan McCoy

Matt Kraus
Andrew Grab
Kevin Kahre
Chasten Lindenberg
Drew Gerlach

Tim Eichenseer
Cory Jeffers
John Magelitz
Braden Eichenseer

Mission Prayer

Give thanks as you pray: That the Lord would open up the hearts and minds of people around the world, so that His grace-filled message can be spread far and wide.

Bible Readings

From *Lutheran Service Book* Daily Lectionary, pp. 299-304

Sunday, 1/24	Joel 3:1-21; Romans 12:14-13:14
Monday, 1/25	Zechariah 1:1-21; Romans 14:1-23
Tuesday, 1/26	Zechariah 2:1-3:10; Romans 15:1-13
Wednesday, 1/27	Zechariah 4:1-5:11; Romans 15:14-33
Thursday, 1/28	Zechariah 6:1-7:14; Romans 16:17-27
Friday, 1/29	Zechariah 8:1-23; 2 Timothy 1:1-18
Saturday, 1/30	Zechariah 9:1-17; 2 Timothy 2:1-26

Worship Service Schedule

Saturday @ 6:00 p.m. & Sunday @ 9:00 a.m.

Handicapped Accessible Service—February 11 @ 10:00 a.m.

**A video recording of the service will be posted on Facebook and the website. **

Bulletins: Donated in celebration of Herman & Darlene Mayer's 69 years of marriage on January 26.

Public School Confirmation Class—Tuesday, January 26 @ 7:00 p.m.

GriefShare Support Group

Pastor Mark is looking for those interested in attending a GriefShare Support Group. The group will begin meeting at a time to be determined after the New Year. If you are interested, call the church office at 965-3192.

Home Visits

Many of our members are choosing to stay home during this pandemic but Pastor can bring communion to you. To schedule a visit, call the church office (965-3192).

2020 Giving Statements are available in the Narthex.

Wish List

- **Church Ceiling Repair & Painting**—The bid we have received is over \$100,000 to sandblast the ceiling and repaint the church.
- **New Camera System**—The estimated total cost is \$12,000 but there are more projects that will be looked at in the future to be able to share the best quality video with our members as we are able. We are beginning on the 1st phase of installing the new camera system and updating the audio system.
- **Building & Maintenance Savings**—Our Building & Maintenance Savings account is getting low and needs to be replenished to allow the Board of Trustees to keep our church and school running safely and efficiently.

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Lutheran Schools Week—Monday, January 25—Friday, January 29, 2021. The theme this year is, “*Sent to Serve*” based on Matthew 20:28 – *The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.* Several special days have been planned.

Monday, January 25—Wear a present or past St. Mark's theme shirt

Tuesday, January 26—Dress in school colors

Wednesday, January 27—Wear clothes supporting your favorite team

Thursday, January 28—Dress for success

Friday, January 29—Pajama day

During the week students will be enjoying donuts, snacks in the afternoon, a penny war to benefit the Lutheran Heritage Foundation, identifying the teachers and staff baby pictures then pizza and movie time in the classroom to end the celebration! It's going to be a fun and exciting week!

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Part-time Job Opportunity: *COS* is looking to employ a part-time facilities manager for less than 20 hours a week. If you are interested, please call the office for more details.

***COS* Blood Drive:** Save the date and save a life. *Christ Our Savior* is hosting the Evansville community blood drive on February 9 from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. Make your appointment today! Use the Red Cross app or go online to <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html>

Early Registration Discount: The *Christ Our Savior* early registration deadline for 2021-2022 is March 31, 2021. The discounted rate is \$150 for those who register and pay the fee before the deadline.

Scholarships Available: The cost of attending *COS* can be offset by scholarships. Scholarships are available based on financial need as well as academics and service. For more information, call *COS* or visit our website: www.coslhs.org.