



United in Christ: Hope Now! Hope Always!

“Wait, Israel, for God! Wait with hope! Hope now! Hope always! Psalm 131:3

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

January 24, 2021

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones Lay Ministry Administrator: Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz Soloist: Kyla Betts

Lector: Jeff Zarth (8:00 a.m.) Brenda Skaar (9:15 a.m.)

Ushers: Sue Walls, Sue Weum (8:00 a.m.)

Tune your radio to FM 87.9 Technical Support: Thomas Lehr

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP: “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus” SDMHB

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose voice is upon the water, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God

C: 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 to 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, 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

HYMN: "Will you Come and Follow Me" #798 ELW

**Vs. 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?"**

**Vs. 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?"**

**Vs. 5: 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 your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

GREETING

P: 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.

Honk your horns to greet one another.

LITANY FOR EPIPHANY

P: In the beginning was the word,

C: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P: In the Word was life,

C: and the life was the light of all people.

P: The word became flesh and lived among us,

C: and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Lord Be Glorified" #744 ELW

**Vs. 1: In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

**Vs. 4: In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Honk your horns to greet one another.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

ANTHEM: "We Are Called" Kyla Betts

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

3 ¹⁻² Next, GOD spoke to Jonah a second time: "Up on your feet and on your way to the big city of Nineveh! Preach to them. They're in a bad way and I can't ignore it any longer." ³ This time Jonah started off straight for Nineveh, obeying GOD's orders to the letter. Nineveh was a big city, very big—it took three days to walk across it. ⁴ Jonah entered the city, went one day's walk and preached, "In forty days Nineveh will be smashed." ⁵ The people of Nineveh listened, and trusted God. They proclaimed a citywide fast and dressed in burlap to show their repentance. Everyone did it—rich and poor, famous and obscure, leaders and

followers. ¹⁰ God saw what they had done, that they had turned away from their evil lives. He *did* change his mind about them. What he said he would do to them he didn't do.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE: "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" #207 ELW

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st Chapter.

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

GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ After John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee preaching the Message of God: "Time's up! God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the Message."

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Passing along the beach of Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew net-fishing. Fishing was their regular work. Jesus said to them, "Come with me. I'll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I'll show you how to catch men and women instead of perch and bass." They didn't ask questions. They dropped their nets and followed. ¹⁹⁻²⁰ A dozen yards or so down the beach, he saw the brothers James and John, Zebedee's sons. They were in the boat, mending their fishnets. Right off, he made the same offer. Immediately, they left their father Zebedee, the boat, and the hired hands, and followed.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN: "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore" #817 ELW

Vs. 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.

Vs. 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*

Vs. 3: You need my hands, my exhaustion, working love for the rest of the weary--a love that's willing to go on loving. *Refrain*

APOSTLE'S 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 INTERCESION

P: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Honk your horns three times after each petition

P: 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.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: 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.

C: Have mercy, O God.

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

C: Have mercy, O God.

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

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: For our congregation and community, for families big and small, and for the organizations that meet here during the week, that God's steadfast love serve as a model for all relationships, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: 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.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Honk your horns to greet one another.

THE 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.**

ANOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

P: God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace.

C: Amen.

Honk your horns one last time.

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God!

SENDING HYMN: “We Are Marching in the Light” #866 ELW

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

Refrain: We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)

we are marching in the light of God.

We are praying . . .

We are singing . . .

POSTLUDE: “The Summons” arr. Jordan