THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sat. Jan. 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m. & Sun. Jan. 21, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

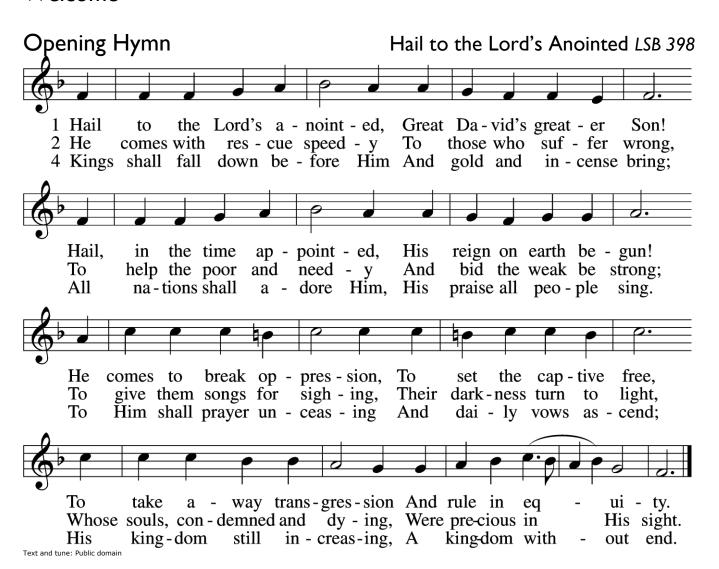
Order of Worship

* indicates congregation stands

We welcome all people in the Name of Jesus Christ! John 3:16-17

Prelude "Nun Bitten Wir Den Heiligen Geist, BuxWV 209", by Dieterich Buxtehude

Welcome



* Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy

Spirit.

All: Amen.

* Confession and Absolution

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the

truth is not in us.

All: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

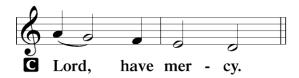
All:

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our ♣ Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

* Kyrie

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Leader: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



Leader: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



* Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast

Leader: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.





* Prayer of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: 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.

All: Amen.

Jonah goes to Nineveh.

Lector: The Old Testament Reading is from the 3rd chapter of Jonah.

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you."

Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

I Corinthians 7:29-31 NIV

Faithful living with time given.

Lector: The Epistle is from the 7th Chapter of 1 Corinthians.

What I mean, brothers and sisters, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they do not; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing the Alleluia and Verse.





* Holy Gospel

Mark 1:14-20 NIV

Jesus calls the first disciples.

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

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

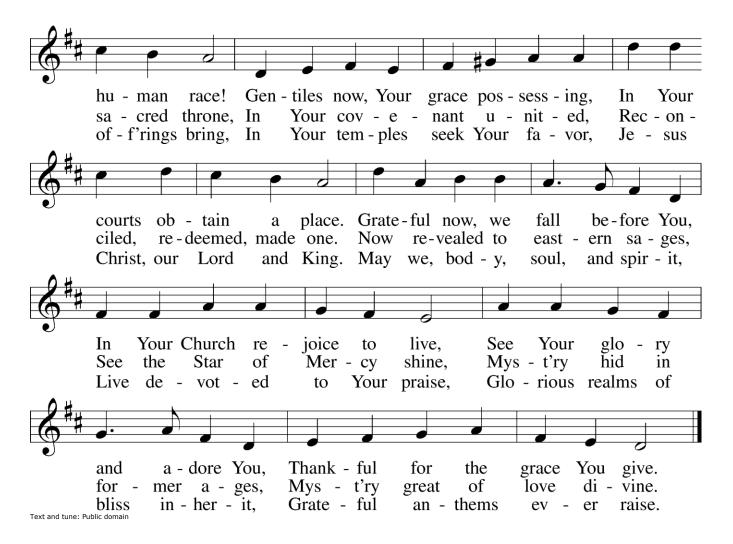
As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.





Sermon

Rev. Mark Rossington

* Nicene Creed

All: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit

of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge
both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offerings will be received at the end of the service as you exit the Sanctuary.

* Prayer of the Church

Isaiah 60:1, adapted

Leader:

Let us pray for the Church of God and for all people according to their needs, for You, O Lord, in all times and in all places, promise to hear our prayers and to answer them according to Your will. In this season of Epiphany where the light shines on our Savior, manifested as the Word made flesh, continue to reveal to us through Your Word the mercy and grace found in Jesus Christ alone. Arise and shine,

All: for our light has come.

Leader:

As You work Your will and send the salvation message through Your people, we are sometimes asked to go where we'd rather not go. Though not to Nineveh like Jonah, we have been called by the working of Your Spirit to go and make disciples of all nations. Grant to us a confident and bold faith to live as Your witnesses to the ends of the earth beginning in our homes, our church and community, and

among all our neighbors in this world. Soften the hearts of the hard-hearted and open the minds of the close-minded that all may come to repentance and know You as the one true God who sent His Son into this world to redeem the world. Arise and shine,

All: for our light has come.

Leader: As the present world is p

As the present world is passing away and time is short, we see the brokenness and results of sin in our daily lives. For those who struggle in body, mind, or spirit, affirm to them Your promises of peace in Your time as Christ has overcome the world. Point us all to Your continued presence, and assure us that Jesus is victor over anything that we might fear. In Your good time, come and make all things new. Arise and shine,

All: for our light has come.

Leader: As Jesus called His disciples to become fishers of men, they

responded immediately to drop their nets and follow. Give us such an urgency to also hear and heed the call and to follow in faith where Christ leads. As we do not know the hour of Your return, give an eagerness to our lives as faithful stewards of all we have been given with time, treasures, and abilities, that we use them to Your glory and for the

sake of others. Arise and shine,

All: for our light has come.

Leader: As You still come to us in our time of need, You come in the

body and blood of our Savior given and shed for us for the

forgiveness of sins. Equip us for the continued journey

through our days that we remain firm in faith and bear fruit

that will last until You call us home. Arise and shine,

All: for our light has come.

Leader: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray,

trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our

Lord.

All: Amen.

* Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

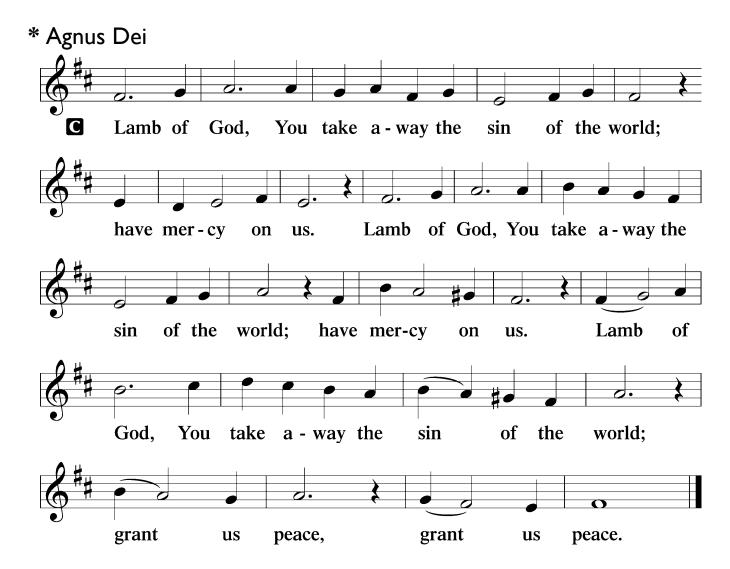
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

* Words of Institution

* Peace of the Lord

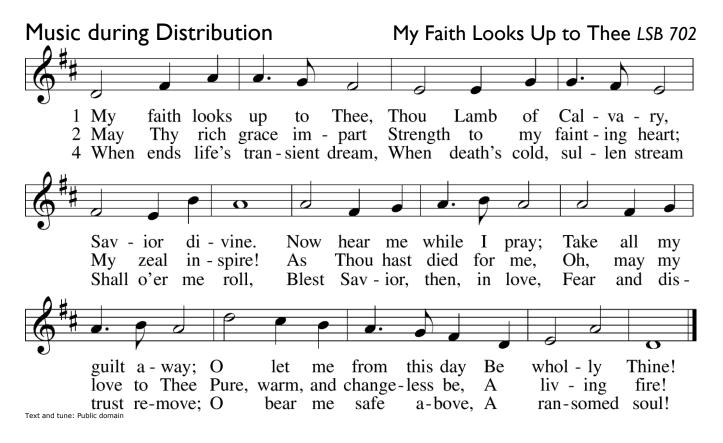
Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

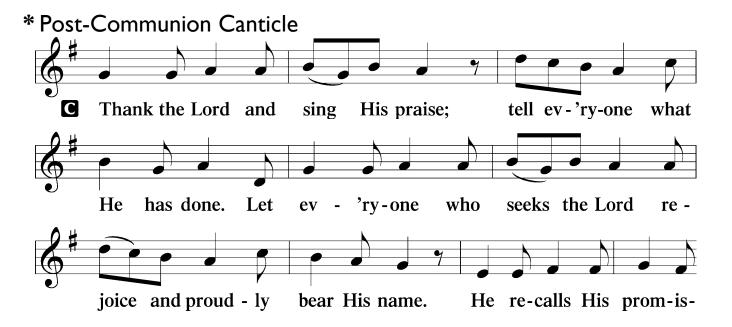


Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion will be offered continuously. You may follow the direction of the usher. We invite those who are not communing to receive a blessing by crossing their arms when standing before the bread host. The wine will be offered by individual cups. Please place empty individual cups in the glass bowls in front of the aisles. Those preferring non-alcoholic wine may take the individual cups from the center of each tray. Those needing a gluten free wafer may request one from the bread host.



* Post-Communion Dismissal





* Post-Communion Prayer

All:

Leader: Let us pray together,

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

* Benediction

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you

and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ♣ give you peace.

All: Amen.





in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise! es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless-ing give. low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude "Allegro maestoso e vivace, from Organ Sonata No. 2", by Felix Mendelssohn

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor: Rev. Mark Rossington Liturgy: Deacon Bob Anderson

Guest Organist: Lawana Stoker Audio Engineer: Aaron Bland

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