

January 24, 2021 • Third Sunday after Epiphany

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
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 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 us, 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

I Love to Tell the Story

#661

**I love to tell the story of unseen things above
Of Jesus and his glory of Jesus and his love
I love to tell the story because I know it's true
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do
*I love to tell the story 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story of Jesus and his love***

**I to love to tell the story how pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet
I love to tell the story for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy word
*I love to tell the story 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story of Jesus and his love***

**I love to tell the story for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting o hear it like the rest
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new new song
I'll sing the old old story that I have loved so long
*I love to tell the story 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story of Jesus and his love***

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

L: Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

**C: Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Emily Harrow

A READING FROM JOHAH 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be 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 possessions, 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.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

A READING FROM MARK 1:14-20

P: The holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets.

²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Amy Stewart

HYMN

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

#696

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild restless sea
Day by day his clear voice sounding
Saying Christian follow me

As of old Saint Andrew heard it
By the Galilean lake
Turned from home and toil and kindred
Leaving all for Jesus' sake

Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store
From each idol that would keep us
Saying Christian love me more

In our joys and in our sorrows
Days of toil and hours of ease
Still he calls in cares and pleasures
Christian love me more than these

Jesus calls us By your mercy
Savior may we hear your call
Give our hearts to your obedience
Serve and love you best of all

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

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

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

P: 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Offerings can be made online or mailed to the church office. Thank you for your continuous support to our ministry during this time.

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.**

BENEDICTION

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

C: Amen.

You have come down to the lakeshore
Seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy
But only asking for me to follow
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

You know full well what I have Lord
Neither treasure nor weapons for conquest
Just these my fish nets and will for working
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

You need my hand my exhaustion
Working love for the rest of the weary--
A love that's willing to go on loving
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

You who have fished other waters
You the longing of souls that are yearning
O loving Friend you have come to call me
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

Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936-1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

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DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God.

SENDING MUSIC

Vocal Leaders: *Chris and Susan Pingel*

Musician: *Keith Kolander*

Reader: *Dawn Schwab*

AV: *Andrew Leach*

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