

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 23, 2022

All members and guests, please fill out the Welcome Form found at the end of your row and pass it on to your neighbor. The pastoral and spiritual care of the members of Christ Church is very important to us. In order to care for all of you, we need to know who is present and who is not. So, please take a moment to sign the pad. The Welcome Forms will be picked up by the ushers at the end of the service.

arr. Hopson

CALL TO WORSHIP

P The heavens are telling the glory of God

C May our worship reflect God's glory.

P The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

C May we see each other as the handiwork of God.

P Let our prayer and praise, our singing and proclamation project the love of God.

C We worship with Christians around the world, with Christians throughout time.

P With Christians across all time and space,

C Let us worship!

—adapted from Jesus Sets the Table, resources by the United Church of Christ, posted on their Worship Ways website.

WFI COMF & PRFPARATION

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the season of Epiphany, we remember our baptisms on Sunday morning. While we may not be confessing our sins, we are reminded that through our baptisms our sin is forgiven. In this season we rejoice not in our failings but in God's triumph over death and the grave.

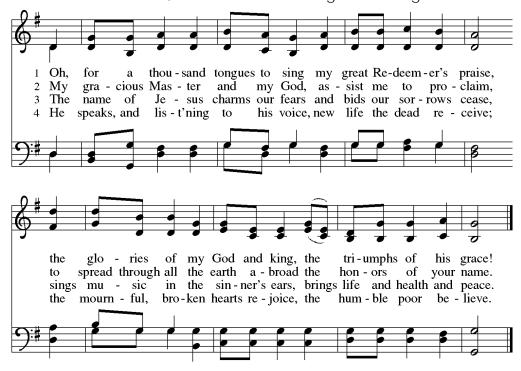
P In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. C Amen.



- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,O fallen human race!Look and be saved through faith alone,be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

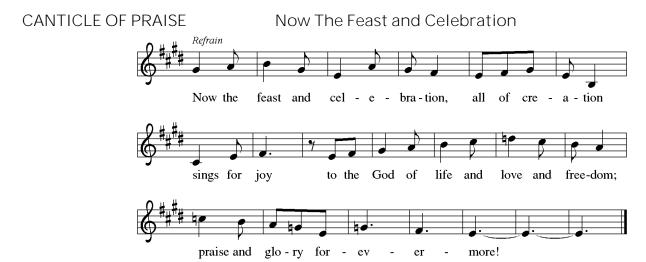
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Please be seated.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

C And also with you.





Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray:

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON

L A reading from Nehemiah.

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.

²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read

from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence

of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

- L The Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God

PSALM 19 Spoken responsively.

- L ¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its **maker's handiwork**.
- C ²One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- L ³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- C 4their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.
- L ⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- C 6It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- L ⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- C 8The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- L 9The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- C ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- L ¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- C ¹²Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- L ¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- C ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer

SECOND LESSON

L A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

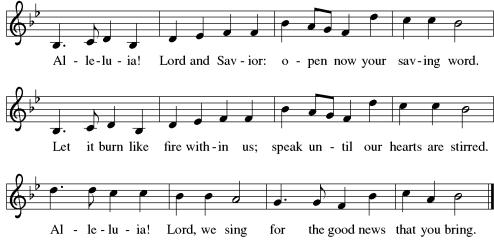
"Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

- L The Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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GOSPEL Luke 4:14-21

- P The holy gospel according to Luke.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

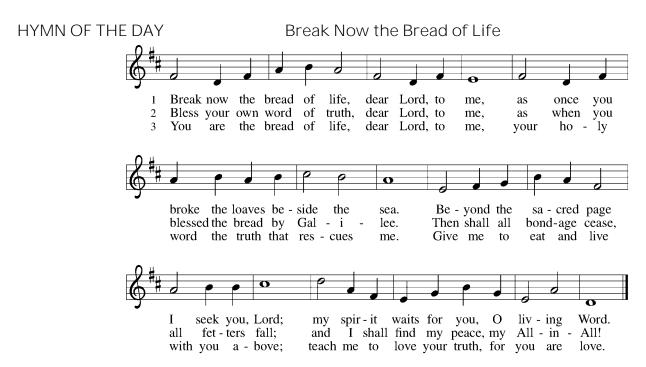
Please be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Ciara Jones

SERMON Rev. Wes Smith

Please stand as you are able.



Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt. Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

APOSTLES' CREED

P Gathered together by the power of the Holy Spirit we confess our common faith:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

| 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

P The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

You reveal yourself to us in the reading of scripture. Fulfill your word through the faithful witness of your church. Actively send us out into the world in order to bring your liberating good news to all people. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P All creation proclaims your handiwork. Teach us to love the intricate and beautiful bodies that you have created. Bless tiny insects, enormous whales, and every creature in between. Sustain species at risk of extinction. Help us to see that caring for creation is indeed an act of love. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P You desire that all people live in harmony, yet we are tempted by conflict. Where we are divided in our society, nation, or world, come quickly to reunite us into one body. Ease conflict, dispel violence and bring an end to war. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Anoint with your Spirit all who seek your favor. Grant provision and justice for people living in poverty, people living with disability, those living with pain, or those living under oppression. This day we pray especially for Roselynn, Jeana, The Eugenio Family, Deborha, LCFS, Ed, David, Martin, Candice, and Dorothy and for all those we now name in our hearts or in God's presence. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

^{*}Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

^{**} meaning the church universal

P Build up the body of Christ in this place. Bless the variety of ministries in this congregation. Empower us to freely welcome and deeply value each person who enters into worship and ministry among us. God of grace, C hear our prayer.

C In thanksgiving, we lift before you the saints for whom the promise of salvation has now been fulfilled. Tend to those who mourn, and may the peace that only you can grant wash over them. Bring us together in your everlasting glory. God of grace, C hear our prayer.

P Jesus asked, "Who is your neighbor"? In this place our answer is EVERYONE! And to Mr. Rogers' question, "Won't you be my neighbor?" we give a resounding YES! And we pray that we may truly be your servants, proclaiming, celebrating, and reflecting Christ. God of grace, C hear our prayer.

P Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. C Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE

- P The peace of Christ is with you always.
- C And also with you.

In this age of social-distancing, you are invited to shake hands as you are comfortable or leave a word of peace in the comment section of the worship broadcast. Send greetings to a church member, a person you don't recognize, or simply like or love someone else's post. In all things spread peace.

MFAI

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

VOLUNTARY

Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me ~Kantorei~

Scott

OFFERING

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 *Latheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us Pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

C Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

P The Lord is with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

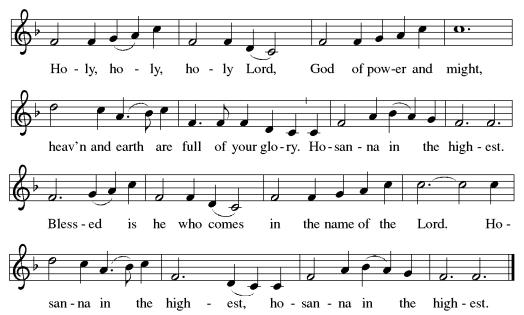
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.

He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and give you peace. C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

Please stand as you are able.



Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

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DISMISSAL

P You are the body of Christ risen up for the sake of the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O God of Life's Great Mystery

Kosche

Upcoming Commemorations

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356 Monday, January 17, 2022

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346

Monday, January 17, 2022

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

Confession of Peter

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304

Friday, January 21, 2022

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.



SERVING US AT WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Pastor: Rev. Wesley Smith, III

Director of Music & Organist: Rhonda Blacklock

Lector: Ted Kussow

Usher: Cheryl Kussow

Greeter: Barb Burkhardt

Financial Assistants: Cindy Cannedy, Dawn Firmani

A/V Assistant: Greg Holbrook

Altar Guild: Andi Hardesty, JoAnne Tuffnell, Susanne Goldberg, Gretchen Jeffers

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