

**A Service of Readings and Reflection**  
**January 24, 2021 - This is the Third Sunday After Epiphany**

**“Now!”**

**Prelude - Come and Behold Him** - piano solo by Diliana Slavova

**Welcome and Announcements –**

**Invocation –**

**Confession and Absolution –**

**Scripture Reading:**

**Jonah 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?"*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So 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.

<sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. <sup>10</sup>When 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20**

*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.*

<sup>14</sup> After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God’s good news, <sup>15</sup> saying, “Now is the time! Here comes God’s kingdom! Change your hearts and lives and trust this good news!” <sup>16</sup> As Jesus passed alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> “Come, follow me,” he said, “and I’ll show you how to fish for people.” <sup>18</sup> Right away, they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> After going a little farther, he saw James and John, Zebedee’s sons, in their boat repairing the fishing nets. <sup>20</sup> At that very moment he called them. They followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired workers. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Pastor’s Homily** – Reverend Robert Mitchell

**Musical Offering:** Rock of My Salvation Greg Heyn – guitar; Edwin Holt – drums

**Prayers of the People** –

**Lord’s Prayer (whispered together)**

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever ~Amen

**Sharing of the Peace**

**Benediction & The Sending** –

**Postlude Music :** We Are Marching in the Light - ELW 866

***Ushers will dismiss participants row by row. Please exit the building***