

## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 24, 2021

### PRELUDE

*Amazing Grace*

arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**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.**

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.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*O Jesus, I have Promised*

#810



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;  
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.  
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still  
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.  
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt-ing sounds I hear.  
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.  
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,  
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.  
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.  
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard-ian of my soul.  
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

## INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS

Pastor Johanna Rehbaum

## FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

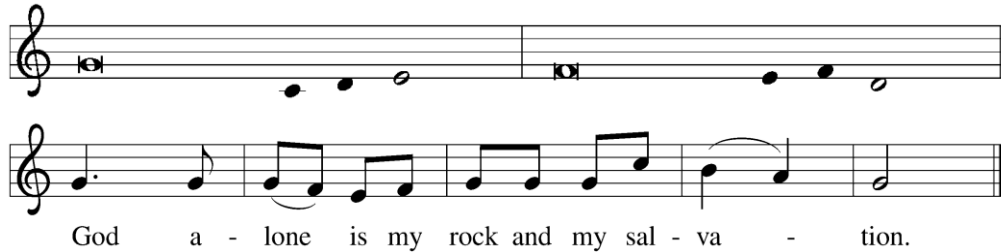
*The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"*

<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.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: PSALM 62:5-12



<sup>5</sup>For God alone I | wait in silence;  
truly, my hope | is in God.

<sup>6</sup>**God alone is my rock and | my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall nev- | er be shaken.**

<sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance | and my honor;  
God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

<sup>8</sup>**Put your trust in God al- | ways, O people,  
pour out your hearts before the one who | is our refuge. R**

<sup>9</sup>Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate can- | not be trusted.  
Placed on the scales together they weigh even less | than a breath.

<sup>10</sup>**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;  
though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.**

<sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice | have I heard it,  
that power be- | longs to God.

<sup>12</sup>**Steadfast love belongs to | you, O Lord,  
for you repay all according | to their deeds. R**

## SECOND READING: 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.*

<sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and 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, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Sing twice through, whichever line you like!*



## GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

The holy gospel according to Mark.  
**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.*

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

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION (provided by ELCA, <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/3290/>)

*Our world is full of death and the very real possibility of destruction. Nineveh can be an image for us. Yet after Jonah finally acted on the call of God and spoke God's word to Nineveh, the people immediately repented. That word changed everything. Trusting God, they could live hopefully in their world. After John was arrested, Jesus preached the nearness of the dominion of God, and the world became utterly different for those fishermen. Mark says they immediately followed. After Jesus was arrested and killed, the Risen Christ once again begins his ministry, coming into our assemblies and into our homes, speaking the gospel. The dominion of God is near to us because, in the Spirit and through the word, Christ is near to us. We too are called, and the world becomes utterly different for us. We are like fish pulled out of the chaotic sea into the light and air, only unlike fish we are made alive together with Christ. We may live "as though not" engaged in the values of the world around us, but according to the values of the mercy of God, turning to the needs of our neighbors, inviting them also to live in hope.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

*You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

#817



1 Tú	has	ve - ni - do	a la o - ri - lla,	no has bus -
1 You	have	come down to the	lake - shore	seek - ing
2 You	know	full well what I	have, Lord:	nei - ther
3 You	need	my hands, my	ex - haus - tion,	work - ing
4 You	who	have fished oth - er	wa - ters;	you, the



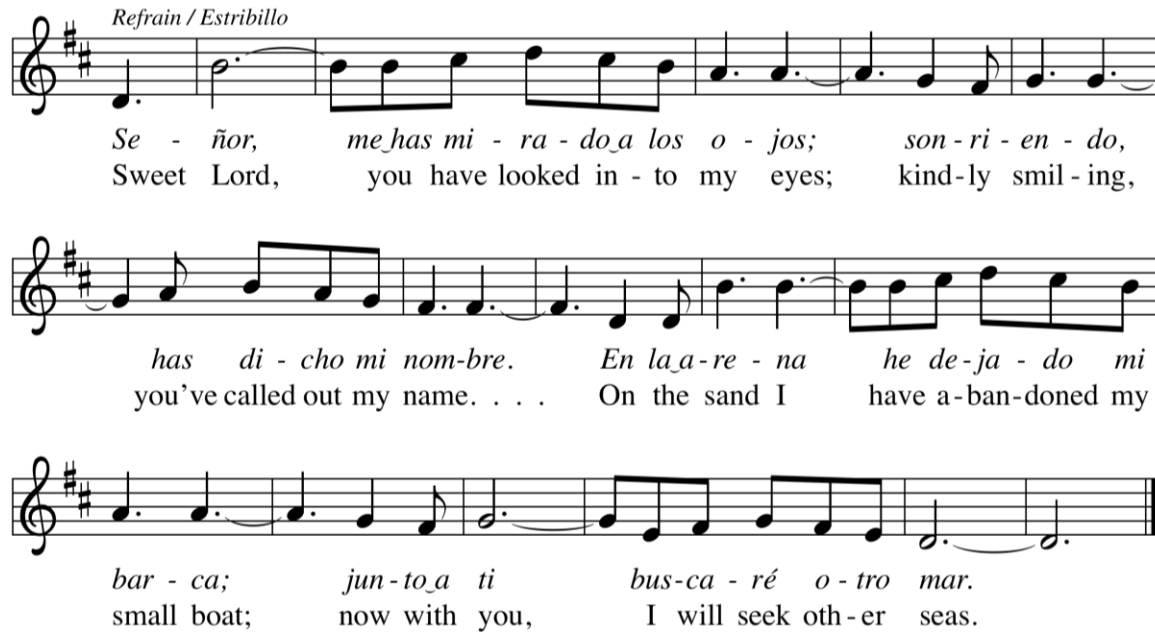
ca - do	ni_a	sa - bios	ni_a	ri - cos;	tan só - lo
nei - ther	the	wise nor the	wealth - y,	but on - ly	
trea - sure	nor	wea - pons for	con - quest,	just these my	
love for	the	rest of the	wea - ry—	a love that's	
long - ing	of	souls that are	yearn - ing:	O lov - ing	



quie - res	que	yo	te	si - ga.
ask - ing	for	me	to	fol - low.
fish - nets	and	will	for	work - ing.
will - ing	to	go	on	lov - ing.
Friend, you	have	come	to	call me.

*Continued on next page.*

*Refrain / Estribillo*



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,  
Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,

has di - cho mi nom-bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi  
you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my

bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936–1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946  
Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabaráin

Spanish text and music © 1979 Cesáreo Gabaráin, OCP Publications. All rights reserved.  
Tr. © Editorial Avance Luterano

## 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.**

## OFFERING

*This time may be used to make a gift online, or write a check to be mailed in,  
to sustain the ministries of the Church.*

**OFFERTORY** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934)  
arr. Tom Trenney

Kira Kaplan, *soprano*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us:  
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.  
Nourish us anew in your tender care,  
and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love,  
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

**Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Response:* ... Let us pray, **Have mercy, O God.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one in the Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Share peace with those around you or online, or write down the name of someone you will text  
or call later to check up on them and spread Christ's peace to them.*

## MOMENTS FOR MISSION

### BLESSING

May God make us brave enough to see the Light.

May God make us brave enough to be the Light.

May God embolden us and bless us, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

# SENDING SONG

## We Are Marching in the Light of God

#866



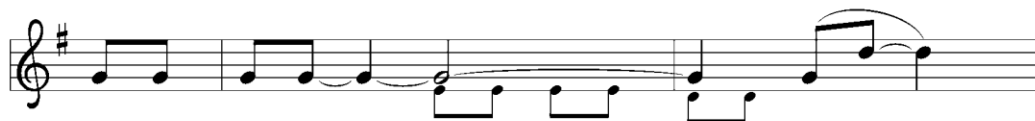
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



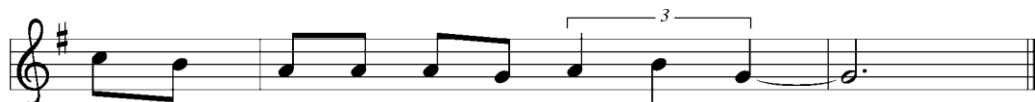
Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional

Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.



## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*March*

Judith Lang Zaimont (b. 1945)

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Psalm 62:6

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