

Our Savior Lutheran Church

January 22, 2023
Third Sunday after Epiphany



Thought – Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. He issues the call to Peter, Andrew, James and John who leave their nets and Zebedee - dad and immediately follow Jesus to become fishers of people. Would we have the faith confidence, the inner peace to change our profession or focus to work the promise of God who brings light into our darkened world? Immediately, it says!

Prelude – Sonja Sanders

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

P: As we take up the call of Christ to follow, may peace be with us!

C: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

A: Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us and follows after us.

C: **Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the way of goodness that comes through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Gathering Hymn – “Take My Life, That I May Be” ELW #685 vss.1-3&5

<https://youtu.be/FN3OaZJaNEE>

by David and Noelle Music

Invocation and Confession

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God’s mercy let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

P: Thus says our God: “The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God’s mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of +Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

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.

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen and Amen.

Hymn of Praise – “Change My Heart, O God” ELW #801

<https://youtu.be/DwudqCO7mSQ>

by Vineyard

Prayer of the Day

A: Fishing is difficult work, O God.

C: The hands of fishermen are calloused from years of trimming nets. The backs of fishermen are bowed from the heavy weight of net and fish. The eyes of fishermen are heavy – weighed down by many sleepless nights.

A: Give us the endurance required for our mission.

C: Make us fishers of people.

A: Give us the wisdom to know where to cast our nets.

C: Make us fishers of people.

A: And give us your Spirit, O God –

C: the strong Spirit of fishermen.

A: Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now...

C: and forever. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Isaiah 9:1-4

Light shines for those in darkness

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

The Lord is my light and my salvation

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore, I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

Epistle reading – 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Appeal for unity in the gospel

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

Holy Gospel – Matthew 4:12-23

<https://youtu.be/6tlR7IHWAnk>

Immediately they left their nets and followed him

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you O Lord.**

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has

dawned.”¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen.¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.”²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him.²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children of God Message

<https://youtu.be/54I9dHmAZWI>

Homily – “Immediately – Really?!”

<https://youtu.be/9zg2m4ELcE0>

Hymn of the Day – “Will You Come and Follow Me” ELW #798

<https://youtu.be/o469PRLdbHU>

by The Summons

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 of Intercession

P: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation (*other ecumenical ministries in which the congregation takes part may be named*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely. (*Especially we pray for*)
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community (*neighboring congregations may be named*). Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, both famous and unknown. Help us to leave our nets and follow, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

Offering/Offertory Prayer

A: You are a God of Light, Heavenly Father.

C: Into our darkness you shine.

A: Accept our gifts here given. And accept our - selves as well.

C: Make us beacons of your Light.

A: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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...

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

<https://youtu.be/DW6XosOFFlo>
by Resurrection Lutheran Church

Consecration

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.

Distribution

Communion Music

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

A: You have fished us in, O Christ.

C: Baited and hooked, we are your heavenly catch!

A: Now help us, fish of your catching, to continue your Church’s mission.

C: Transform these fish into fishers.

A: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction – from Numbers 6

Sending Hymn – “O Jesus, I have Promised”

ELW #810

<https://youtu.be/rC-2Ss9tg7I>

by Methodist Church

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Be fishers of people!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude – Sonja Sanders

