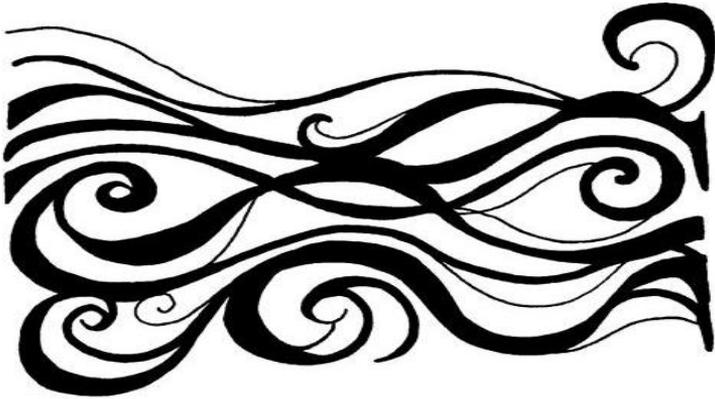


THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

January 23, 2022

8:00 & 10:30 AM



Gathering Hymn.....Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (858)
Hymn of the Day.....God Loved the World (323)
Communion.....We Praise You, O God (870)
Sending Hymn.....Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death (452)

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In God's Grace, Ascension Creates Faithful Community.

Prelude O God, Our Help in Ages Past Bell Choir

Arranged by Kevin McChesney, copyright 1997 Jeffers Handbell Supply, Inc.

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Announcements

+ Confession

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(silence for reflection)

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Forgiveness

Gathering Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (858)

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Windworth, 1827-1878, alt. Music: Erneverten Gesangbuch, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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.

Hymn of Praise

Verses 1 & 3 – high voices. Verses 2 & 4 – low voices

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis-dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

God of light,

you come to us in our darkness and give us light and life. Help us live into that new life, refreshed and renewed for your work. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, though whom God so loved the world. Amen.

Special Music “All Night, All Day”

**Bell Choir &
Mary Stoneback**

Arranged by Hart Morris, c. 2016 Celebrating Grace, a division of Celebrating Grace, Inc.

Reading

Psalm 139:13-18

*For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.*

**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.**

*My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.*

**Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.**

*How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!*

**I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.**

+ Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

John 3:1-10, 16-17

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?...

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Smith

+ Hymn of the Day

God Loved the World (323)

Text: Gesangbuch, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923, alt. Music: Edward Miller, 1731-1807, adapt.

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 into hell.
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

*Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice,
peace, and healing.*

(a brief silence)

After each petition:

*Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

Those remembered in prayer this week: Larry Adams, Mary Ann Bond, Allen Brooks, Brad Buhler, Sonny Campbell, George Candea, Andrea Gallant, Elaine Glover, Bev Godec, Stewart Hellem, Pam Landry, Wilda Moore, Michael Noble Jr, Kim Parker, John Plump, Carlos Quiles, Cerne Rieves, Rick Rogers, Jeff Sebben, Cassie Shaffer, Cathy Stanley, Carol Thompson, Marilyn Thompson, Wanda Wade, Dee Yocum, all our men and women serving overseas, especially Anthony Calderon, Ben Hayes and Matt Hayes, and all others we lift up to you at this time.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

The Preface to the Sanctus

It is indeed right...and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,', 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -', 'san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who', and 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. Amen.

In the night in which he was betrayed, ...

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

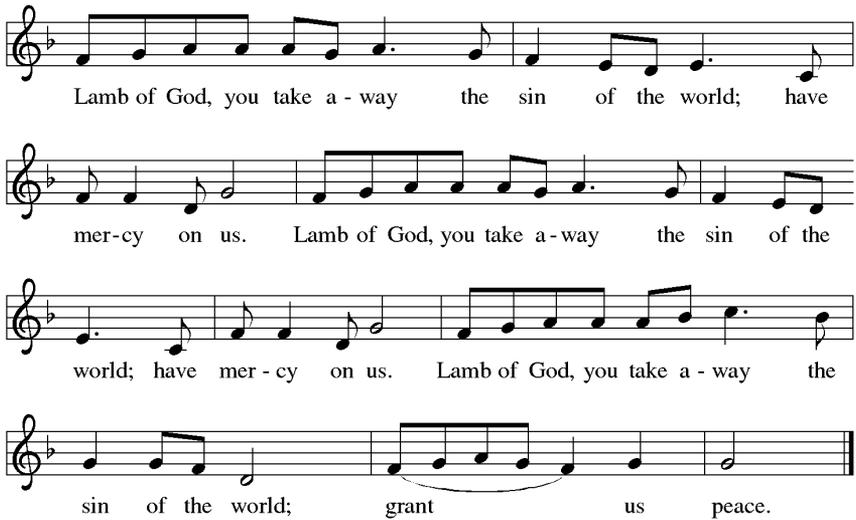
Invitation to Communion

For those worshiping in the sanctuary, come forward to the altar to receive the bread and wine, maintaining distance between households. Gluten free bread and white grape juice are available.

God's love and this meal are for all, including children. If your child is not ready to receive, they may receive a simple blessing such as "May the Lord bless you and keep you."

For those worshiping at home, when invited by the pastor we encourage you to eat and drink trusting that this is God's free gift of grace for you.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

We Praise You, O God (870)

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963 Music: A Valerius, Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, 1626
Text c. 1980 Augsburg Publishing House

+ The Blessing

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Holy One,

We give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Hymn Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death (452)

Blessing

Amen.

Sending

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Psalm 18

Scott Christiansen

Benedetto Marcello * public domain

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THOSE SERVING ASCENSION’S WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers: 8:00 – Terry & Judy Snow

10:30 – Rex Rudy

Worship Deacon: 8:00 – Eric Johnson **10:30** – Ingrid Daniel

Lectors: 8:00 – Ingrid Daniel **10:30-** Sue Trinko

Cantor: 8:00 – Megan Miller **10:30** – Gail Tucker

Communion Assistants: 8:00 – Kirsten Johnson **10:30-** Sue Trinko

Bread: Donene Dillow

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Dan Holt **Pastor Daniel Smith** **Deacon Mary Stoneback**

Office Administrator.....Ruth Albrent-Runnells

Director of Children’s Learning Center.....Teresa Adams

MUSIC MINISTRY

Director of MusicMegan Miller

Organist and Accompanist.....Scott Christiansen

Bell Choir Director.....Dolores McClaren