Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church January 21, 2024 Third Sunday after Epiphany



ALLARE WELCOME HERE!

Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church 32747 Lake Road Avon Lake, Ohio 44012 440-933-6263

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick



ORDER OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The congregation is invited to stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of life,

C: You promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In \pm Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

673

God, Whose Almighty Word



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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





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





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



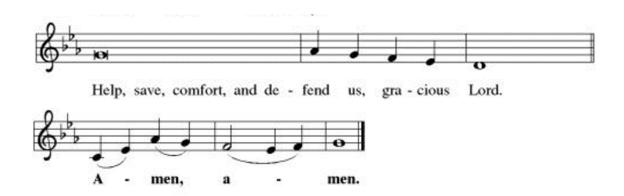
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





CANTICLE OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

The congregation is invited to sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children dismissed for Sunday School.

FIRST LESSON Jonah 3:1-5, 10

L: The first lesson is from Jonah, the 3rd chapter.

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So 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. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰When 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.

L: The word of the Lord!

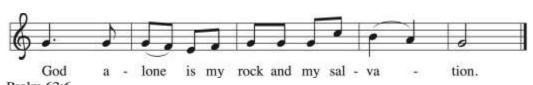
C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 62:5-12 TONE



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REFRAIN



Psalm 02.0 Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

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

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

⁷In God is my deliverance | and my honor; God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

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

⁹Those 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.

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

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

¹²Steadfast love belongs to | you, O Lord, for you repay all according | to their deeds. R

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

L: The second lesson is from 1 Corinthians, the 7th chapter.

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

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

The congregation is invited to stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

GOSPEL Mark 1:14-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." ¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

P: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Pastor Laura Kuntz

The congregation is invited to stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY



APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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

A: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: God our rock and deliverance, do not let your church be shaken. We trust you never abandon your promises to the most vulnerable among us. Give your church wisdom and empathy in its varied ministries. God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: God our hope and refuge, you placed the fish in the sea. Guide our care of oceans and all creatures that live in them. Hold us accountable for actions that endanger water sources and the people who depend on them. God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: God who proclaims judgement and offers mercy, be a model to the leaders of our nation and the world. As they lead, may they follow in your way of justice and truth. God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: God who cares for the suffering, care for survivors of assault and sexual abuse and sustain all who minister to them. Keep safe any who live under threat of violence, those living in poverty, and any among us who are ill or in pain especially those we say aloud or silently in our hearts... God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: God of resurrection and new life, as the first disciples shared the good news, empower us and this faith community to be open to your call. When we are uncertain of your call, assure us. When we have strayed from your ways, redirect us. God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: God who holds the saints against your tender bosom, we trust you welcome them into your care. Comfort those who grieve, even as we place our hope in your salvation. God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this community of faith and for its Call Committee. For your wisdom and love. Give us holy indifference that we may be indifferent to our own will. Through your Holy Spirit, help us to be unwilling to do anything but your will. Give us patience and guidance as we seek to know what you would like us to do. Bless all that we do, so that we can do what you bless. Hear us, O God.

C: Receive our prayer.

P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to sit.

OFFERING

"Ring to the Lord a New Song"

Bells

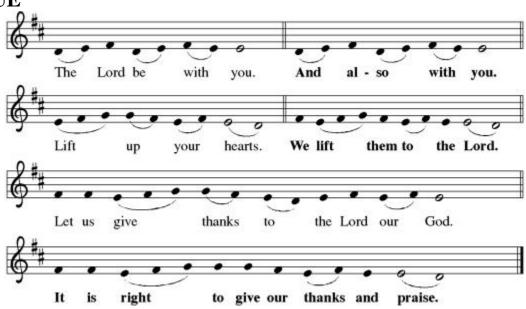
The congregation is invited to stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

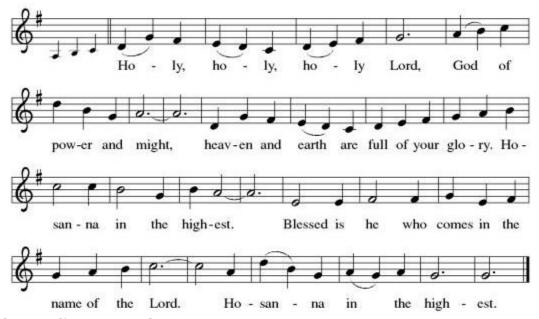
C: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

DIALOGUE



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:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

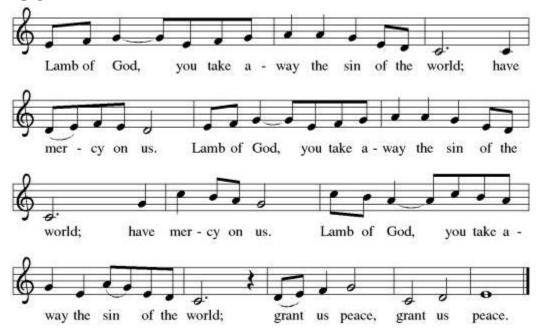
P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: 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.

LORD'S PRAYER Bell Choir

Words printed below for reflection.

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.

LAMB OF GOD



The congregation is invited to sit.

COMMUNION





For the Bread Which You Have Broken



may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord. in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895
Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

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POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray,

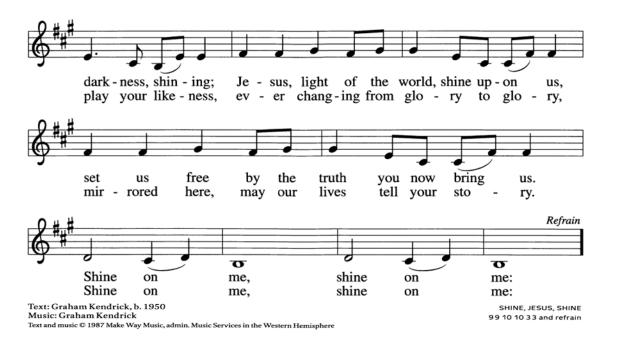
C: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN





DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

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