

EPIPHANY 3

JANUARY 24, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Congregation: Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus says to his people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

Congregation: Yes, I believe.

Pastor: Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

Pastor: O Lord, we called to you for help, and you have answered. We thank you for the love you have shown us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Through him you have rescued us from the guilt of our sin and given us the peace of forgiveness. Now we ask you to help us fight against temptation, correct whatever wrongs we can, and serve you and those around us. In Jesus' name we pray.

Congregation: Amen

HYMN 582: Awake, My Soul, and With the Sun

**1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun your daily stage of duty run;
Shake off your sleep and joyful rise to bring your morning sacrifice.**

**2 All praise to you, who safe have kept and have refreshed me while I slept.
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake, I may of endless light partake.**

**3 Lord, all my prayers ascend to you: Disperse my sins as morning dew,
Guard my first springs of thought and will, and with your light my spirit fill.**

**4 Direct, control, suggest this day all I design or do or say
That all my pow'rs with all their might in your sole glory may unite.**

**5 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, your heav'nly host—Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE FIRST LESSON: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

1 Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: 2 "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." 3 Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very important city — a visit required three days. 4 On the first day, Jonah started into the city. He proclaimed: "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned." 5 The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth...10 When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.

THE PSALM: Psalm 62

We join the psalmist in expressing our trust in God alone.

Pastor: My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation;

CONGREGATION: He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Pastor: How long will you assault a man? Would all of you throw him down — this leaning wall, this tottering fence? They fully intend to topple him from his lofty place; they take delight in lies. With their mouths they bless, but in their hearts they curse.

CONGREGATION: Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him.

Pastor: Lowborn men are but a breath, the highborn are but a lie; if weighed on a balance, they are nothing; together they are only a breath.

CONGREGATION: Do not trust in extortion or take pride in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

Pastor: One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, O God, are strong, and that you, O Lord, are loving.

CONGREGATION: Surely you will reward each person according to what he has done.

THE SECOND LESSON: Mark 1:14-20

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!” 16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” 18 At once they left their nets and followed him. 19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

HYMN 463: Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

**1 Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea;
Day by day his voice invites us, Saying, "Christian, follow me!"**

**2 As the first disciples heard it by the Galilean lake,
Turned from home and toil and kindred, Leaving all for his dear sake.**

**3 Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."**

**4 In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."**

**5 Jesus calls us! In your mercy, Savior, help us hear your call;
Give our hearts to your obedience, Serve and love you best of all.**

THE SERMON TEXT: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

29 What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; 30 those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; 31 those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

Live For The Lord

1 This requires the right attitude.

The time is...

The world in its present form...

2. This requires goal setting.

How do I get the most out of the things of this world?

How do I keep from becoming engrossed in the things of this world?

3. God provides us with many helpful examples.

Today's Old Testament Lesson –

Today's Psalm -

Today's Gospel Lesson –

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

OFFERING

The offering will be received as you are ushered out after the service in the fellowship hall so that offering plates are not passed.

HYMN 588: Abide with Me

1 Abide with me; fast falls the even-tide.

The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.

When other helpers fail and comforts flee,

Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;

Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away.

Change and decay in all around I see;

O thou who changest not, abide with me!

3 Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,

But kind and good, with healing in thy wings,

Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea;

Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

4 Thou on my head in early youth didst smile,

And though rebellious and perverse mean-while,

Thou hast not left me oft as I left thee.

On to the close, O Lord, abide with me.

5 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour.

What but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?

**Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me!**

**6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if thou abide with me.**

**7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

PRAYER/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.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 369: Beautiful Savior

**1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,
Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.**

**2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer;
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.**

**3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels in the sky.**

4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,

**Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be thine!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bible Hour follows our worship this morning.
In adult Bible hour we are studying Paul's letter to Titus. Join us!
2. Confirmation meets on Monday, January 25th, 3:30-5:00 pm.
3. Online Bible Class Continues.

The

Format:

I send out weekly study guides in a congregational email on Mondays. You have an opportunity to work through the study guides at home.

I post an online video in which I work through the weekly study guide on Wednesdays. This video is sent out as a congregational email, just like our weekly worship services.

This week, we continue our study of Peter's first epistle.

4. Thursday morning Bible class meets at 10:00 am. We are currently studying the book of Numbers.