

### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Name Exalted Above All

January 20 & 21, 2018

#### AS WE GATHER

What's in a name? Many people in our world want to make a name for themselves. There are famous actors and actresses, famous sports athletes, famous world leaders, and the like. All of these people's names are recognized by many people who know their different accomplishments. However, there is a name that is above all names . . . and that is the name of Jesus. As our school theme states, "It's Still All About Jesus." His name is known by more people around the world and in every generation than any other name known to mankind. That's because Jesus is the Savior of the whole World. So we gather to worship Him in Spirit and Truth.

#### WELCOME

So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper;  
I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God.

Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (*Hebrews 13:6-8*)

#### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### OPENING HYMN "Yesterday, Today and Forever" [Burkhardt]

Yesterday, today forever, Our Lord Jesus is the same.

He, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the Lamb of God, His name;

Who was there in the beginning And will be there at the end,

The almighty One, our friend, There, with all the saints and angels,

We shall stand before His throne, Where unending joy is known.

(*Teachers*) Yesterday in Bethl'em's manger Jesus made His earthly bed;  
Giving up His heav'nly mansion To become our Living Bread.  
With His blood He paid our ransom; Died and rose that we might be  
Freed from Satan's tyranny To inherit life eternal;  
Thus, our praises we employ, Bathed in endless grace and joy.

(*Women*) Here on earth today we wander Knowing not what may betide.  
Even so our Savior's near us, Never changing, by our side.  
Though our pilgrim path's uncertain, We remain in His embrace  
As we run this earthly race. Therefore, trust in Jesus solely,  
In His grace now rest secure Joyful in God's promise sure.

(*Men*) Christ will stay with us forever; With Him we shall e'er remain.  
When our time on earth is over He will call us by our name;  
For our Savior will remember How in Him we were baptized.  
He will say to us, "Arise! Come, partake of God's own promise  
That was made so long ago, And My joy forever know."

#### Rise

Glory be to God the Father, Author of all life and light;  
Honor bring to Christ the Savior Who has set all things aright.  
Praise sing to the Holy Spirit For the gift of faithfulness.  
To the Three in One address All our thanks and adoration  
Till that joyous day when we Dwell in god's infinity.

#### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: For God alone my soul waits in silence;

**People: from Him comes my salvation.**

Pastor: He only is my rock and my salvation,

**People: my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.**

Pastor: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,

**People: for my hope is from Him.**

Pastor: He only is my rock and my salvation,

**People: my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

Pastor: Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him;

**People: God is a refuge for us.**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God, whose Word establishes reality,

**People: we admit that we have turned from the face-to-face relationship of love with you for which we have been created. Sin infects us through and through. Yet, we trust in Jesus alone whose life, death, and resurrection bring your healing power to bear on our grave condition. Hear us, and heal us by your love for Jesus' sake.**

Pastor: "The Lord is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made." Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God the Father, who sent your Son to take our nature upon himself and to suffer death on the cross that all mankind might be saved, grant us to trust in Him, confess His holy name, and walk in His humble ways all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

### ☩ WORD ☩

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Psalm 90: 1-14

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!" For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. For all our

days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you? So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

**EPISTLE** Philippians 2:1-11

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**SONG** *St. Paul's Students* "Yesterday, Today and Forever" Vicky Beeching

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 16: 13-19*

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON HYMN #540 "Christ, the Word of God Incarnate"

Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;  
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I Am;  
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all;  
Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.

Christ, the living bread from heaven, Food for body, food for soul;  
Christ, the manna daily given, Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.  
Feed us with the food of heaven, Fore-taste of the feast to be;  
Quench our thirst with living water Springing up eternally.

Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant From the stump of Jesse's tree;  
Christ, true vine, You nurture branches To bear fruit abundantly.  
Graft us into You, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain  
Fruitful branches in Your vineyard Till eternal life we gain.

Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, Watching all Your lambs and sheep;  
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, Never failing vigil keep.  
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home;  
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice alone.

Christ, the way that leads unfailing To the Father's home on high,  
Christ, the truth that frees the captive, Christ, the life that cannot die.  
Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest:  
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, There to share Your wedding feast.

Christ, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
Christ, the life and resurrection, Christ, the Church's glorious head:  
Praise and thanks and adoration And unending worship be  
To the Father and the Spirit And to You eternally.

SERMON "Jesus, Name Above All Names" **Philippians 2:1-11**

### OFFERTORY "He is Lord"

He is Lord, He is Lord, He is risen from the dead and He is Lord  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord.  
You are Lord, you are Lord, you are risen from the dead and you are Lord  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord.

5 Repeat Song

(Rise)

**NICENE CREED** *found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

**HYMN "Jesus, Name Above all Names" AGPS #145**

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,  
Emmanuel, God is with us blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Jesus, loving shepherd vine of the branches, Son of God  
Prince of Peace, Wonderful counselor Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Jesus, Way of salvation, King of kings, Lord of lords,  
the way the truth, and the Life, Mighty creator, My Savior and friend.

(Rise)

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Heavenly Father, you have given your Son, Jesus, the Christ, the name that is above all names. Grant us to worship Him with all humility and in Spirit and Truth.

**People: Help us to look to Christ for all things needful for both body and soul, and to strengthen us daily to walk in His ways.**

Pastor: Almighty God, your Son, Jesus, welcomed little children and still wants them to grow in faith and life. We give you thanks and praise for our Lutheran schools during this National Lutheran Schools Week. Bless teachers and students alike to grow in knowing Jesus.

**People: Fill us with joy in the privilege of supporting St. Paul's Lutheran School and being a part of the important endeavor of providing a Christian education to our students.**

Pastor: O Lord, you are high above all nations and your glory is above the heavens! Look in mercy on our nation. Give to those entrusted with civil authority courage and compassion, wisdom and integrity. Give our nation the grace of repentance to turn from evil.

**People:** We beg your protection especially for those most vulnerable among us, particularly those in the womb. Make us bold to speak up for the life of the unborn and to stand against the evil of abortion.

Pastor: Kind Master, we know and can see that the world in its present form is passing away. Protect all your children from fear in these gray and latter days.

**People:** Fill us all with great confidence and hope in what never passes away: your faithful promises in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: As your Son came proclaiming the Gospel of your Kingdom and inviting all to repentance and faith, so prosper the preaching of Christ in our land and in every place throughout the world. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may your name be praised!

**People:** We especially commend to you those who have left home and kindred to proclaim the Good News in foreign lands, including Pastor Ferry and his family as well as Rachel Meyer. Strengthen them in the tasks at hand and supply their daily bread.

Pastor: Into your merciful hands, we commend all who are afflicted or suffering in any way particularly those we have been asked to remember before you: Sue, Janet, Donna, Dolores, Pat, Cliff, Jerry, Dee, Dan, Manley, Debbie, Pat, Charles, Ruth, Shirley, Gladys, Herb, Matthew, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, LuEva, Jean, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah.

**People:** Stretch forth the right hand of your majesty to heal and defend them in your own chosen time and manner, giving them faith to trust your wise providence.

Pastor: Our Father in heaven, we praise you again for the ministry of Christian education and ask your blessing upon St. Paul's Lutheran School. We pray especially for your wisdom and guidance in the calling of our Early Childhood Center Director.

**People:** Bless us with wisdom as we prayerfully consider the candidates and lead us to call the person whom you know will serve our children and their families well.

Pastor: As we gather around the table of your Son to feast upon His very body and blood, grant us faith to welcome Him with joy in the fellowship of His altar.

**People:** Bless each of us to receive with thanksgiving forgiveness and all the blessings He freely gives us as His fellow heirs.

Pastor: Holy Father, you have given your Son to raise us from the dust of death and seat us with princes in the new heavens and the new earth. Receive our thanks for all your servants who have died, looking forward with eager expectation to that joyous day. When our last hour comes, support us by your power and receive us into your everlasting Kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #833

**"Listen, God Is Calling"**

**Refrain:** Listen, listen, God is calling Through the Word inviting,  
Offering forgiveness, Comfort, and joy, joy.

Jesus gave His mandate: Share the good news  
That He came to save us And set us free. **Refrain**

Let none be forgotten Throughout the world.  
In the triune name of God Go and baptize. **Refrain**

Help us to be faithful, Standing steadfast,  
Walking in Your precepts, Led by Your Word. **Refrain**

## BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People:** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN #805 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

(Doxology) Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Organist & School Choir Director

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