

## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

God in Flesh Made Manifest

January 23 & 24, 2016

5:00pm & 8:00am

### AS WE GATHER

Our response to the proclamation of the Gospel is central to our lives. The hometown relatives and neighbors of Jesus heard Him proclaim in person that He was the fulfillment of the plan of God announced by the prophets. He had come among them as God in person. He personally comes among us today in Word and Sacrament. Day by day and week by week the Scripture is fulfilled in our hearing, inviting our response of faith and faithfulness.

### WELCOME

#### MINISTRY MOMENT - National Lutheran Schools Week

This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. (1 John 4:2-3a)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### OPENING HYMN #398 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Hail to the Lord's anointed, Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression And rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.

1 continued

Kings shall fall down before Him And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing.  
To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever – That name to us is Love.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: While assured of God's great mercy, let us confess together that we, by our heedless thoughts, careless words, and loveless deeds, have sinned against our gracious God and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

People: **Almighty God, we repent of our sins in thought, word, and deed. Be merciful to us, and for the sake of Jesus grant us your forgiveness so that, as your redeemed people, we may find rest in you and with refreshed hearts serve you in time and in eternity.**

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

#### HYMN OF PRAISE #816 "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

From all that dwell below the skies Let the creator's praise arise; Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are Thy mercies Lord: Eternal truth attends Thy Word. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and set no more.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, in your Son, Jesus Christ, the hoped-for promise of salvation was fully realized. On this day, in this place, help us receive your Word with open and believing hearts while the truth of your Law and redeeming Gospel is proclaimed to us. Let the Spirit of the Lord be upon us so that the Scripture once again is fulfilled in our hearing. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit are one God, world without end.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

### **✠ WORD ✠**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10* (Ezra reads the Law of God.) All the people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. They read from the Book of

the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is sacred to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

**EPISTLE** *1 Corinthians 12:12–31a* (Each of us is a part of the Body of Christ.)

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" "On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles?

Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But eagerly desire the greater gifts.

**5:00 ANTHEM**                    *"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*                    *Grades 4K - 8*

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 4:16–30* (Jesus preaches in His home town of Nazareth.)

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself! Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'" "I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed--only Naaman the Syrian." All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

(Be seated)

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #394**                    **"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"**                    Stanzas 1,3,5

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,  
Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word  
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

**SERMON**                    **"Manifest in Fulfilling Ancient Prophecy"**                    Luke 4:16-30

(Rise)

**CATECHISM**                    *The Second Article*

Pastor: United with the Church around the world, we confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed. The apostles did not personally write the creed during the first century, but it expresses the faith that the apostles brought to the nations to which they traveled. Today the Church remembers St. Timothy, the young associate of Paul, who was directed to oversee the outreach of the Gospel and the growth of the Church in Thessalonica and Corinth. Timothy was with Paul at Rome and, according to Early Church historians, became the first bishop of Ephesus. Today, we confess together the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and also Luther's explanation.

**People: 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and dead.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

**People:** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

(Be seated)

**OFFERINGS** 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.

(Rise)

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** As people granted faith to know that the Christ has come to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and that He has made us members of His body, let us pray for God's mercy upon all people. Gracious God, we pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit faith would be strengthened and we would rejoice that the Scriptures have been fulfilled in our hearing.

**People:** Like our Lord who was in the synagogue each Sabbath, strengthen us to make a habit of being in God's house to hear His promises, feast on Christ's Supper, and be strengthened to live as His people.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, we pray for unity in the body of Christ. Forgive us for acting like some people are more important than others and lead all of us to realize that we have been baptized into the one body of Christ.

**People:** Also, grant us faith to use the Spirit's gifts to care for each other.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, we ask your blessing upon the Office of the Ministry. As you have appointed apostles, prophets and teachers, strengthen, guide and provide for those who preach and teach God's Word.

**People:** Help us all to understand that Word, that we marvel at the gracious words of God, believe all He has spoken, and find comfort in His grace and mercy.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, as we enter into National Lutheran Schools Week, we pray for Lutheran schools, teachers and students, asking your blessing upon those who administer, teach and learn in our early childhood centers, elementary schools, high schools, colleges and seminaries.

**People:** Father, please use our educational institutions to prepare your children for fruitful service in His kingdom; lead many to serve as pastors, teachers, deaconesses, DCEs and workers in Christ's Church.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, we rejoice with the Dahlke family as Norah Lynn is baptized into Christ. Bless her parents to raise her in the nurture and admonition of Jesus Christ.

**People:** Bless us all to grow together in the knowledge of God's Word.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, we pray for mission work, asking that your Holy Spirit use missionaries throughout the world and each of us in our daily vocations to proclaim good news to the poor in spirit. We ask a special blessing upon Pastor Chuck Ferry and his family as they serve in the harvest fields of Indonesia.

**People:** Through the work of the laborers in your vineyard, grant repentance and faith to unbelieving hearts.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, we pray for those who govern our communities and country, that they be given wisdom and courage to lead with truth and justice.

**People:** Move them to follow your will rather than man's whims; and grant us a willingness to support them with our prayers and encouragement.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, we pray for those who suffer from the calamities of nature and the evils of mankind, asking you to heal the injured, to comfort those who mourn, to shelter those who are homeless and to bring aid to all who are in need.

**People:** Give us hearts that reach out in love and move us to share the hope we have in Christ with all who face difficult days.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, bless our Elizabeth ministry to mothers in all situations. For all mothers with child, we ask you to protect the unborn, to care for mothers, and to show to all the value of each child.

**People: Give to the body of Christ a heart that provides refuge for women who are scared and children who feel unwanted.**

Pastor: Gracious God, comfort all those who mourn, especially the family and friends of June Colberg. Bring care, healing and hope to all who are afflicted or distressed, including Marion, Richard, Edith, Rosalie, Judy, Mae, Marion, Debra, Helen, Leonard, LuEva, Linda, Gladys, Russ, Jack, Shirley, Gretchen, Lois and Sarah.

**People: Bless them with patience and perseverance through faith in Christ.**

Pastor: Gracious God, as we receive Christ's body and blood this day, grant us peace through the forgiveness of our sins,

**People: and unite us as one to rejoice together and suffer together as the body of Christ.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Pastor: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

## WORDS OF OUR LORD

### THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

**People: Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI

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O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

## HYMN #849 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees' the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'rydread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

## HYMN #835 "On Galilee's High Mountain"

On Galilee's high mountain Christ gave the great command  
In words of strength and promise Which all can understand:  
"All pow'r to Me is given To do what I shall choose;  
Therefore I send My children, Their witness I will use."

The Lord who, born of Mary, Came down as man and died,  
Who preached to all who listened, For us was crucified-  
This Lord, our living brother, In pow'r at God's right hand,  
Has chosen us to carry His truth to ev'ry land.

His strength within my weakness Will make me bold to say  
How His redeeming power Transforms my stubborn clay;  
His touch of fire ignites me, With courage I am sent,  
My tonguetied silence broken, With grace made eloquent.

And not alone to nations In farawy retreats,  
But ev'rywhere I broadcast His love through crowded streets;  
The lives that my life touches, However great or small-  
Let them through me see Jesus, Who served and saved us all.

That ev'ryone He chooses, For reasons of His own,  
Will find in Christ his calling To live His love alone.  
His presence always leads us Till time no more shall be;  
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort Give us His victory.

Lord, gather all Your children, Wherever they may be.  
And lead them on to heaven To live eternally  
With You, our loving Father, And Christ, our brother dear,  
Whose Spirit guards and gives us The joy to persevere.

### **HYMN #680 "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise"**

Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise  
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread  
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup  
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be  
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee  
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry  
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest  
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be  
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war  
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise  
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways  
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least  
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light  
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally  
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee  
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

### **COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: God our Father, gracious Giver of all blessings, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, assuring us we are truly members of His Body, the Church. Sanctify us by the working of your Holy Spirit, that we may continue in this fellowship and do the good works you desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, to whom, with you and the same Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

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 #923 "Almighty Father, Bless the Word"**

Almighty Father, bless the Word Which through your grace we now have heard.  
Oh, may the precious seed take root, Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

We praise you for the means of grace As homeward now our steps we trace.  
Grant, Lord, that we who worshipped here May all at last in heav'n appear.

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.

Preacher

Pastor Harold Bender

Liturgist

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Lectors

Rick Schneider, Melissa Leon

Acolytes

Macky Wessler, Sabrina Lutz

Ministry Moment

Rick Schneider, Melissa Leon

Grade School Choir Director

Bethany Dillon

Accompanist

Shannon Krueger

Organist

Roger Gottschalk

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