

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Conversion of St. Paul
The God of Second Chances
January 24 & 25, 2015
5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

Jonah, "the dove," was called by God to preach judgment and repentance to the great and evil city of Nineveh. Simon Peter, "the rock," and his brother Andrew, "the man," were called by Jesus to be fishers of men. Saul, "prayed for," was called by Jesus to change so radically that he got his name changed too: Paul, "small or humble." Especially in the cases of Jonah and Saul, they were given a second chance to follow, believe, and obey. All of Jesus' disciples also would fail their Lord and yet be given a second chance. We come to the Divine Service every Sunday because every day we need a second chance. God, in His great love, provides us the opportunity daily to repent and believe. When we do, we remember and live up to the meaning of the name Christian, "follower of Christ."

WELCOME

MINISTRY MOMENT

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12, NIV)

FELLOWSHIP GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #573 "Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee"

Rise for the last stanza

Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could never be;
For this heart would still refuse Thee Had Thy grace not chosen me.
Thou hast from the sin that stained me Washed and cleansed and set me free
And unto this end ordained me, That I ever live to Thee.

It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my darkened heart and mind;
Else the world had yet enthralled me, To Thy heav'nly glories blind.
Now I worship none above Thee; For Thy grace alone I thirst,
Knowing well that, if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.

Praise the God of all creation; Praise the Father's boundless love.
Praise the Lamb, our expiation, Priest and King enthroned above.
Praise the Spirit of salvation, Him by whom our spirits live.
Undivided adoration To the great Jehovah give.

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: I called out to the LORD, out of my distress,

People: and you heard my voice.

Pastor: When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD,

People: and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Repent! Turn around! Quit going your own way lest you drown in your own desires. Thus says the Lord of the second chance.

People: O God, we acknowledge and admit our neglect of you and our desire to shut you out of our life. Our sin often overwhelms even our best intentions. Remembering our Baptism and your power to drown the old sinful nature, we ask you to bring forth a new person in us through the resurrection of Christ. Hear us, receive us, wash us, and restore us to be the chosen possession of your great love. Amen.

Pastor: "When God saw how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

People: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father;

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, you turned the hearts of the prophet Jonah and the apostles Peter and Paul and through their preaching caused your call to repentance and salvation to be proclaimed. Bring us to true repentance, fill us with faith in your Word, and send us to share your love with the whole world; through Jesus Christ, your Son, 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 *Jonah 3:1–5, 10* (Jonah goes to Nineveh.)

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very important city--a visit required three days. On the first day, Jonah started into the city. He proclaimed: "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned." The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. 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.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 7:29–35* (The unmarried and widowed)

What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; 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; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away. I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs--how he can please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world--how he can please his wife--and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world--how she can please her husband. I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

5:00 & 8:00 ANTHEM

"Jesus Is My Hope"

Pre-K – 8th Graders

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:14–20* (Jesus calls the first disciples.)

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" 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. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #839 "O Christ, Our True and Only Light"

O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear your voice and in your fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of your grace The souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and binds.

O gently call those gone astray That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed In you find peace and heav'nly rest.

Shine on the darkened and the cold; Recall the wand'ers to your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart; Confirm the weak and doubting heart.

That they with us may evermore Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
And endless praise to you be giv'n By all your church in earth and heav'n.

SERMON *"The Word of the Lord Came a Second Time"* Jonah 3:1-5, 10

(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.

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for all of God's people and for all people in need. Almighty God, bless your holy church, that it may proclaim clearly both Law and Gospel.

People: Bless all your people, that we would repent of our sins and believe the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Lord of the church, we pray for all ministers of the Gospel, that they would carry out their work diligently and faithfully.

People: Help us to pray for them, support them in their calling, and work faithfully side by side for the furtherance of Christ's kingdom.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we ask your blessing to be upon the Call committee as they begin interviewing candidates for the position of principal.

People: Lead and guide them and the congregation to the person you want to lead our school into the future you have prepared for us.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, you reached out to so many people during the years of your earthly ministry. Lead our outreach team as they begin their work.

People: Help us to work together with them in reaching out to our community with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Compassionate Lord, you healed and strengthened those who were afflicted. Therefore we bring before you those who are sick or hospitalized especially; Helen, Sharon, Carleen, Charles, Shirley, Marion, Jack, Virginia, Dolores, Ginger, Gretchen, Mark, Richard, Lois and Sarah.

People: Strengthen and heal all who call out to you, bless them with patience and peace during their time of trial, and give courage and support to those near the end of their life in this world.

Pastor: Father in heaven, bless and abide with those who are homebound and alone, that they might be encouraged by your promise that you will never leave or forsake them.

People: Comfort them by your holy Word and move those who visit them to support and encourage them with your love and grace.

Pastor: God of comfort and hope, fill us all with the hope of the resurrection to life eternal.

People: Bless and comfort Rose Marie and Jack as they mourn the passing of Marie. Grant them faith to look forward to a reunion in the life to come.

Pastor: Lord of life, bless our hearts by faith to trust in the promises you give us in your holy Sacraments.

People: Strengthen us to daily return to the waters of Holy Baptism, to trust your promise of forgiveness in confession and absolution, and to receive in faith the very body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Supper.

Pastor: Lord of all, we ask your blessing upon our Lutheran schools during this week of rejoicing in the blessing of a Christian education. Bless both students and teachers to grow together in the grace and knowledge of Jesus.

People: We pray also for all who seek to work in the kingdom of God, especially for the students who are studying to be future pastors, teachers, DCEs or deaconesses. Bless their studies and their work, that they might faithfully serve Christ's Church.

Pastor: Almighty God, we pray for all followers and disciples of Christ, asking you to make us evermore your faithful people.

People: Lead us to go wherever you would have us go and empower us to do the work you have called us to do, that Christ's kingdom and his people would be built up.

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

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

THE 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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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(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 #837 “Lift High the Cross”

Refrain Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **Refrain**

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine. **Refrain**

All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. **Refrain**

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. **Refrain**

Let ev’ry race and ev’ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. **Refrain**

So shall our song of triumph ever be;
Praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

HYMN #701 “Draw Us to Thee”

Draw us to Thee, For then shall we Walk in Thy steps forever
And hasten on Where Thou art gone To be with Thee, dear Savior.

Draw us to Thee, Lord, lovingly; Let us depart with gladness
That we may be Forever free From sorrow, grief, and sadness.

Draw us to Thee; O grant that we May walk the road to heaven!
Direct our way Lest we should stray And from Thy paths be driven.

Draw us to Thee That also we Thy heav'n-ly bliss inherit
And ever dwell Where sin and hell No more can vex our spirit.

Draw us to Thee Unceasingly, Into Thy kingdom take us;
Let us forev'er Thy glory share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

HYMN #810 “O God of God, O Light of Light”

O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To You in heav-en’s glory bright The song of praise forever rings.
To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory He has won, All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

For deep in prophets’ sacred page, And grand in poets’ winged word,
Slowly in type, from age to age The nations saw their coming Lord;
Till through the deep Judean night Rang out the son, “Good-will to men!”
Sung once by first-born sons of light, It echoes now, “Good-will!” Amen.

That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in hate and scorn-
These all are past, and now above He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates! So sang that host beyond our ken.
Lift up your heads, your King awaits. We lift them up. Amen, amen.

Then raise to Christ a mighty song, And shout His name, His mercies tell!
Sing, heav’n-ly host, your praise prolong, And all on earth, your anthem swell!
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain! Forever let the song ascend!
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign, All glory, pow’r! Amen, amen.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: As the Lord sent His life-renewing Word through Jonah and the holy prophets, may you be given the assurance of His forgiveness and love.

People: Amen.

Pastor: As the Lord called and sent His blessed apostles to be fishers of men, may you hear His voice and follow Him.

People: Amen.

Pastor: As we have received God’s grace this day for the sake of Christ our Lord, let us give Him thanks and praise.

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 #829 “Christ the Eternal Lord”

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word To ev’ry passing age,
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture’s page;
Transform our thought and mind, Enlighten all who read,
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth,
And by His death salvation won For ev’ry child of earth;
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth’s brief journey ends.

Christ the ascended King Exalted high above,
Whose praise unending ages sing, Whom yet unseen we love;
When mortal life is past Your voice from heaven’s throne
Shall call Your children home at last To know as we are known.

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Acolytes
Choir Director (Pre-K – 8th Grade)
Puppeteer
Organist
Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender
Pastor Gregg Stanton
Russell Hurst, Pat Graf
Jennifer Moyle, Jordan Koepke
Shannon Krueger
Laurel Privatt
Roger Gottschalk
Kim Woller

One thing I do:

Forgetting what is behind and straining toward
what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win
the prize for which God has called me
heavenward in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 3:13-14, NIV)