

**3rd Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 21, 2024**



Welcome to *ASCENSION!*

*We are delighted to have you with us today.* That we may know you better, please sign the Guest Registry in the Narthex and introduce yourself to the Pastor after the service. May God bless you with the assurance of His forgiveness, life, and salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you, and ... **Peace be with you!**



**Rev. James D. Gier, Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. Dr. Gary Zieroth, Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Dr. John Stube, Pastor Emeritus**  
**Dcs. Pamela Buhler, Deaconess**  
**Mrs. Laurie Behnfeldt, Principal**

**ASCENSION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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## ✠ HOLY COMMUNION ✠

Holy Communion is administered to **COMMUNICANT MEMBERS** of Ascension, of other Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations, and of Lutheran Church bodies in declared fellowship with the LCMS, who have been instructed, examined, and *confirmed* in the Christian faith as taught by the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and so publicly declared their unity of faith in all doctrines of Holy Scripture in fellowship with LCMS.

All **COMMUNICANT MEMBERS** desiring to commune today are to fill out a *Member Communion Card* or *Guest Communion Card* and hand it to the Ushers when coming forward to commune.

*All others we kindly and respectfully request to abstain from communing until such public declaration is made in keeping with Christ's institution.*

If you would like to know more about receiving Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak to the Pastors after the service and they will be glad to instruct you to that end. *Thank you!*

**Guest Preacher** ✠ Rev. Charles Ferry

**Pastors** ✠ Rev. James Gier and Rev. Dr. Gary Zieroth

**Fieldworkers** ✠ Zachary Benkert and Sergiu Trifa

**Organist** ✠ David Mussmann

**Prelude** ~ “Come Follow Me”, the Savior Spake” - Behnke

**Voluntary** ~ 8:00 ~ “Arise and Shine in Splendor” – Opitz/Issac

10:45 ~ “Someone Special” – Vajda/Schalk

**Communion** ~ 8:00 ~ “The Church’s One Foundation - piano

10:45 ~ “Ev’ry Child” - Sleeth

**Postlude** ~ “What Is the World to Me” - Costello

**Special Music** ~ 8:00 ~ Adult Choir, Sam Marquart, director

Elaine Nahrwold, piano

10:45 ~ K-4 Choir, Barb Polehna, director

# 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2024

(Series B)

## DIVINE SERVICE 3

✠ ✠ ✠

**Opening Hymn** #688

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### *The Sixth Commandment*

#### SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Introit *bulletin*

The Kyrie p. 186

Gloria in Excelsis p. 187

The Salutation p. 189

The Collect of the Day *bulletin*

Scripture Readings *bulletin*

#### **Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

Gradual

#### **1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (32-35)**

The Alleluia p. 190

#### **Mark 1:14-20**

The Nicene Creed p. 191

**Hymn of the Day** #839

#### **The SERMON**

The Offertory **Hymn #956**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

#### SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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**Closing Hymn** #730

**Introit** *Psalm 113:1–2, 4, 7–8; antiphon: v. 3*



From the rising of the sun to its | setting,\*  
the name of the LORD is | to be praised!

**Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants | of the LORD,\*  
praise the name | of the LORD!**

Blessèd be the name | of the LORD\*  
from this time forth and for- | evermore!

**The LORD is high above all | nations,\*  
and his glory above the | heavens!**

He raises the poor | from the dust\*  
and lifts the needy from the | ash heap,

**to make them sit with | princes,\*  
with the princes of his | people.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

From the rising of the sun to its | setting,\*  
the name of the LORD is | to be praised!

## **Collect of the Day**

**P.** Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C. Amen.**

## **Gradual** (*Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*)

Praise the LORD, all | nations!\*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\*  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\*  
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

The Introit, Collect, and Gradual are from the *Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book*, copyright © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. License #11636.

**Old Testament Reading – *Jonah 3:1–5, 10 (ESV)*** <sup>1</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. . . .

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, 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.  
Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading – *1 Corinthians 7:29–31 (32-35) (ESV)*** <sup>29</sup>This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and 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 goods, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. <sup>32</sup>I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, <sup>34</sup>and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. <sup>35</sup>I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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

**People: (sing) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

**Holy Gospel – *Mark 1:14-20 (ESV)*** <sup>14</sup>After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” <sup>16</sup>Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: (sing) Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**