

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 11:15am

Our Nineveh

Third Sunday after the Epiphany



Our Nineveh

J O N A H 3 : 1 - 5 , 1 0

No matter where we go and no matter the circumstances, God will act.

Opening Song of Praise

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: We are called to confess our sins, trusting in God who is faithful and just and who will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for meditation)

P: Though Jonah was reluctant when God spoke to him the first time, He spoke to Jonah a second time and told him, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.

C: As You, O Lord, have given me the Gospel, I have been reluctant to go bring Your truth and grace to all people. For this I seek Your forgiveness.

P: Paul reminds us that the appointed time has grown very short, the present form of this world is passing away.

C: As You, O Lord, have given me each day and hold all time in Your hands, I have not used my time wisely. For this I seek Your forgiveness.

P: Jesus called to Simon and Andrew, Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men. Immediately they dropped their nets and followed Him.

C: As You, O Lord, have called me to follow You, I have instead sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. For this I seek Your forgiveness.

P: Even to the evil Ninevites, God showed His mercy upon their repentance. Though we deserve His present and eternal punishment, God has relented by sending Jesus to bear our sin and to be our Savior. Jesus has taken our punishment, paid the price of our sins through His perfect life and sacrificial death, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Together, we pray.

C: Gracious God, though not deserved, You continue to call us Your children. Though not deserved, You showed mercy and continue to show mercy to us. Continue to grant us the gift of a bold and confident faith in You, through Jesus

Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Time

Jonah 3:1–5, 10 [Sermon Text]

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

1 Corinthians 7:29–35

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(Mark 1:14-20)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Praise Song

The Sermon *Our Nineveh*

P: Please rise and join me as we profess our faith,

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

The Prayers of His Children:

P: Arise and shine **C: for our light has come**

P: ...who taught us to pray,

C: 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.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, everlasting God, who since the beginning of time has been present and continues to bless us in this time. Prepare our hearts with true repentance as we receive Your gracious giving of the forgiveness of sins in this Supper. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying,

C: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created, and out of perfect love sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. As You turned Your wrath away from the people of Nineveh through their repentance, You have turned Your wrath away from us through the cross of our Savior, Jesus Christ. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Words of our Lord

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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

C: Amen.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

P: We give thanks to You, gracious Father, that Your grace is timeless and Your mercy is for all people. As we heed the call of Jesus and follow, strengthen us in faith toward You and in love toward each other; through Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

God's Benediction

Sending Praise Song