ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Wheatfield, New York

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 21, 2024



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**, welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

AS WE GATHER

Can't somebody else do it? Those words and thoughts often come to our minds and out of our mouths when being asked to do something we'd rather not do. It happens in our work and jobs, it happens in homes and families, and it even happens within the church. It happened to Jonah when the Lord told him to go to Nineveh. Today we hear the second time God called to Jonah, telling him to again go to a place he'd rather not go. There are many times we hear things in Scripture we'd rather not hear when it comes to difficult things. Can't somebody else do it? Instead of that thought entering our minds, may we instead be reminded of God's continued promises and presence with us in whatever we do in faith, and wherever we are called to go—even to our own Ninevehs.

INVOCATION Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

HYMN: "LORD JESUS CHRIST, BE PRESENT NOW"

LSB 902

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Jonah 3:2, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29, 31; Mark 1:15, 17

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.
- C Amen.

KYRIE Congregational parts sung

Mark 10:47, LSB 152

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS Congregational parts sung

Luke 2:14; John 1:29, LSB 154

- P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
- C 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray together:
- 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. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jonah 3:1–5, 10 God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. . . .

¹⁰When 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

1 Corinthians 7:29–35

anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴and 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. ³⁵I 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Mark 1:14-20

and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." ³So 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. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed

NEW TESTAMENT READING

²⁹This 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, ³⁰and 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, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

³²I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³But the married man is

HOLY GOSPEL

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets

NICENE CREED

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: "LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS"

LSB 685

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

Final petition:

- Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

OFFERING

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- **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.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

To our visitors: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John in the confession that not only bread and wine, but Jesus Christ's very body and blood are given to us to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our faith in Him and our union (communion) with one another. Our Lord invites to His table all those who believe His words, repent of all sin, and set aside all refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. If this is your first time at St John or if you have not been instructed about the Lord's Supper, we ask that you speak to the Pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper

For those who wish to take communion in their seat, please notify an usher or elder, and be seated near the center aisle. We offer either individual or common cup for the wine.

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9, LSB 161, sung

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- 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.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

PEACE OF THE LORD - PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD - AGNUS DEI

John 1:29, LSB 163, sung

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN: "HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE FLOCK"

HYMN: "I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE"

LSB 618

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: "O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST"

LSB 733 sts. 1-6

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