



January 22, 2023

9:00 a.m.

3rd Sunday Epiphany, Year A

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA

Reverend Maggie Westaby

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Sunday, January 22nd 2023
Third Sunday after Epiphany, Year A
Reverend Maggie Westaby

WELCOME

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new,
and whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

We confess that we are bound to sin, and cannot free ourselves. Our hearts have turned away from you, and we have sought our own paths. Help us to find our way back to you, to be guided by you, and to follow you. To embrace the journey ahead knowing you are with us, and that you strengthen us, so that we can share your love with all creation.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.”

God's grace and mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

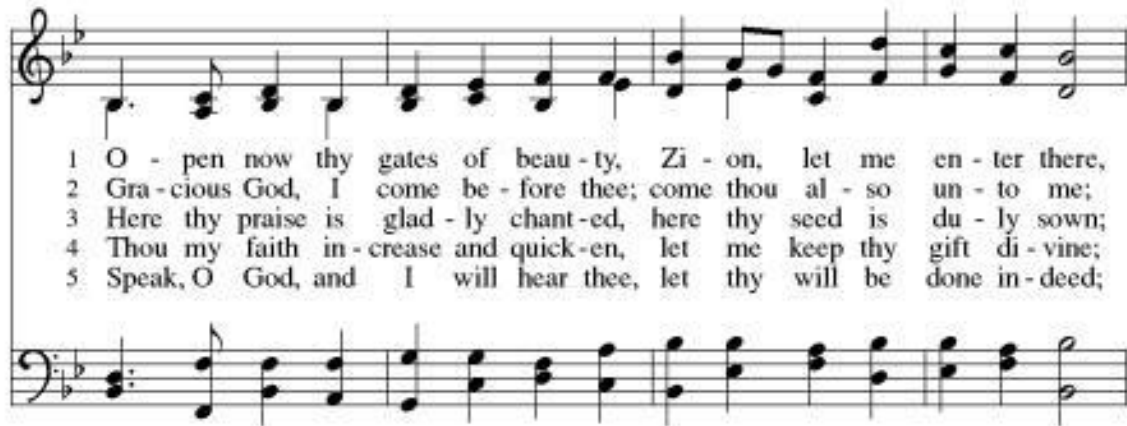
God our Light and our Salvation,

Jesus announced the nearness of your kingdom and called his disciples to be fishers of all people. Give us courage to follow in the way of Jesus, that our lives may bear witness to the good news of your gospel. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

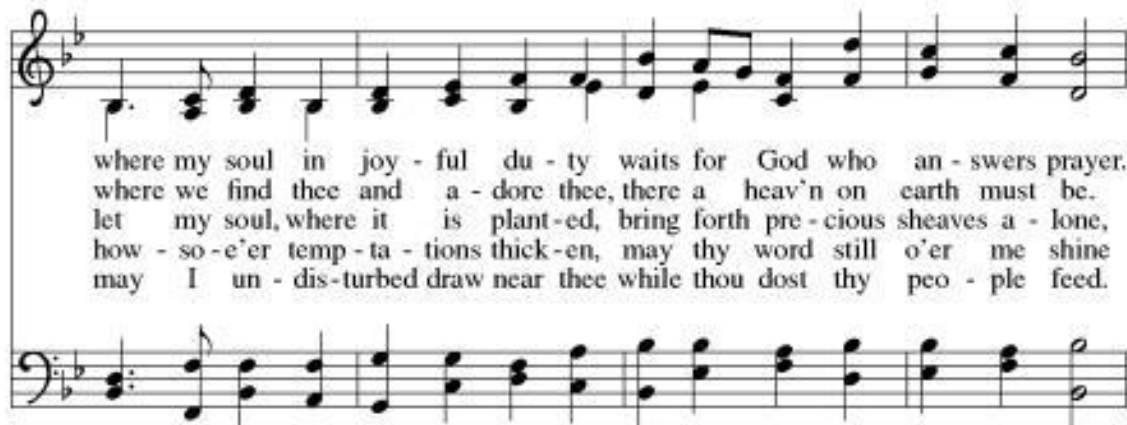
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thic - ken, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

WORD

READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27:1, 4-9

God is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? God is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I ask of God; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of God all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of our Creator and to seek God in the temple.

For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore, I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

Hear my voice, O God, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

My heart speaks your message “Seek my face.” Your face, O Creator, I will seek.

Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank

God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers,

Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for

people.”²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father

Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. ²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and

proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore *Tú has venido a la orilla*



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -
 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
 2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther
 3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing
 4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly
 trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my
 love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's
 long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.
 ask - ing for me to fol - low.
 fish - nets and will for work - ing.
 will - ing to go on lov - ing.
 Friend, you have come to call me.



Refrain / Estribillo
 Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,
 Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi
 you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a tí bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.
 small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

2 Tú sabes bien lo que tengo:
 en mi barca no hay oro ni espadas;
 tan sólo redes y mi trabajo.
 Estribillo

3 Tú necesitas mis manos,
 mi cansancio que a otros descansen,
 amor que quiera seguir amando.
 Estribillo

4 Tú, Pescador de otros mares;
 ansia eterna de almas que esperan.
 Amigo bueno, que así me llamas.
 Estribillo

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. Responding to "God of grace," with "hear our prayer."

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

We give thanks for your generosity and we give thanks for the generosity of others. Bless these gifts and may they be used in ways that cultivate generosity and love through our ministry.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

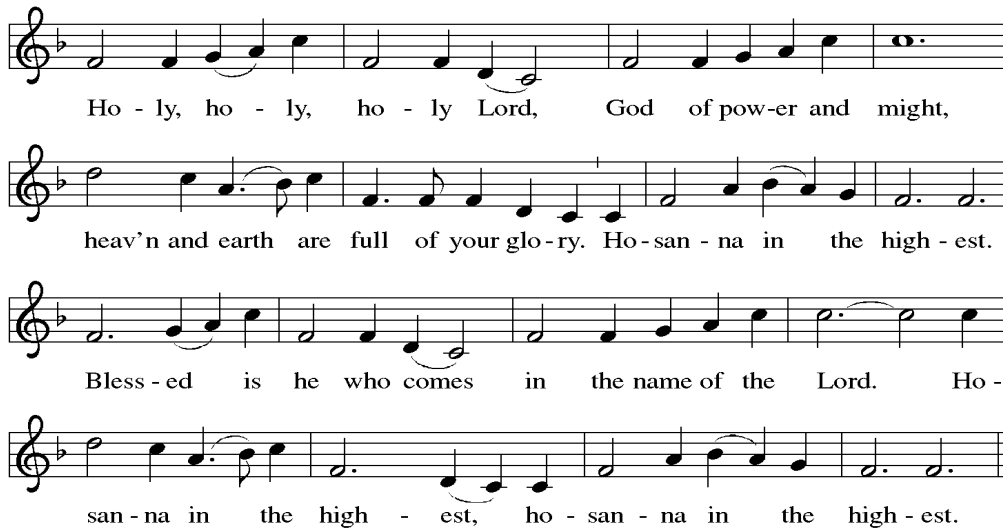
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Gift of Finest Wheat


Refrain




You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



Refrain

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - jice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

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My Faith Looks Up to Thee

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,

We thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the grace of Christ who calls us go with you,

May the power of the Holy Spirit who empowers us sustain you,

May the salvation of God who loves us give you peace.

In the name of the Creator ✝ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SENDING SONG

Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
 and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
 then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
 From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;
 and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
 and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
 our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings,"
 then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes,
 when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
 With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
 Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
 Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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Welcome to all! Family of God, welcome to worship, Christian education and fellowship at St. John Lutheran Church! Please extend a word of friendship to those sitting near you.

“One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: ... to seek him in his temple” (Psalm 27:4, NIV). Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

To those who are visiting: Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex. May God bless you today and all days.

Reminder! If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John's at (715) 675-6950

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us.

Food Basket. Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Food Basket* next to the main entrance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship help needed! There are a lot of open Sundays. If you are able, please sign up. Thank you!

Sunday January 29 at 1:00 p.m. Wisconsin River Valley Conference Annual Meeting St. Stephen in Wausau. If you are interested in going, please let Pastor Maggie know.

St. John's Newsletter. February's Newsletter will be the last Newsletter mailed out, starting in March you can pick up a physical copy of the Newsletter in the Narthex or you can look access it digitally online.

February 12, 2023, Bible's for Youth. All 3rd graders will receive Bibles during the service as well as older youth who have joined and not yet received a Bible from St. John.

February 12, 2023, Annual Meeting. After church in fellowship hall.

February 17-19, 2023 Youth Gathering. Hosted by Imago Dei Village. For all middle school and high school youth. With engaging age-appropriate workshops, time in God's glorious creation, and gathered together in one worshipping community for fellowship and fun, congregations from across the ECSW are invited to bring their middle school and high school youth as we explore the theme, Journey with Jesus. If you or your student is interested, please let Pastor Maggie know.

February 20, 2023 Pastor Maggie's Book Club at 6:30 p.m. This month, we will be discussing *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans

Lenten Dinners. Ash Wednesday is right around the corner and will be on February 22, 2023. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex if you are willing and wanting to prepare and serve a Lenten Dinner. Our hope is to have enough volunteers for all of the Lent Services, however if nobody signs up, no dinner will be available that night. Thank you in advance for all of you willing to volunteer!

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

Coming This Week @ St. John January 22 – January 29

Today

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
4:00 p.m. Community Supper

January 23

Newsletter Articles due

January 24

8:30 a.m. Quilting
9:00 a.m. Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting

January 25

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

January 29

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
1:00 p.m. WI River Valley Conference Meeting