



January 21, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Third Sunday After Epiphany, Year B

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA

Reverend Maggie Westaby

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WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light,
word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the promise of grace, let us pour out our hearts before God.

Silence for reflection.

Compassionate God,

We repent of all the ways we turn from you. You call, but we do not hear. You show us your path, but we prefer our own way. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you, that we might show mercy, compassion, and love to others. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord: in Jesus † Christ, your sins are forgiven, and you are given new life.

Amen

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name,
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Abiding God,

Your blessings are abundant, and your wisdom exceeds our grasp. Fill us with your Spirit as we hear your word this day. May we be justice seekers and peacemakers, sharing your compassion and love. In the name of the holy Trinity, one God, we pray.

Amen.

READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

READING: Psalm 62:5-12

For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.

God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

Put your trust in God always, O people, pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted. Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

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: Mark 1:14-20

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Are Called ... I am sorry, but these lyrics are unavailable with the music. Here are the lyrics without the music.

Come! live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God! We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless, so all hatred and blindness will be no more! We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love! We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

*Lyrics from (<https://www.letsingit.com/david-haas-lyrics-we-are-called-lggrc79>
LetsSingIt - The Internet Lyrics Database)*

APOSTLES' 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

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. Responding to "God of grace," with "hear our prayer."

PEACE

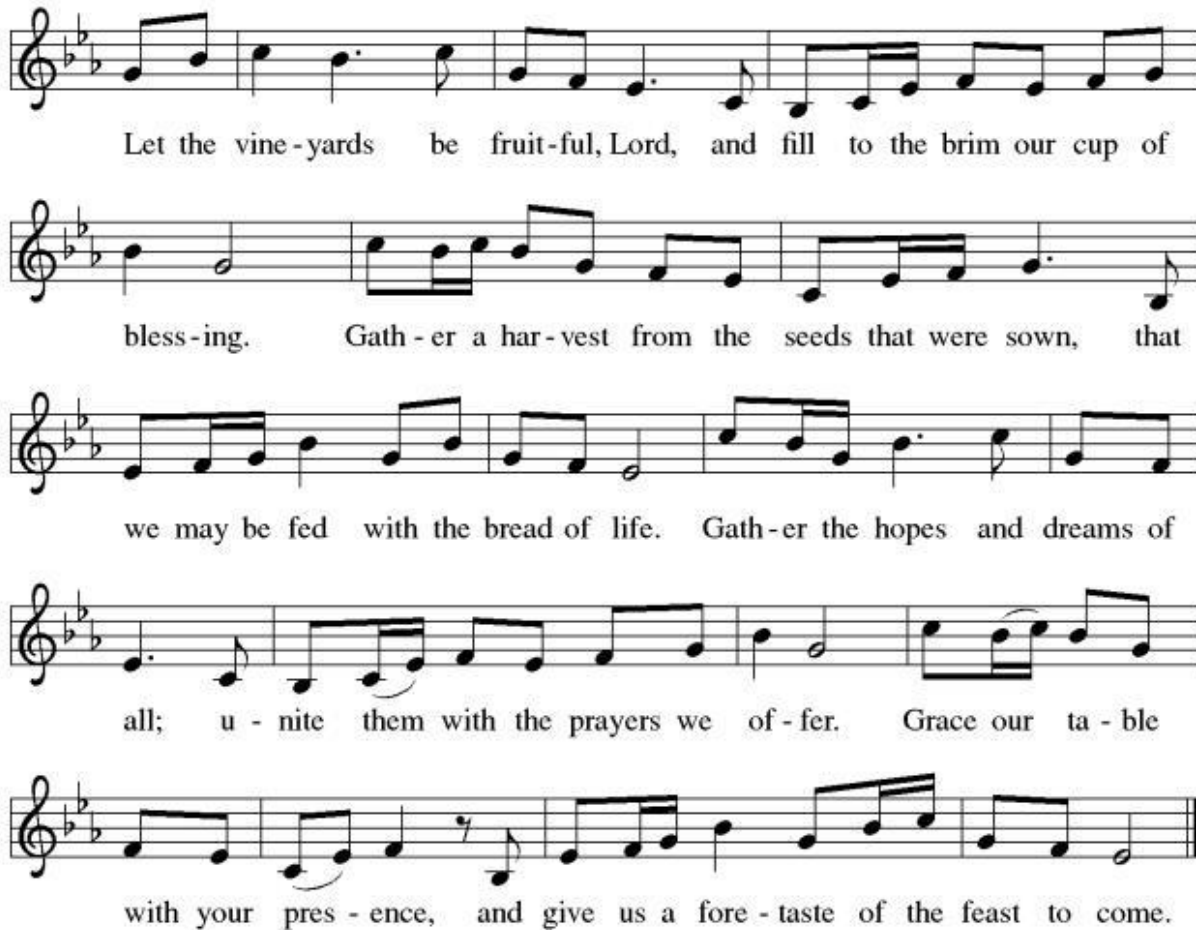
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Remembering all of God's gifts to us, let us offer ourselves and our gifts in humble service, that all may see the goodness of God.

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

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

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

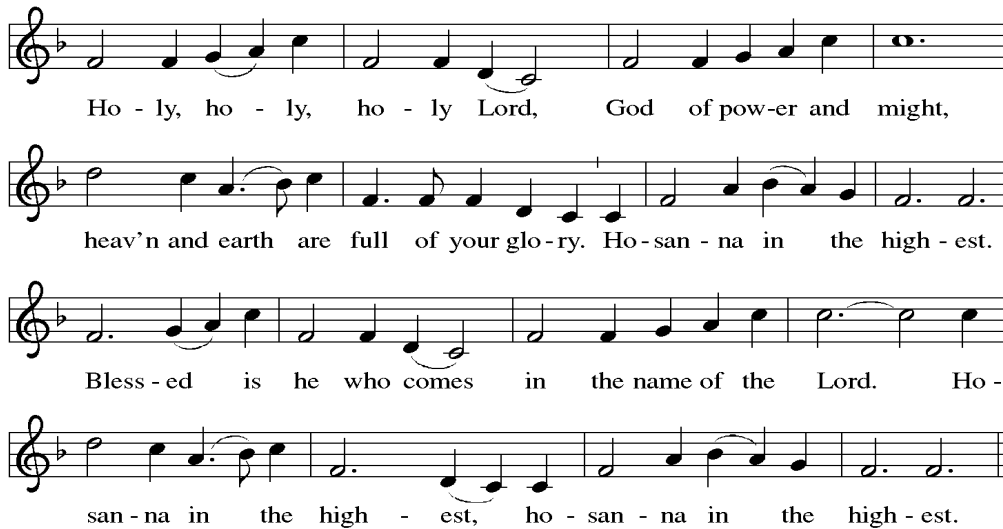
We lift them to the Lord.

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:



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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Gather at Christ's table, so that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened. Receive the body of Christ and be transformed. Embrace this sacred space and know, you are loved. Amen.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



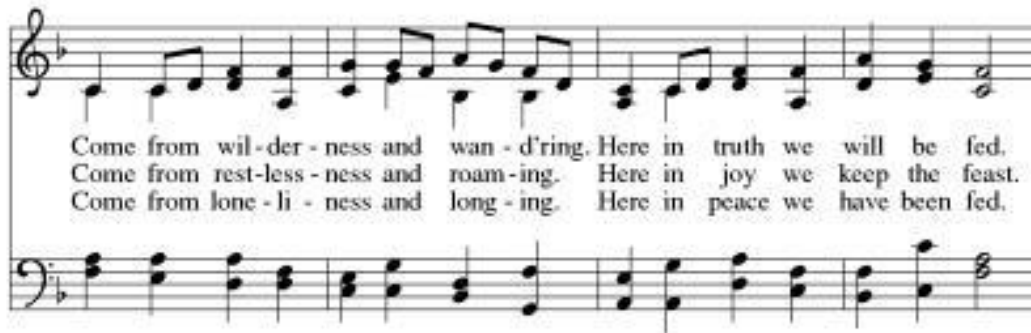
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to- geth-er, Je- sus Christ is liv- ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbia Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version
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For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain

Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Follbott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus,

In this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the steadfast love of God renew you,

May the word of Jesus guide you,

And may the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you, now and forever.

In the name of the holy Trinity † one God.

Amen

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 ti 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 no 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

Text: Cesáreo Gabarín, 1936-1991; n. Madoleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946
 Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabarín
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

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Welcome to all! A warm welcome to all on this cold winter morning! May you know the fire of God's love as we worship in the name of Jesus, who showed us how to love.

Open the eyes and ears of my heart, creative Spirit, to listen for your word of truth. Amen.

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.

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 Christ's Table.

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 *Shopping Cart* next to the main entrance. **Reminder, food pantries cannot accept expired donations.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John Quilting Wishlist. Left over fabric or never used fabric, light weight denim, cotton or flannel sheets, pillow cases, cotton curtains (unlined), cotton shower curtains. If you are interested, come join us! You can also sew a quilt top from home. Size needed is 60 x 80. They do not need to be fancy. Thank you!

Men's Breakfast. Pastor Will from Trinity in Stettin and St. Peter's in Marathon has invited all men from St. John to meet the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. At LC Restaurant, in Marathon (Formerly the Village Inn).

Sunday, January 21 from 2:30 p.m.— 4:00 p.m. Wisconsin River Valley Conference (WRVC) Annual Meeting at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - 300 Logan St, Merrill, WI 54452. If you are interested in going, please let Pastor Maggie know.

Sunday, January 21 at 3:30 p.m. Community Dinner at First Presbyterian Church. A reminder for confirmation students to save this date!

Monday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Maggie's Book Club will discuss, *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate.

Sunday, February 4 at 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting. The Cemetery Association Meeting will take place after the Annual Meeting.

Tuesday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. Adult Study on the Gospel of Mark. This second session will focus on Mark 8:27 through Mark 10.

Friday, February 16 – Sunday, February 18 Journey with Jesus Synod Youth Gathering. Anyone in grades 6-12 are able to come to this gathering at Imago Dei Village in Clintonville WI. Please let Pastor Maggie know if you are interested.

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 21 – January 28

Today

- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 2:30 p.m. WRVC Annual Meeting Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Merrill
- 3:30 p.m. Community Dinner First Presbyterian Church

January 22

- Noon February Newsletter Articles due to Church Office
- 6:30 p.m. Book Club – The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate.

January 23

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

January 24

- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation

January 25

- 4:30 p.m. Memorial Committee Meeting

January 28

- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School