

# **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

January 25, 2026

***Please respect the sanctity of worship and turn off all cell phones.  
Thank you.***

## **For the Gathered**

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

## **Greeting – ELW 147**

(Pastor) - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**(All) - And also with you.**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

## **Gathering Song – Arise, Your Light Has Come – ELW 314 (vs. 1, 3 & 4)**

Arise, your light has come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God  
which shines on you today.

Arise, your light has come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the brokenhearted ones  
and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light has come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing,  
God's pow'r will make us strong.

## **Confession and Forgiveness – ELW 94**

(Pastor)

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Kyrie**

(Liturgist) In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**(All Sing) Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison.**

For peace between nations, faithfulness in the Church, the healing of creation, let us pray,

**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison.**

For those who seek the light, those who thirst for mercy, and all who long for God, let us pray,

**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison**

For those who are hungry, grieving or in pain, abandoned or afraid, let us pray,

**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison**

Help, save, comfort and defend us oh God,

**Amen.**

## **Canticle of Praise – ELW 148**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,  
and honor and blessing and glory are his.  
This is the feast of victory for our God.**

Alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor and glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **First Reading – Isaiah 9: 1-4**

*The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.*

<sup>1</sup> There 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.

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

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

<sup>4</sup> For 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**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then I shall I fear?  
**The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I I be afraid?**

<sup>4</sup> One thing I ask of the LORD; one I thing I seek;  
**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God I in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will I give me shelter,  
**hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high  
up- I on a rock.**

<sup>6</sup> Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies I who surround me.  
**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of  
rejoicing; I will sing and make music I to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, I when I call;  
**have mercy on me and I answer me.**

<sup>8</sup> My heart speaks your message— I “Seek my face.”  
**Your face, O LORD, I I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- I vant in anger.  
**Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God  
of I my salvation.**

## **Epistle Reading – 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18**

*Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.*

<sup>10</sup> Now 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 knit together in the same mind and the same purpose.

<sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What 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." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.

<sup>17</sup> For 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.

<sup>18</sup> For 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.**

## **Message for the Young at Heart**

## **Passing of the Peace**

## **Special Music**

## **Gospel Announcement – Matthew 4: 12-23**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

## **Acclamation – ELW 151**

**(ALL SING) - Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in

the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,<sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—  
<sup>16</sup> the 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."

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

<sup>18</sup> As 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 fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As 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. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all 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.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

## **Message**

(All who are able may stand.)

## **Hymn of the Day – Christ, Be Our Light – ELW 715 (vs. 1, 2, & 5)**

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957  
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## **Welcoming of New Members**

### **Apostles' Creed – ELW 105**

**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.**

*(Assembly may be seated.)*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Response*

(Liturgist) – Merciful God,  
**(All) – Receive our prayer.**

## Offering

### **Offertory - We Are An Offering – W&P 146**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,  
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.  
We are an offering.

## Prayer

Let us pray.  
God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Great Thanksgiving – ELW 152**

**(PASTOR) - The Lord be with you.**

**(ALL) - 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.**

## **Pastor's 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:

## **Our Response – ELW 153**

**(ALL SING) - Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Lord's Prayer – ELW 154**

**(ALL) - 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.**

## **Words of Institution**

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.

## **Confession Song – Lamb of God – ELW 154**

**(ALL SING) -**

**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. Grant us peace.**

## **Distribution**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

### **Sending Song - On Our Way Rejoicing – ELW 537**

On our way rejoicing  
gladly let us go.  
Christ our Lord has conquered;  
vanquished is the foe.  
Christ without, our safety;  
Christ within, our joy;  
who, if we be faithful,  
can our hope destroy?

#### *Refrain*

On our way rejoicing;  
as we forward move,  
hearken to our praises,  
O blest God of love!

Unto God the Father  
joyful songs we sing;  
unto God the Savior  
thankful hearts we bring;

unto God the Spirit  
bow we and adore,  
on our way rejoicing  
now and evermore. *Refrain*

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

*(Assembly may be seated.)*

## **Announcements**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**(ALL) - Thanks be to God.**

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**Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 25, 2026**

PASTOR

John Russell-Curry

GREETER

Chris Love

READER/ASSISTING MINISTER

Mona Kowalczyk

USHERS

Donald Gumm

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Shiloh Beardsley

**This Week**

**TODAY**

**10 AM** Worship

**After Service** Congregational Meeting

*Readings for Sunday, February 1*

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:48-31; Matthew 5:1-12

*Attendance for last week 27 and via Zoom 4*

**Upcoming Events – Mark your Calendar**

**February 1 Worship Service**

**February 7 Church Clean Up**

**February 8 Worship Service**

**Prayers for healing:**

Dave Bettis; Gleneda Muralt; Dorothy Woody; Joel Knox; Rosie Sullivan; Eric Smith; Gleneda Muralt's niece, Shereida; Nan Dailey; Kimberly Castillo's daughter Jillian and mother-in-law Lupe; Pam Andersen; Pastor John Russell-Curry and his family; Warren Westerberg; Sylvia Poupard; Jeane & David Hetland; Annie Sofranek; David Cherf; and people who are ill around the world.

We lift prayers for our Benevolence of the Month, **Scholarship Fund** and for our Sierra Pacific Synod Bishop, **Jeff Johnson**.