

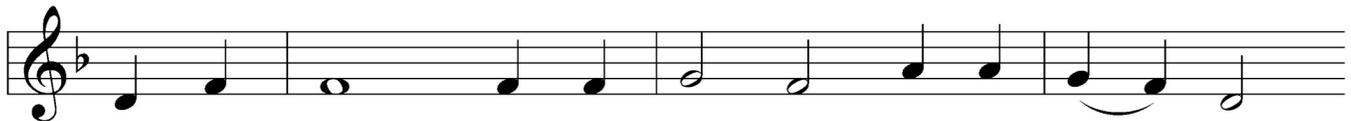
# Pastor's Bible Study

January 21, 2026 – Epiphany 3A

## LSB 849 – Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons  
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool  
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this  
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

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Tune: Public domain

**Read Isaiah 9:1-4:**

1. When do you think of this passage being used?
2. To whom do the “her” and “he” refer in verse one?
3. What is meant by the “former time” described in verse one?
4. What is meant by the “latter time” described in verse one?
5. How do verses two through four expound upon this “latter time”?
6. What is meant by “the day of Midian” in verse four?

**Read Matthew 4:12-25:**

1. Where has Jesus just come from according to Matthew?
2. What is Matthew telling us about Jesus when he connects Isaiah 9 to Jesus’ travels?
3. What impact does John’s arrest have on Jesus?
4. How does Jesus’ message in verse seventeen connect to John the Baptist? To Isaiah’s prophecy?
5. In this text, Jesus has both disciples and great crowds follow Him, is there any difference between their following of Jesus?
6. Why are the healings important in Jesus ministry?

**Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-18:**

1. Through whom is Paul’s appeal made? Why?
2. For what kind of unity is Paul asking?
3. How would these divisions harm the church?
4. Why does Paul state what he does in verse seventeen?

**Devotional Thought:**

Isaiah described the sinful state of this world: people walking in darkness and the shadow of death, unable to find their way and lacking the ability to help themselves. Into this black hole comes Jesus, the light of the world. His great light shines first in Galilee, where He calls disciples, teaches, preaches, and heals. His great light continues to be sounded in Word and Sacrament. To sinful, hurting people, Jesus gives life, hope, and deliverance (*adapted from TLSB, pg. 1585*).

**Prayer:**

May Your light shine in us as we share Your Gospel with the world, O Christ, our light. Shine on us and through us. Amen.