

† HOME SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER †
Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 24, 2021

PRELUDE

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Wayne Wold

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

INTROIT (*from Psalm 62*)

P Find rest, O my soul, in God alone;

C my hope comes from Him.

P He alone is my rock and my salvation;

C He is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

P My salvation and my honor depend on God;

C He is my mighty rock, my refuge.

C Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to Him,

C for God is our refuge.

P One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard:

C that You, O God, are strong, and that You, O Lord, are loving.

OPENING HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine on my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our weaknesses and stretch forth Your powerful hand 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 LESSON

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be 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 possessions, 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

P Alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C “Come, follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:14-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴Now after John [the Baptist] 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Pass It On

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it.
You spread His love to ev'ryone; you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found,
you can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound.
I'll shout it from the mountaintop, I want my world to know;
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

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SERMON

Rev. Scott Geminn

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Guided by Christ, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

P For the church throughout the world, for pastors and teachers, for deacons and deaconesses, for musicians and all who serve as worship assistants, that the good news of God's reconciling love may be proclaimed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For skies and seas, for birds and fish, for favorable weather and clean water, and for the well-being of creation, that God raise up faithful caretakers to guide our use of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For those who serve as leaders in cities, states and nations, especially as they protect their citizens from any hostility and help to provide for the Covid-19 vaccinations, that they may advocate for the vulnerable and bring their communities together. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For those who are sick, distressed, or grieving, that in the midst of suffering, God's peace and mercy would surround them. We lift up especially those on our prayer line and those we remember now, either silently or aloud...(PAUSE). Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For our congregation and community, including The Chapel School and Concordia College, for families big and small, and for the ministries that we share, that God's steadfast love be the model for all our activities and relationships. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P In thanksgiving for the faithful who served as an example of gospel living, that their lives point us to salvation through Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Merciful God, hear our prayers for the sake of the One who dwells among us, Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray:

C 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.

CLOSING HYMN

In Christ There is No East or West

In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

With God there is no tribe or race; in Him we all are one.
He loves us as His children through our faith in His dear son.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in Him meet south and north.
All Christian souls are one in Him throughout the whole wide earth.

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.

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

In Christ There is No East or West

Gabrielson/Soderlund

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Special thanks to our additional participant in today's service:

Lector Valerie Runge

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