Worship in the Home Third Sunday after Epiphany, Year B January 24, 2021

In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ.

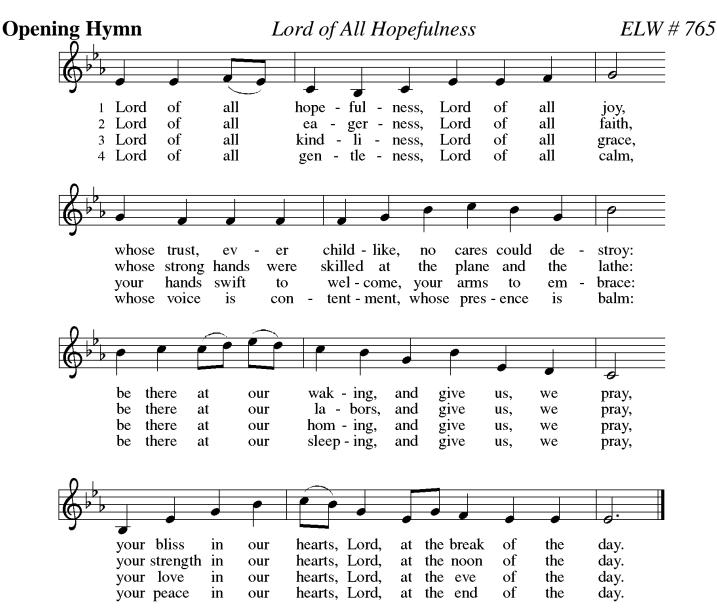
While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

Prelude

Announcements

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all. *Amen.*





Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12

⁵For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.

⁶God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

⁷In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

- ⁸Put your trust in God always, O people, pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.
- ⁹Those 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.
- ¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

¹²Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

- ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the dominion 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 human beings." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As Jesus went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately Jesus called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Homily



Reflection

Our world is full of death and the very real possibility of destruction. Nineveh can be an image for us. Yet after Jonah finally acted on the call of God and spoke God's word to Nineveh, the people immediately repented. That word changed everything. Trusting God, they could live hopefully in their world. After John was arrested, Jesus preached the nearness of the dominion of God, and the world became utterly different for those fishermen. Mark says they immediately followed. After Jesus was arrested and killed, the Risen Christ once again begins his ministry, coming into our assemblies and into our homes, speaking the gospel. The dominion of God is near to us because, in the Spirit and through the word, Christ is near to us. We too are called, and the world becomes utterly different for us. We are like fish pulled out of the chaotic sea into the light and air, only unlike fish we are made alive together with Christ. We may live "as though not" engaged in the values of the world around us, but according to the values of the mercy of God, turning to the needs of our neighbors, inviting them also to live in hope.

Prayers of Intercession

Responding together to Christ's call, let us offer our prayers for all in need.

We pray for the church, especially our bishops, pastors, deacons, musicians, and servers, that God's Spirit empower all the baptized with wisdom to follow Christ's call. O God our salvation, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We pray for Sunday schools and for all parish education, for teachers and participants, young and old, that God form the faithful even when classes cannot regularly meet in person. O God our power, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We pray for the earth, its seas, lakes, and rivers, for their myriad creatures, and for those whose livelihood depends upon them, that God raise up advocates and scientists to guide an ecological care for creation. O God our rock, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We pray for the nations, for our elected and appointed leaders, for racial concord in our cities, and for those who have been considered our enemies, that God lead the world into commonwealths of justice and peace. O God our stronghold, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We pray for those who are charged with maintaining an ordered society, for state and local law enforcement, and for the military, that God guide the powerful to serve the common good. O God our refuge, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We pray for relief from COVID-19, for the fearful, the sick, and the dying, for medical workers, for all who await the vaccine, for the unemployed and the quarantined, that God uphold the world's people through this time of affliction. O God in whom we trust, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We pray for all who are sick, distressed, or grieving, especially for . . . , that God sustain and comfort those who suffer. O God our deliverance, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We pray finally for ourselves, that as we pour out our hearts to God, our faith in divine mercy be renewed. O God of steadfast love, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

We join in thanksgiving for all your people from ancient times until today who have lived and died in faith, and we pray that at our end God unite us with them in everlasting peace. O God of eternal might, receive our prayer: **Our hope is in you.**

Merciful God, receive the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



Benediction

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace. **Amen.**

Postlude

Join us on Zoom for fellowship following the Postlude: 596-621-1441 Password 86753089

Serving God and Us Today
Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott
Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith
Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel
Our Assistant Administrative Assistant– Laura Orczeck
Our Sexton – Bill Brown
Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster
Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner
First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenberg, Clyde Claycomb, Donna Gearhart, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, Audrey Hite, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns:, Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Helena Bassler, Vivian Beach, Marsha Bookhammer, Greta Buchart, Diane Cappel, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, Jim Freyer, Erika Hallam, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Joan Housel, Amber Itle, Jenny, James Kelly, Darren Kreutzer, Kristen Malloy, Rick McIntyre, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Carol Metzgar, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, Paul Ruth, Pstr. Scott Schul, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Specialist Training in the Army: Nathan Smith

Schedule

Sunday 9:30 AM Worship Livestream on Facebook followed by fellowship on Zoom Monday, Friday 9AM Hymn Devotion Tuesday & Thursday 9AM & 9PM Morning & Night Prayer Wednesday 7PM Holden Evening Prayer followed by bible study After on Zoom

Goal Setting: ALL Committees should be scheduling a meeting via Zoom to plan your 2021 Goals and to make sure who is on your committee for 2021. Per the Time & Talents there were no new additions to any committees. Also, remember to get this information to Lori by email by Sunday, January 31, 2021.

Book Discussion

Coming up in late February, we'll discuss the book "Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague" by Geraldine Brooks. This historical fiction novel concerns a 17th century English village and their response to an outbreak of Plague--timely as we continue to handle our own pandemic. As this is a little longer than our recent books, you may want to grab it now and get started; discussion will be at the end of next month.

Readings for the Week:

Monday (Conversion of Paul; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends) Galatians 1:11-24. **Tuesday** (commemoration of Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries) Genesis 45:25 — 46:7. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith) Proverbs 8:1-21. **Thursday** (commemoration of Thomas Aquinas, teacher, 1274) Psalm 111. **Friday** Deuteronomy 12:28-32. **Saturday** Deuteronomy 13:1-5. **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28. Reflection text: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw Portions from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, *All Creation Sings*, and sundaysandseasons.com © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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