

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 21st, 2024



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MARTIN LUTHER  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
St. Louis, MO  
Pastor Seth Georgson  
314-914-6457

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Hymn ----- Dearest Jesus, We Are Here

CW 295

1. Dearest Jesus, we are here, Gladly your command obeying;  
With this child we now draw near In response to your own saying  
That to you it shall be given As a child and heir of heaven.
2. Lord, your Word is clear and plain, And we will obey it duly:  
“He who is not born again, Heart and life renewing truly,  
Born of water and the Spirit, Can my kingdom not inherit.”
3. Therefore we have come to you, In our arms this infant bearing.  
Here we shall forgiveness view. May this child, your mercy sharing,  
In your arms be shielded ever, Yours on earth and yours forever.
4. Gracious Head, your member own; Shepherd, take your lamb and feed it;  
Prince of Peace, make here your throne; Way of Life, to heaven lead it.  
Precious Vine, let nothing sever From your side this branch forever.
5. Now into your heart we pour Prayers that from our hearts proceeded.  
Our petitions heav’nward soar; May our warm desires be heeded!  
Write the name we now have given; Write it in the book of heaven!

*Stand.*

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship  
of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

**C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*Be seated.*

*The Rite of Baptism (CW p. 13)*

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

*O Lord, Our Lord*

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in  
all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,  
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;  
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and  
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,  
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,  
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the second, third, and fourth staves. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,  
 you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;  
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the  
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,  
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

*Prayer of the Day*

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

*Be seated.*

THE WORD

**First Lesson ----- Jonah 3:1-5,10**

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: "Get up, go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you."

So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh just as the word of the LORD had commanded. Now Nineveh was a great city to God. It required a three-day walk. Jonah walked through the city for a day, and he called out, "Forty more days and Nineveh is going to be overthrown!"

The men of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least. ...

When God saw their actions, that they had turned from their evil way, God relented from the disaster which he said he would bring on them, and he did not carry it out.

**Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 62**

CW p.88

*Refrain*

**The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

My soul finds rest in God alone;\*  
my salvation comes from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation;\*  
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone;\*  
my hope comes from him.

*Refrain*

Though your riches increase,\*  
do not set your heart on them.

My salvation and my honor depend on God,\*  
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, O people;\*  
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Refrain*

**Second Lesson ----- 1 Corinthians 7:29–31**

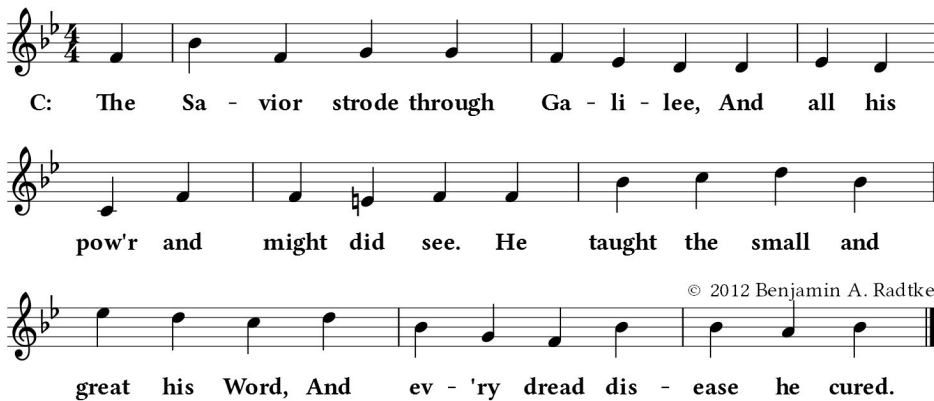
I also say this, brothers: The time is short. From now on, let those who have wives live as if they have none; those who weep, as if not weeping; those who rejoice, as if not rejoicing; those

who buy, as if not possessing; and those who use the world, as if not getting any use out of it. For the way of life that belongs to this world is passing away.

*Verse of the Day*

*Matthew 4:23*

*Tune: CW 89*



C: The Sa - vior strode through Ga - li - lee, And all his  
pow'r and might did see. He taught the small and  
great his Word, And ev - 'ry dread dis - ease he cured.

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*Stand.*

**Gospel ----- Mark 1:14–20**

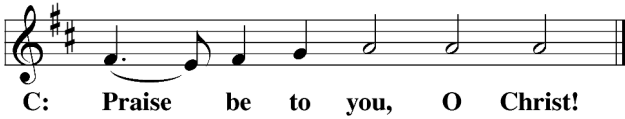
After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. “The time is fulfilled,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

As Jesus was going along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, since they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, “Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Immediately they left their

nets and followed him. Going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat mending the nets. Im-

mediately Jesus called them. They left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



*Be seated.*

**Hymn of the Day ----- O God from God, O Light from Light**

CW 85

1. O God from God, O Light from Light,  
O Prince of Peace and King of kings,  
To you in heaven's glory bright The song of praise forever rings.  
To him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again,  
Be all the glory he has won, All thanks and praise! Amen, Amen.
2. Deep in the prophets' sacred page, Grand in the poets' winged word,  
Slowly, in type, from age to age The nations saw their coming Lord;  
Till through the deep Judean night  
Rang out the song, "Good will to men!"  
Sung by heav'n's hosts in splendor bright,  
Re-echoed now, "Good will!" Amen.
3. That life of truth, those deeds of love,  
That death of pain mid hate and scorn—  
These all are past, and now above  
He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.  
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates! So sang the angel hosts again.  
Lift up your heads—your King awaits. We lift them up, Amen, Amen.



4. Sing to the Lord a mighty song; Sing to his name, his glories tell!  
 Sing, heav'nly hosts, your praise prolong,  
 And all on earth, your anthem swell!  
 Worthy the Lamb for sinners slain! Forever let the song ascend!  
 Worthy the Lamb enthroned to reign; Glory and pow'r! Amen, Amen.

**Sermon** ----- **Mark 1:14-20**

*Jesus' Call Is Urgent*

*Stand.*

*We Praise You, O God*

*Te Deum*



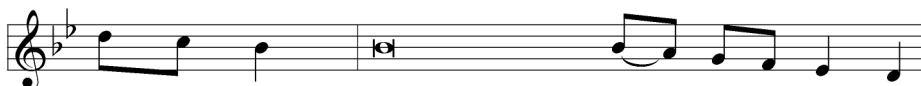
**C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,**



**Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,**



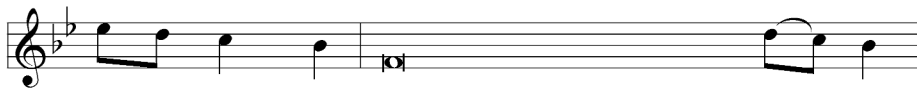
**cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of**



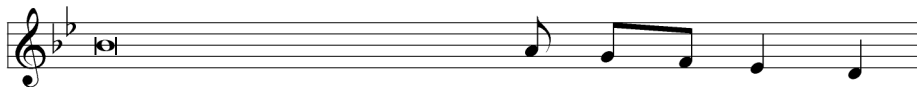
**heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.**



**The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of**



proph-ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



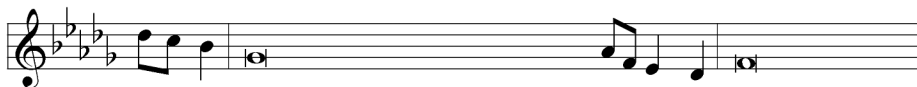
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

*Be seated.*

*Offering*

*Stand.*

*Prayer of the Church*

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with “hear our prayer.”*

M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, You desire not the death of a sinner but that all would repent and believe the Gospel. In the epiphany of Your Son, Your time of salvation and Your kingdom have come near. As this world passes away, give faithfulness and urgency to Your Church to proclaim the Gospel of our God to all people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Online giving option:  
[mluther.org/offerings](http://mluther.org/offerings)



Offerings support the spread  
of the Gospel here and around the world.

- M: Lord of the harvest, as You called Simon Peter and Andrew, James and John to follow You and made them fishers of men, so send faithful preachers of Your Gospel in our time. Increase the spirit of generosity to all who support the missionaries, seminaries, colleges and other institutions of our Church for the spread of the Gospel and the service of God's people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Eternal Lord, in view of every current distress as the present form of this world passes away, give constancy and contentment to Your people in their God-given stations. Give comfort and faithfulness to the married, and strengthen them to pass on the faith to the next generation. Show kindness also to the unmarried and assure them of the holiness of their place in life, that they would be freed from anxiety and attend to holiness in body and spirit, undividedly devoted to You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, preserve our nation with its rulers. Call to repentance those who have forgotten You. Spare President Joseph Biden, Governor Michael Parson; and all who serve for the good of this people. Do not let disaster befall us, but preserve us in peace and quietness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Merciful Father, turn us from every distracting anxiety and the dealings of this world that would draw our hearts away from Your blessed Gospel and its end, eternal life. Give us confidence in the resurrection and the peace of a clean conscience by the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name. Graciously behold and help those for whom we pray [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Gracious Lord, in Your Holy Sacrament You deliver the Gospel proclaimed by Your Son and won by His death in His true body and blood. Work repentance and faith in all who commune, and unite them in a sincere confession of Your divine truth at this altar. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: Amen.

*Lord's Prayer*

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Sanctus*



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

*Words of Institution*

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of four notes: G4, A4, Bb4, and A4. The first two notes are beamed together, and the last two are also beamed together. The piece ends with a double bar line.

*O Christ, Lamb of God*

*Agnus Dei*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of 12 notes: G4, A4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, Bb3, A3, G3. The notes are mostly quarter notes, with some beaming.

world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you

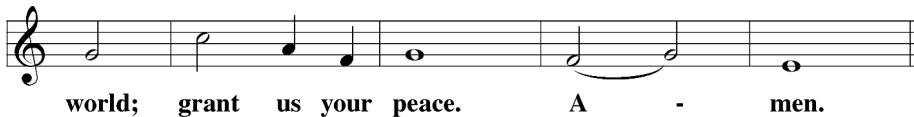
A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of 12 notes: G4, A4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, Bb3, A3, G3. The notes are mostly quarter notes, with some beaming.

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of 12 notes: G4, A4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, Bb3, A3, G3. The notes are mostly quarter notes, with some beaming.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of 12 notes: G4, A4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, Bb3, A3, G3. The notes are mostly quarter notes, with some beaming.



*Be seated.*

DISTRIBUTION

*In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only members would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions, please speak with the pastor.*

*During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:*

**Hymn ----- How Lovely Shines the Morning Star**

CW 79

1. How lovely shines the Morning Star! The nations see and hail afar  
The light in Judah shining.  
O David's Son of Jacob's race, My Bridegroom and my King of grace,  
For you my heart is pining.  
Lowly, Holy, Great and glorious, O victorious Prince of graces,  
Filling all the heav'nly places.
2. O highest joy by mortals won, True Son of God and Mary's Son,  
The highborn King of ages!  
In your blest body let me be, E'en as the branch is in the tree,  
Your life my life supplying.  
Sighing, Crying For the savor Of your favor  
Resting never Till I rest in you forever.



3. O mighty Father, in your Son You loved me ere you had begun  
This ancient world's foundation.  
Your Son has made a friend of me, And when in spirit him I see,  
I joy in tribulation.  
What bliss Is this! He is living, To me giving  
Life forever; Nothing me from him can sever.
  
4. Oh, joy to know that you, my Friend, Are Lord, beginning without end,  
The first and last, eternal!  
And you at length—O glorious grace—Will take me to that holy place,  
The home of joys supernal.  
Amen, Amen! Come and meet me, Quickly greet me! With deep yearning,  
Lord, I look for your returning.
  
5. Lift up the voice and strike the string, Let all glad sounds of music ring  
In God's high praises blended.  
Christ will be with me all the way, Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day  
Till trav'ling days are ended.  
Sing out, Ring out Triumph glorious, O victorious Chosen nation;  
Praise the God of your salvation.

**Hymn ----- Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord**

CW 309

1. Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.  
Offered was he for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and himself the priest.
  
2. He that his saints in this world rules and shields  
To all believers life eternal yields,  
With heav'nly bread makes them that hunger whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.

3. Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere,  
 And take the pledges of salvation here.  
 Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow;  
 In this your feast of love be with us now.

THANKSGIVING

*Stand.*

*Thank the Lord*



**C:** Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

- M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

*Blessing*

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Be seated.*

**Hymn ----- O Christ, Who Called the Twelve**

CWS 770

1. O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and follow you,  
Forsaking old, familiar ways For ventures bold and new:  
Grant us to hear your call To risk security  
And, bound in heart and will to you, Find perfect liberty.
2. O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for ages sealed,  
Whose words and works awakened faith, The ways of God revealed:  
Instruct us now, we pray, By your empow'ring Word.  
True teacher, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.

3. O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd never trod  
To serve, to suffer, teach, proclaim The nearer reign of God:  
Send us on ways where faith Transcends timidity,  
Where love informs and hope sustains Both life and ministry.
4. O Christ, th'apostles' Lord, The martyrs' strength and song,  
The crucified and risen King To whom the saints belong:  
Though generations pass, Our tribute still we bring,  
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise, Our lives an offering.



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