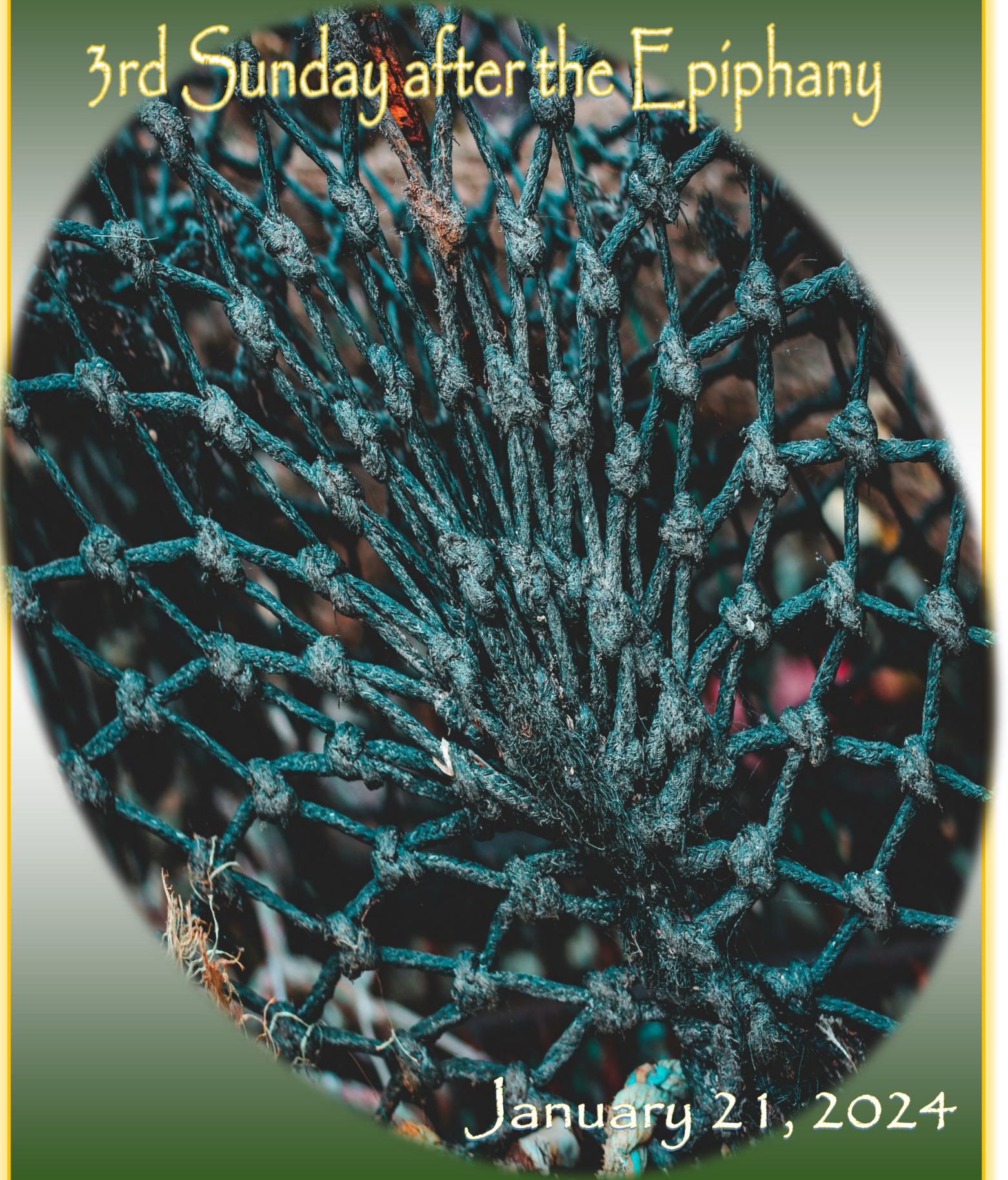


3rd Sunday after the Epiphany



January 21, 2024



## Ascension Lutheran Church

1105 N. Washington Blvd.

Ogden, UT 84404

801.782.2810

### Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community.

It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**.

Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshipping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

**Children are always welcome in worship services; however please know a nursery space is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.**

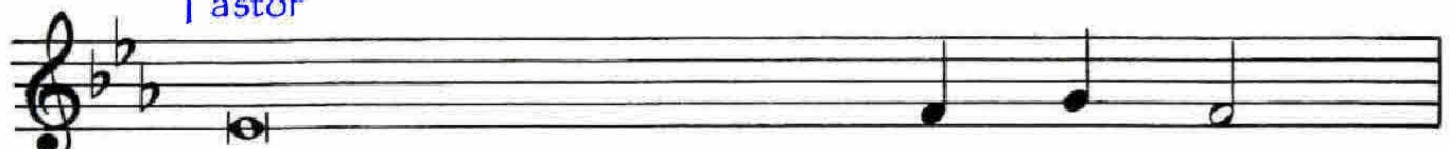
#### Introduction

*As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.*

# Welcome to Worship

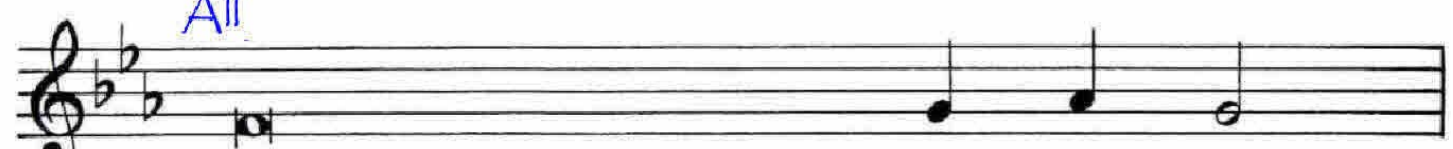
## Opening Song

Pastor



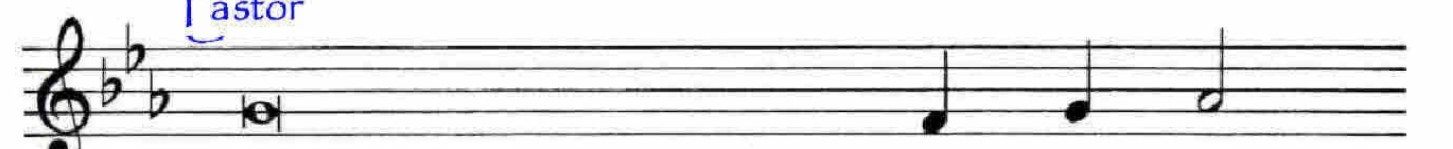
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All



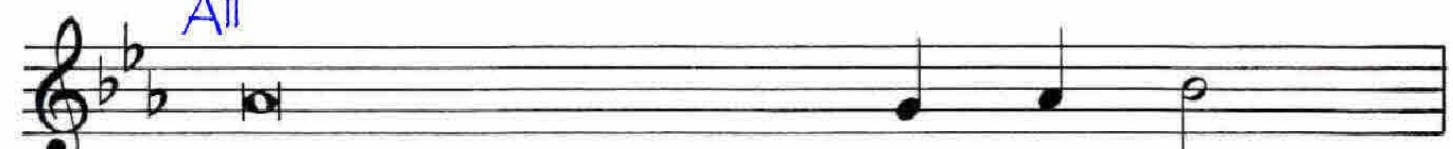
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Pastor



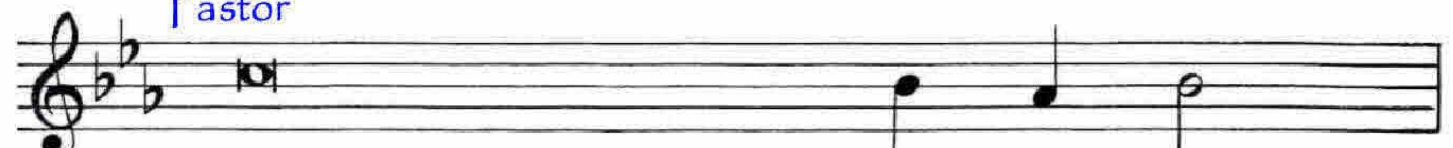
Stay with us now, for it is morning,

All



and the day is just be - gun.

Pastor



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All



and shine within your peo - ple here. —

All:



1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly glo - ry, lov - ing  
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the  
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's  
blaz - ing sun of dawn, of the light of peace and  
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev 'ry land and race. Now as  
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that  
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



morn - ing dawns a - round us, we shall raise our songs to  
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry  
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and  
soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us  
way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new. \_\_\_\_\_  
free and make us whole. \_\_\_\_\_  
on to end - less day. \_\_\_\_\_

*P* Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
creator of darkness and light,  
word of truth,  
wind sweeping over the waters.

**All Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection*

God, our rock and refuge,

**All we pour out our hearts before you.**

**We have known you but have not always loved you.**

**We have wounded one another  
and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit  
dwelling in each of us.**

**Remember your covenant.**

**Renew your creation.**

**Restore us,**

**that we might proclaim your good news to all.**

**Amen.**

*P* The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of ✝ Jesus Christ,  
your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

**All Amen.**

*You may be Seated*

# Prayer of the Day



**All** Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the

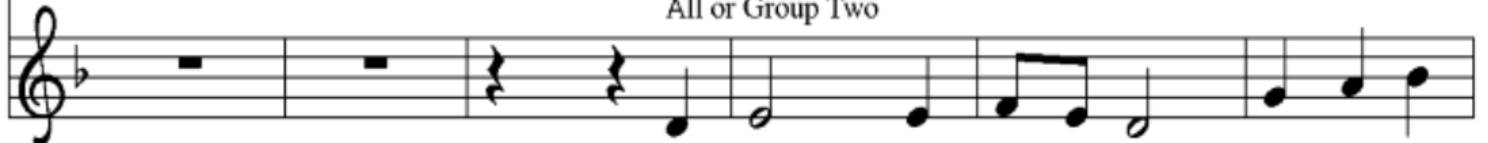


lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.



**Women** O God, I call to you, come to me now; oh, hear my

All or Group Two



**Men** O God, I call to you, come to me



**W** voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like



**M** now; oh, hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise



**W** in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an



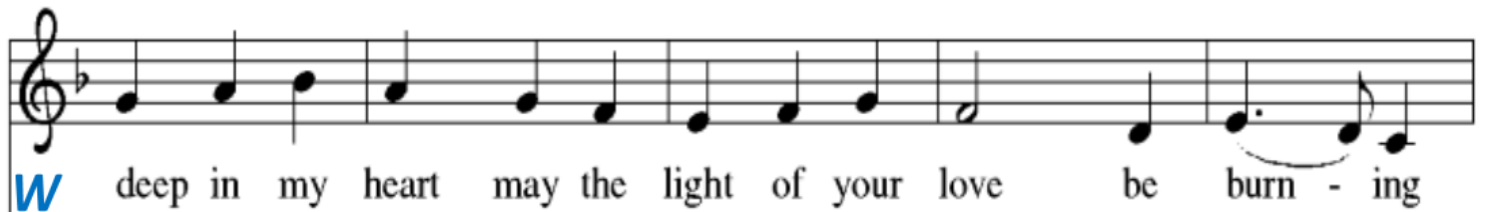
**M** up like in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my



**W** of-fer-ing to you. Keep watch with - in me, God;



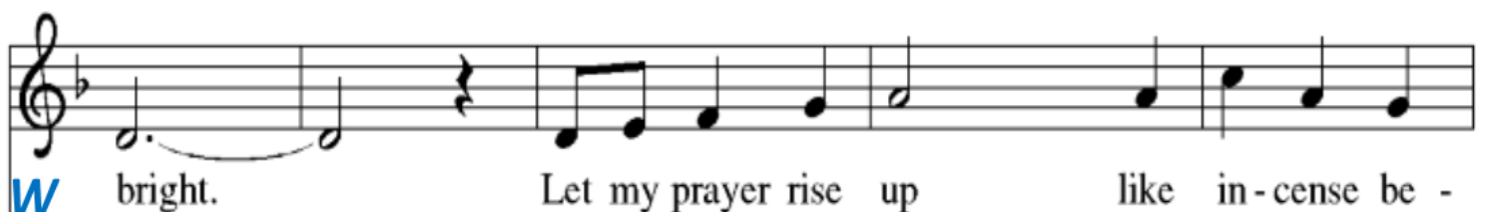
**M** hands as an of-fer-ing to you. Keep



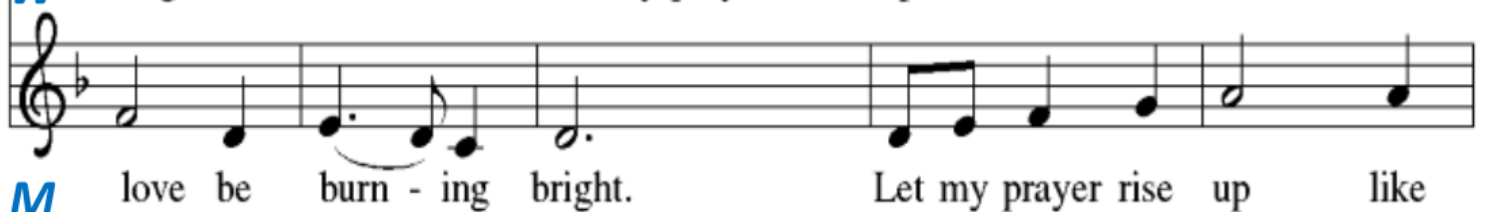
**W** deep in my heart may the light of your love be burn - ing




**M** watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your



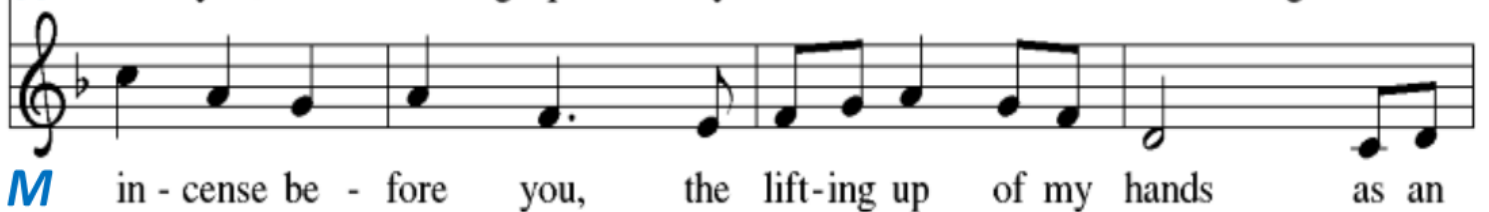
**W** bright. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -



**M** love be burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise up like



**W** fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to



**M** in - cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

**W** you. All praise to the God of all— Cre - a - tor of

**M** of-fer-ing to you. All praise to the

**W** life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.

**M** God of all— Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the

**W** Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the

**M** Spir-it of love. Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

**W** lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

**M** fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

Text: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 141  
 Music: Marty Haugen  
 Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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## A Reading from Jonah, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter

*The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So 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. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When 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.

*Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

*L* Word of God, Word of Life.

**All Thanks be to God!**

## A Reading from 1 Corinthians, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter

*Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and 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, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

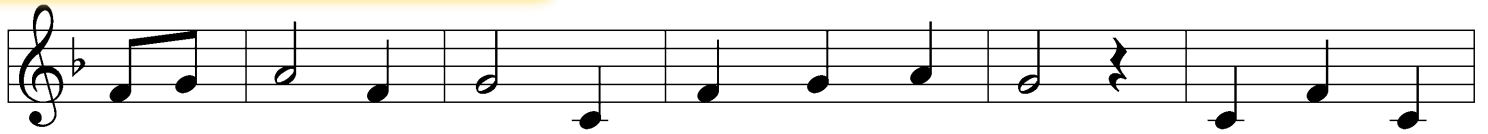
*1 Corinthians 7:29-31*

*L* Word of God, Word of Hope.

**All Thanks be to God!**

## Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Reading

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**All** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the

nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Mark 1:14-20

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Message

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit. You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore



1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing  
2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther  
3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing  
4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly  
trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my  
love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's  
long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing

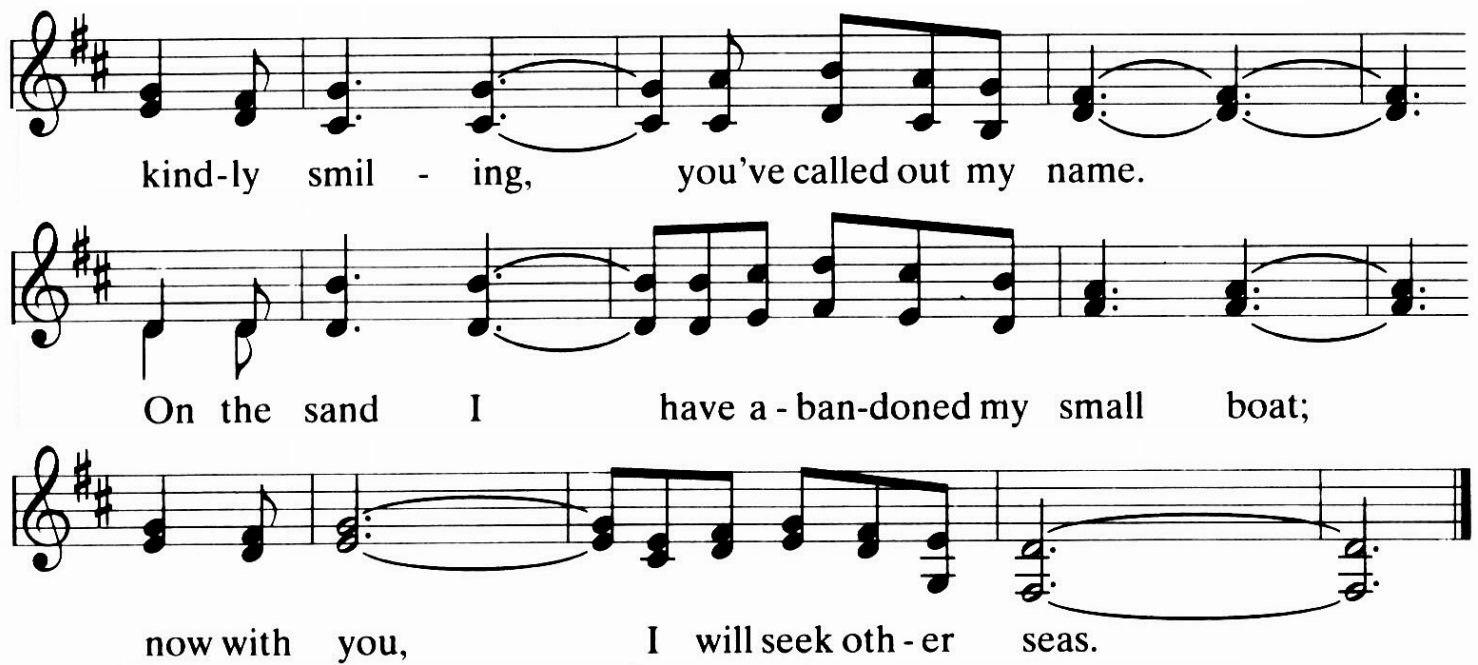


ask - ing for me to fol - low.  
fish nets and will for work - ing.  
will - ing to go on lov - ing.  
Friend, you have come to call me.



Refrain

Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes;



kind-ly smil - ing, you've called out my name.  
 On the sand I have a - ban-doned my small boat;  
 now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

## Apostles' Creed

*P* Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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.

## Prayers of the People

[You may be Seated](#)

*L* As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.



O Lord, hear our prayer we of-fer up to you; O Lord, hear our prayer.

*(each prayer petition ends with)*

*L:* God of grace, *All:* receive our prayer.

## Sharing the Peace of Christ

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

*In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the Peace of our risen Lord by "speaking" that Peace through sign language.*

*P* Christ become Peace with you.

*All* And also with you.

## Offering

[You may be Seated](#)

*While we still will not physically pass the offering plates we will continue to have the plates available at the entrance to receive your offerings and will lift them up in thanksgiving before the throne of grace.*



All that we have \_\_\_\_\_ and all that we of - fer \_\_\_\_\_



comes from a heart both fright - ened and free. \_\_\_\_\_

Take what we bring now and give what we need; \_\_\_\_\_

All done in His name. \_\_\_\_\_

## Offertory Prayer

*P* Blessed are you, Holy One,  
for all good things come from you.

**All** As we give back to you a portion of your blessings,  
may we be a blessing or your love and light in the world.  
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.  
Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek  
and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

*P* The Lord be with you

**All** And also with you.

*P* Lift up your hearts.

**All** We lift them to the Lord.

*P* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*P* 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.

*P* 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*P* Let us approach the throne of grace as we pray as Jesus taught us:

*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.**

## The Invitation

*P* At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.  
Come and see.

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

*Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant*

shed for you and  
for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin



**All are Welcome!**

## Precious Lord, Take My Hand



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,  
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.  
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.  
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



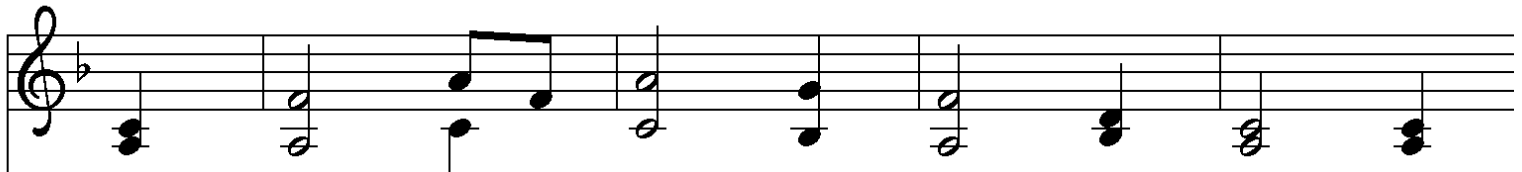
Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993

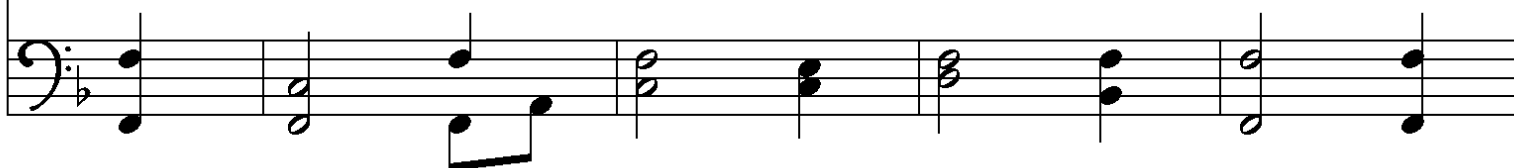
Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey

Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

## Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright





saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

*P* The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you  
and keep you in his grace.

**All Amen**

*P* Let us pray,  
Giver of every gift,

**All Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.  
Raise us to life by your power  
for the benefit of all and to your glory,  
now and forever. Amen.**

# Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

## Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

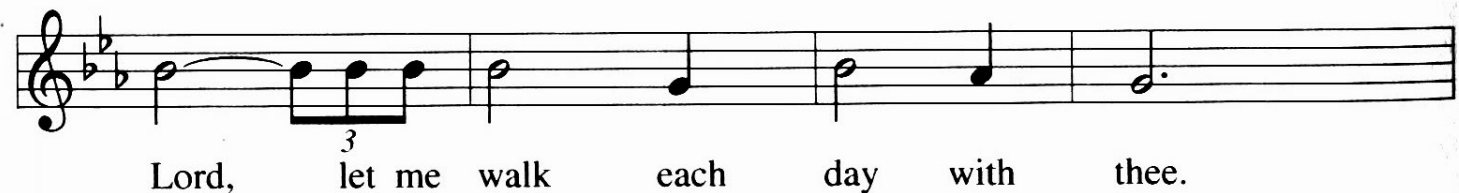
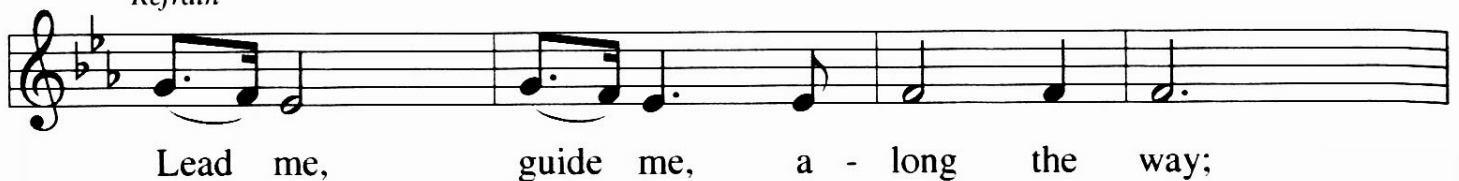
*P* God who names you,  
Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
✠ bless you and remain with you always.

**All** Amen

## Sending

## Lead Me, Guide Me

*Refrain*



- 1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
- 2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
- 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,

to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.  
 be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.  
 I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.

Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.  
 I am put - ting all . . . . my trust in thee.  
 Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

## Dismissal

*P* Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Front Cover:

Photo by [Crawford Jolly](#) on [Unsplash](#)  
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Readings for next Sunday,  
 January 28<sup>th</sup>

<b>First Reading:</b>	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
<b>Psalm:</b>	Psalm 111
<b>Second Reading:</b>	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
<b>Gospel:</b>	Mark 1:21-28

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