



All Saints Lutheran Church



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Season of Epiphany

January 24, 2021

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

L: Praise the God of all Creation.

**C: Worship the One who calls us—
speaking with a different voice,
offering an unexpected invitation.**

L: Celebrate the presence of our loving God.

C: Rejoice, the realm of God is near.

Confession and forgiveness

L: Holy One, what a blessing and privilege we share to be surrounded today by your Word and your wisdom.

C: But, like Jonah, we sometimes are jealous of what we share here and try to hoard it up.

L: We know that others are longing and thirsting for this truth, this hope, and this abundant forgiveness.

C: Forgive us our reluctance to open our doors, open our hearts to others; those like us, and those who are strange to us. We repent of our hesitations and unwillingness to witness to those we have considered strangers and even enemies for fear they just might become friends.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. [silence is held for reflection]

The one who calls us to this place calls us to reconciliation through grace.

God will not deny a repentant heart or an open spirit.

Know that you are forgiven and walk in the new way that is made known to you in God's love.

C: Amen

Gathering Hymn "Jesus Calls us; o'er the Tumult"

ELW 696

1. Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea
Day by day his clear voice sounding,
Saying Christian, follow me

3. Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying "Christian, love me more."

4. In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these"

Prayer of the Day

All: 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.

Reading Jonah 3: 1-10

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Will You Come and Follow Me"

ELW 798

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Offering Prayer

L: Great God of Heaven and Earth,
you call us to leave behind our preoccupations
and to follow you into the future.
Sometimes we find your call challenging.
We are comfortable, maybe even complacent, in our present.
May this act of giving be a gesture of our willingness
to follow where you lead.
In Jesus 'name, we pray.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the people

L: Almighty Compassionate God,
You care for all your people in all places, you call us to bring good news to them, even when we are reluctant.
Teach us to listen. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: You care about this country during these tough economic times, these uncertain times, these times of transition as a new president and new cabinet begin their work. Teach us to come together to love and support one another. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: You care about countries and the people of Ghana, Indonesia, Iran, Brazil, Great Britain, and many others who have problems and needs just like we do. Teach us to open our hearts to the cries coming from beloved children of God around the world. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: You care about those who are sick, in pain, in the hospital, home bound, and in nursing homes, your compassion **extends to them.** Teach us to do our part to bring your healing love to those in need. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: You care about those who carry heavy burdens, broken hearts, grieving, lonely and anxious, your compassion extends to them as well. Teach us to help those in need by bearing their burdens and bringing them your light. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: You care for the great number of people losing their jobs, losing their homes, losing their savings, as well as those who have had none of those for a long time. Teach us to give of our abundance to help those in need. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: You care for those of us who have claimed the promises of their baptism and are no longer with us. Teach us to remember their witness and do our best to live like those saints who have gone on before us. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Lord we thank you for your compassion, your care, your mercy, and the good news of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Benediction

L: Just as the word of God came to Jonah the word of God comes to us.

Go despite your fears.

Speak the truth of God.

Love your neighbor and you enemy.

Forgive as you have been forgiven.

Receive grace upon grace overflowing from the fullness of God.

God goes with you today and everyday.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn "Be Thou My Vision"

ELW 793

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Accompanist: Chris Starr