

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024

10:15 am

Prelude

Welcome

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.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge, **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.**

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. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: ELW #661 "I Love to Tell the Story"

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2. I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet! I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy word. Refrain

3. I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I wing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. Refrain

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

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.

Readings and Psalm

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

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?"

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.

Psalm: Psalm 62:5-12

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

⁶**God 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.

⁸**Put 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.

¹⁰**Put 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.

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

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

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.

²⁹Brothers 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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news. *Alleluia.* (Mark 1:15)

The Holy Gospel according to the book of Mark, beginning with the first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

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.

¹⁴Now after John 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.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #696 "Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult"

(vs. 1, 3, & 5)

- 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"**
- 5. Jesus calls us! By your mercy, Savior, may we hear your call, give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.**

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

Apostle's 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.**

Pease

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

Offering Hymn ELW #686 "We Give Thee I Own" 1st verse

- 1. We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

Offering Prayer

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

Prayers of Intercession

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Communion Distribution

Distribution Hymn: ELW #815

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

- 1. I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God se 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 in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

- 2. 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

- 3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain***

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

Post-communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

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

Sending Hymn: ELW #810 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

- 1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain forever near me, my master and my friend. I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.**
- 2. Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near, I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.**
- 3. Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self will. Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.**
- 4. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.**

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Announcements:

- **Bible Study** session on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 9 am.
- **Annual Meeting** for Calvary Lutheran Church is Sunday, January 28, 2024 following our worship service.
- **The snow date for the annual meeting** will be Sunday, February 4, 2024.
- **Building Committee meeting** on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 6:30 pm.
- **Anniversary Committee meeting** on Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm. All members are invited to attend.
- **On February 12, 2024, the same date for Super Bowl #58,** Calvary is asking each family unit, if you are able, to donate \$58 to our noisy offering. This money is earmarked for the Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf in Mapleton.
- **Ash Wednesday** is February 14, 2024. A meal will be offered at 5:30 pm and worship service will be held at 6:30 pm.

Calvary Lutheran Church
19216 Rapidan Avenue
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Pastor David Reedstrom
Ministers: All Members

Church Phone: 507-278-3317
E-mail: office@calvaryrapidan.org
Website: calvaryrapidan.org
Facebook: Calvary Lutheran Rapidan

Portions of the liturgy are from sundaysandseasons.com © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB141947

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Broadcast and other copyright permissions: One License M-401357.