

Third Sunday After the Epiphany

January 22, 2023

As We Gather

When Jesus appeared on the scene of human history, His coming was like the light of a new day. Isaiah had prophesied a day would come filled with joy as at the harvest or when victors divide spoils. But daylight also reveals problems covered by darkness, like the divisions at the Church in Corinth, as Paul writes. Jesus' light not only reveals, but it also forgives, heals, and enlivens. People brought the sick and demon-possessed to our Lord, and the first four disciples jumped at the opportunity to follow Him. What ills shall we bring to worship today for resolution? Sins requiring forgiveness, gloom needing joy, divisions seeking reconciliation? Jesus came into human history to die and rise for us; today He comes through Word and Sacrament in grace and mercy to meet our deepest needs. Let us rejoice in the light of God's forgiveness, mercy, and love.



While walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew His brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. And going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed Him. *Matthew 4:18-22*

+PREPARATION+

Opening Hymn: LSB #412 "The People That in Darkness Sat"

Invocation

Opening Sentences

1 Corinthians 1:18; Psalm 27:14

Confession and Absolution

Matthew 4:17; Philippians 3:20; 1 Corinthians 1:18

+WORD+

Kyrie II: LSB 944

sts. 1e-3e

Hymn: LSB #849 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

Salutation

Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 9:1–4* (Light and joy will replace gloom and sadness.)

Psalm 27: LSB #723” The Lord Is My Light” *sts. ref–3*

Epistle Reading *1 Corinthians 1:10–18* (There should not be divisions in the one Church.)

Holy Gospel *Matthew 4:12–25* (In Galilee, Jesus calls the first four disciples.)

Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Day: LSB #837 “Lift High the Cross”
(Children are dismissed for Sunday School)

Sermon

Offering (The offerings previously collected are brought forward)

Offertory Hymn: LSB #398 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” *sts. 1, 4*
(Sung as offerings are brought forward)

Prayer of the Church

Lord’s Prayer *Mathew 6:9-13*

Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26*

Closing Hymn: LSB #826 “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying”

Acknowledgments

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