

# Third Sunday after Epiphany



## Word and Sacrament

*“Little Church with a BIG Heart”*

**Saint Bartholomew Lutheran Church**

January 25, 2026 11:00AM



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## **Welcome to Worship!**

This morning we celebrate the **Third Sunday after Epiphany**.

The lyrics to the hymns are in the red hymnals in the pews.

We extend special greetings to all our guests who are with us today. Your presence, along with our members and friends, is truly valued. Know that all of God's people are always welcome here at St. Bartholomew.

## **Holy Communion**

Saint Bart's celebrates the real presence of Jesus through the bread and wine. We invite all to come and share. At the time of communion, you will come up to the Altar and receive the elements.

## **Praying People**

Everyone is invited to offer their prayer concerns during the Prayers of the Church.

## **Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God's grace and mercy.

## **Announcements**

We will have a **children's sermon** today. Afterwards, children will leave for the **nursery**.

The parish **Annual Meeting** will be held downstairs immediately after service today. All voting members are expected to be present. Those not eligible to vote may observe the meeting. We thank the Council members who are ending their terms for their faithful service.

**Martha's Breakfast** is this Tuesday at Pat's Diner at 9 a.m. Please sign up on the list in Fellowship Hall.

The deadline for submitting material for the Lent/Easter newsletter is February 3.

The **Eternal Candle** is lit in January in memory of her husband Bill by Barb Schendlinger on their anniversary.

We can use any food or monetary donations to help our community in need.

Are there any other announcements?

Bell/Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness***

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**C** Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C** you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**C** Amen.

P The former things have passed away,  
 and new things God now declares:  
 Like a spring of water that never fails,  
 God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
 and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.  
 May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
 and bless you with the gift of peace.

C Amen.

## Gathering Hymn: ELW # 674

### Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

*Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTED, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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## *APOSTOLIC GREETING*

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

### **Kyrie**



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## Canticle of Praise



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

## Prayer Of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## Children's Sermon and Nursery

## WORD

A I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth (Psalm 34:1). Lord, bless the reading of your word. Make it come alive in our midst.

C **Amen.**

### **First Reading:** Isaiah 9:1-4

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 27:1, 4-9**

A <sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

C <sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;**

**to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

A <sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

C <sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

A <sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

C <sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

A <sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

C Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

## **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

<sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

A Word of God, word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

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## Gospel Acclamation



- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Gospel:** Matthew 4:12-23

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the  
gentiles—

<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the  
kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup> As he walked 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 fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them,  
“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.”

<sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he  
went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of  
Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father  
Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately  
they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their  
synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and  
curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

## **SERMON**

**Hymn of the Day:** ELW # 798

# Will You Come and Follow Me

## *The Summons*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949  
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional  
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*A brief silence.*

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor, and we praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this garden planet.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority (*especially in Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, and the United States*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy Lover, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick (*especially Joe, Nick, Bob, Justin, Billy, Gloria, Rosemary, Nelson, Tom, Shirley, Rich, Heather, Barb, and Gail*). We pray for all who are affected by natural disasters.

Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for our partner churches: Abiding Presence and Prince of Peace; We pray for our Bishop Christa Compton; We also pray for the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays, and for those celebrating anniversaries; also for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

At this time, you may offer up prayers for loved ones, thanksgivings to God, or any other intercessions silently or aloud... **(Pause)** Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

**(PASTOR)** Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.  
**C Amen.**

## THE OFFERING

### OFFERING PRAYER

A God of majesty,  
no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.  
Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord is here.

**C His Spirit is with us.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**C It is right to give thanks and praise.**

## *PREFACE*

P All honor and praise be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty Creator, everliving God,  
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:  
for at this time we celebrate your glory  
made present in our midst.

In the coming of the Magi  
the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.  
In the waters of baptism  
Jesus was revealed as the Christ,  
the Savior sent to redeem us.  
In the water made wine  
the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.  
Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
 the Word made flesh.

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.  
Again, 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.  
**C Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.  
**C Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

*All are welcome at God's Table. If you would like to share in communion with us today, you are more than welcome to do so. There are no prerequisites at God's table and nothing we do to earn a seat at the table, it is freely given to us by God. Please, come and eat!*

Distribution

## **TABLE BLESSING**

**P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**C** **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**+Sending+**

## **Benediction**

**P** May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise

**✝** bless you now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn:** ELW # 841

## Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,  
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,  
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.  
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;  
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,  
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet  
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
 come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;  
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,  
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,  
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last  
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938  
 Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873-1954

## **Dismissal**

**P** Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude*