



January 24, 2020
Third Sunday after Epiphany

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*We are called to proclaim and celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we are nurtured,
prepared, and sent to be the light of Christ in our world.*

Pastor: Pr. Ryan Rouse

L = Leader; C = Congregation

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE "Amazing Grace" from "Virginia Harmony," arranged by Victor Labenske

WORDS OF WELCOME

CONFESION AND FORGIVENESS

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C Amen.

L Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L Holy God,

C you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.

We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.

We distrust those who are not like us.

We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.

Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone.

Even before the words are on our tongues,

you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

L How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **C Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "O God beyond All Praising" ELW #880 (PG. 5)

GREETING

L **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.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray: Almighty God, ...

C 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.

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK TO US

FIRST READING 1 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 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 nev- | er be shaken.

⁷In God is my deliverance | and my honor;
God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

⁸**Put your trust in God al- | ways, 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 can- | not 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 be- | longs 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.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING 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.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

ELW# 608 (Pg. 6)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

WE SHARE THE MEAL

OFFERING/MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L O God, receive these gifts as you receive us:

C like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.

**Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service
to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

WE SEND TO SERVE

SENDING

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

L God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter keep you in peace. **C Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "Here I Am, Lord" ELW #574 (PG. 6)

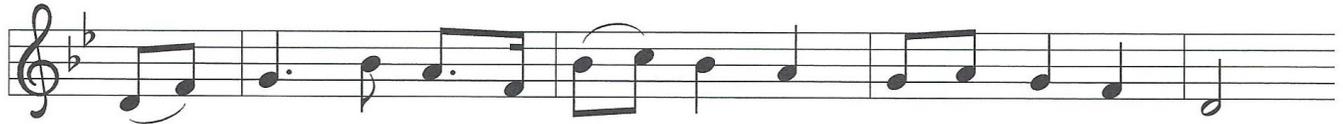
DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

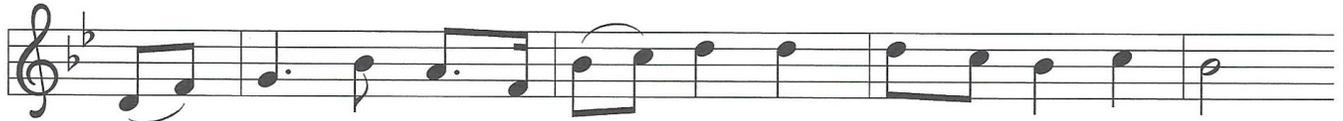
POSTLUDE "Lord, Today" by Darryl Ducote and Gary Daigle

O God beyond All Praising

880



1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
 2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,
 3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



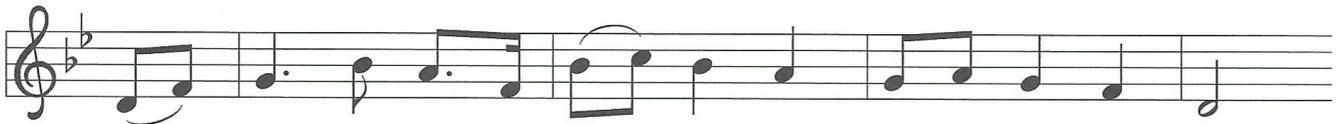
and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
 its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
 that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



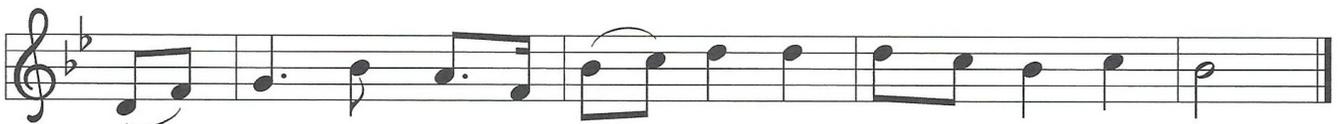
for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
 but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown-
 and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:
 though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav-en's gar - den grown:
 we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
 for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
 to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
 and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

608 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Here I Am, Lord

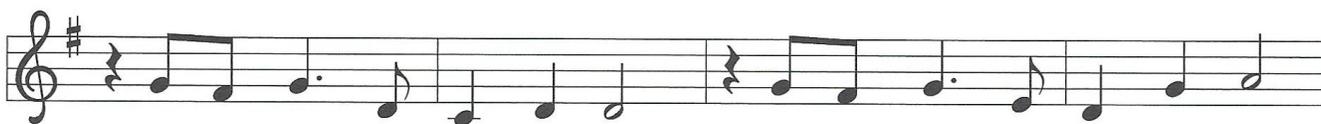
574



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



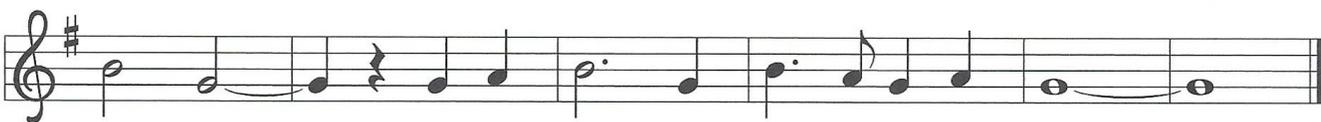
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.