

Traditional Worship

January 25, 2026

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Lectionary 3

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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Three Settings of “Rise, Shine, You People!” – Lynn Peterson & Charles W. Ore

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL *

*As the bell is rung the assembly stands for the Welcome & Opening Hymn.
A * in the order of service indicates that those who are able are invited to stand.*

WELCOME *

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN #665 *

Rise, Shine, You People!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *

Leader: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,
who is light in our darkness, our call, and our salvation.

Assembly: Amen.

Leader: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Holy and gracious God,

**Assembly: we confess that we have walked in shadows
when you call us into the light.**

We cling to divisions when you make us one.

We follow our own ways instead of leaving everything to follow your Son.

**We turn away from neighbors in need
and ignore your call to repentance and renewal.**

Forgive us, O God.

**Turn us again to you,
that we may live as people of your kingdom.**

Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news:

The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light.

In + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

God has broken the yoke of sin and fear and made us new.

We are called, claimed,
and sent to walk in the light of Christ.

Live in peace, and follow Jesus.

Assembly: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *

Leader: Lord God, your lovingkindness 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.

Assembly: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE

Canticle of Light and Darkness

*The cantor sings the Canticle Refrain and then the Assembly joins in the refrain.
The Lector then reads the verses and the Assembly joins in each refrain with the cantor.*



We look for light but find darkness,
for brightness, but walk in gloom.
We grope like those who have no eyes;
We stumble at noon as in the twilight...*Refrain*

If I say, "Let darkness cover me,
and the light about me be night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you,
the night is bright as the day,
for darkness is as light with you...*Refrain*

Blessed be your name, O God, forever.
You reveal deep and mysterious things;
you are light and in you is no darkness.
our darkness is passing away
and already the true light is shining...*Refrain*

SECOND READING

I Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² 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." ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *



GOSPEL LESSON *

Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fourth chapter.

Assembly: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

¹⁵ "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

¹⁶ 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."

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim,
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ 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. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ 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.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #815 *

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

APOSTLE'S CREED *

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

PRAYERS *

The assembly responds to each petition ending in "Merciful God,"

Assembly: receive our prayer

The assembly responds to the final petition ending with "made known to us in Christ Jesus our savior."

Assembly: Amen.

PEACE *

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

Assembly: And also with you!

*The assembly greets each other with
"peace be with you...and also with you."*

You're invited to share God's peace with those around you.

If you're worshipping on Facebook, you may also greet one another in the comments.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.

OFFERING

The Lord Is My Light – Craig Courtney

As we respond to hearing God's Word and prepare to feast at God's table we contemplate the many ways we serve the Kingdom of God through our time, talents, and gifts.

Offering plates will be passed among the assembly by the ushers.

Gifts can also be given electronically using the QR Code.



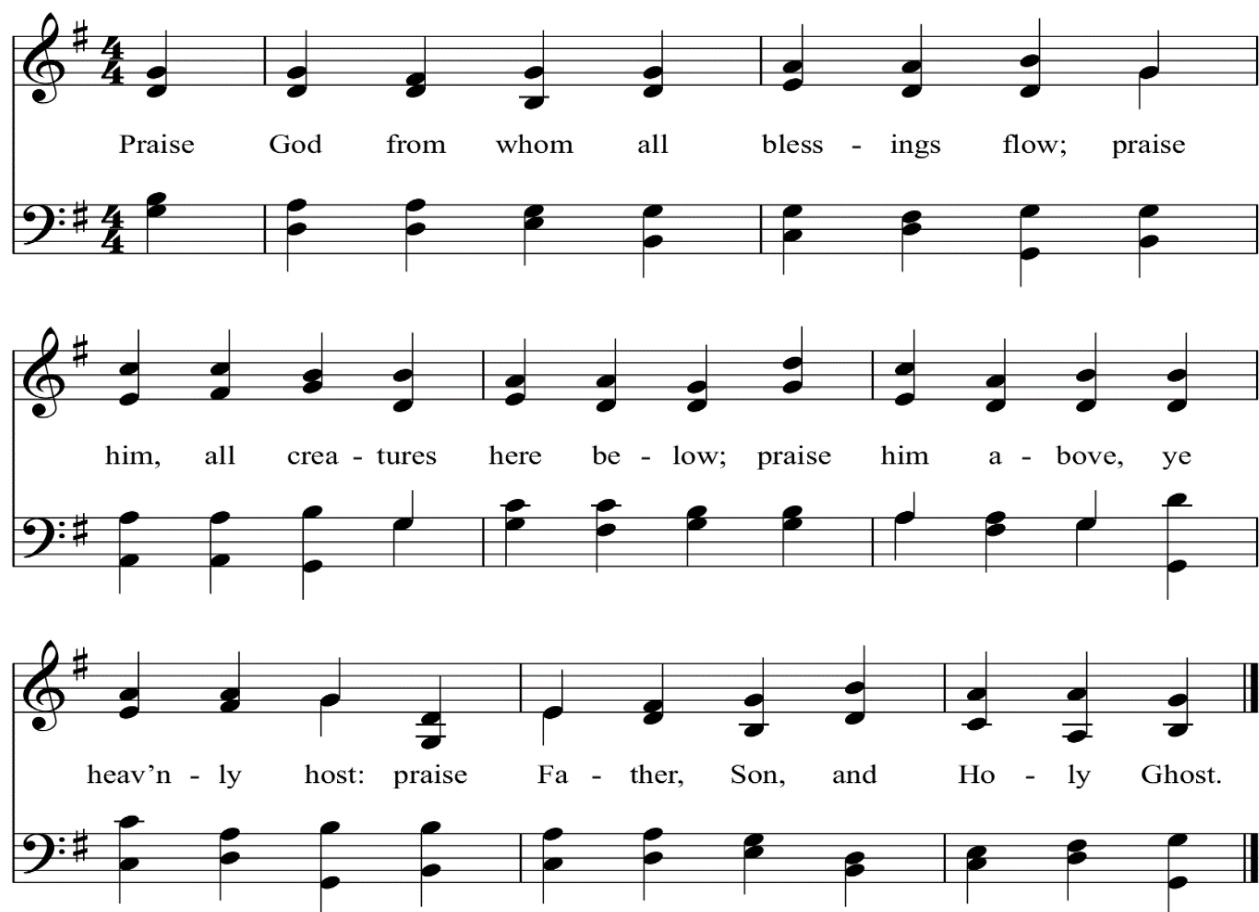
*The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear? Of whom shall I be afraid?
Though evildoers assail me,
When adversaries attack me, they stumble and fall.*

*The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear, of whom shall I be afraid?
Though an army besiege me,
Though war break out against me, my heart will not fear.*

*One thing I ask, one thing I seek of the Lord:
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 him in his temple.
For in the day of trouble he will hide me in his dwelling;
And he will set me high upon a rock.
Then shall my head be exalted above my enemies round about me;
I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.*

Psalm 27:1-6

OFFERTORY *



Musical score for Offertory, featuring a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the treble staff.

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

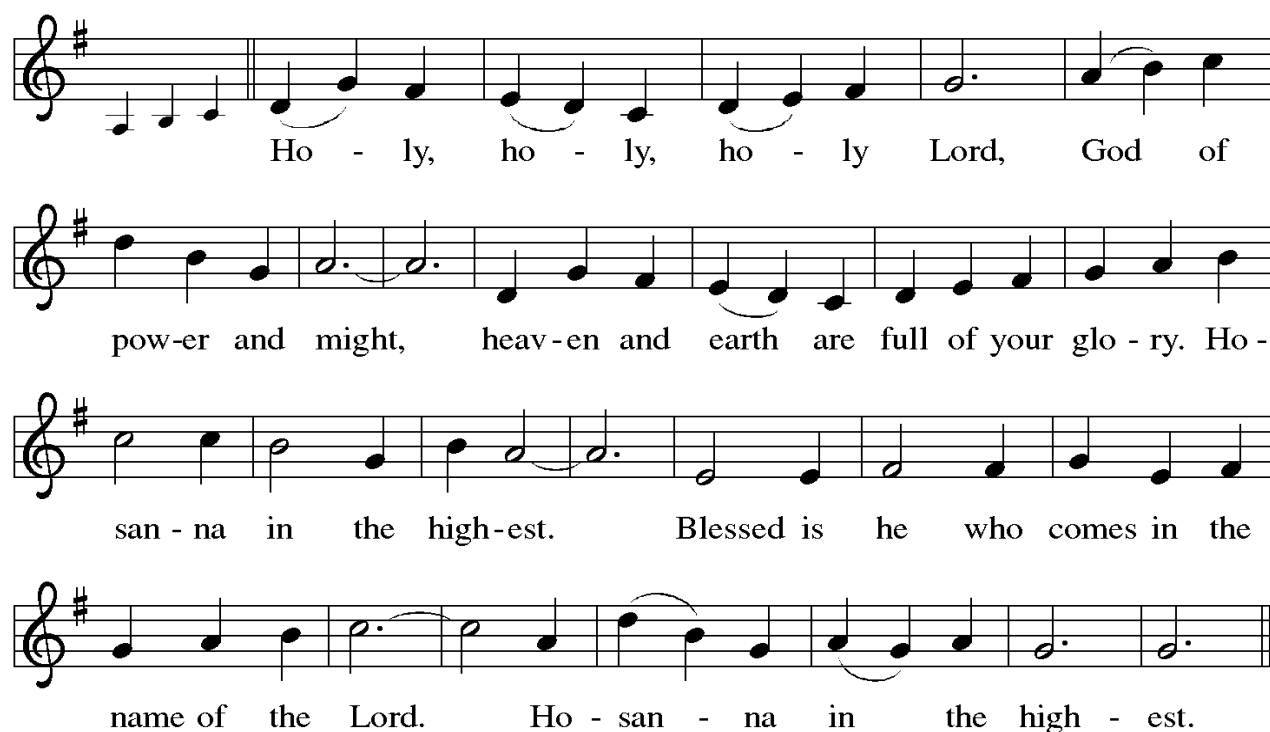
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You have shone the light of your glory into the darkness of the world.
In Jesus, you call us from our old ways, gather us into one body,
and make us fishers of people for the sake of your kingdom.
By water and the Word, you turn us from sin and fear
and set us on the path of life.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION *

Pastor: 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.

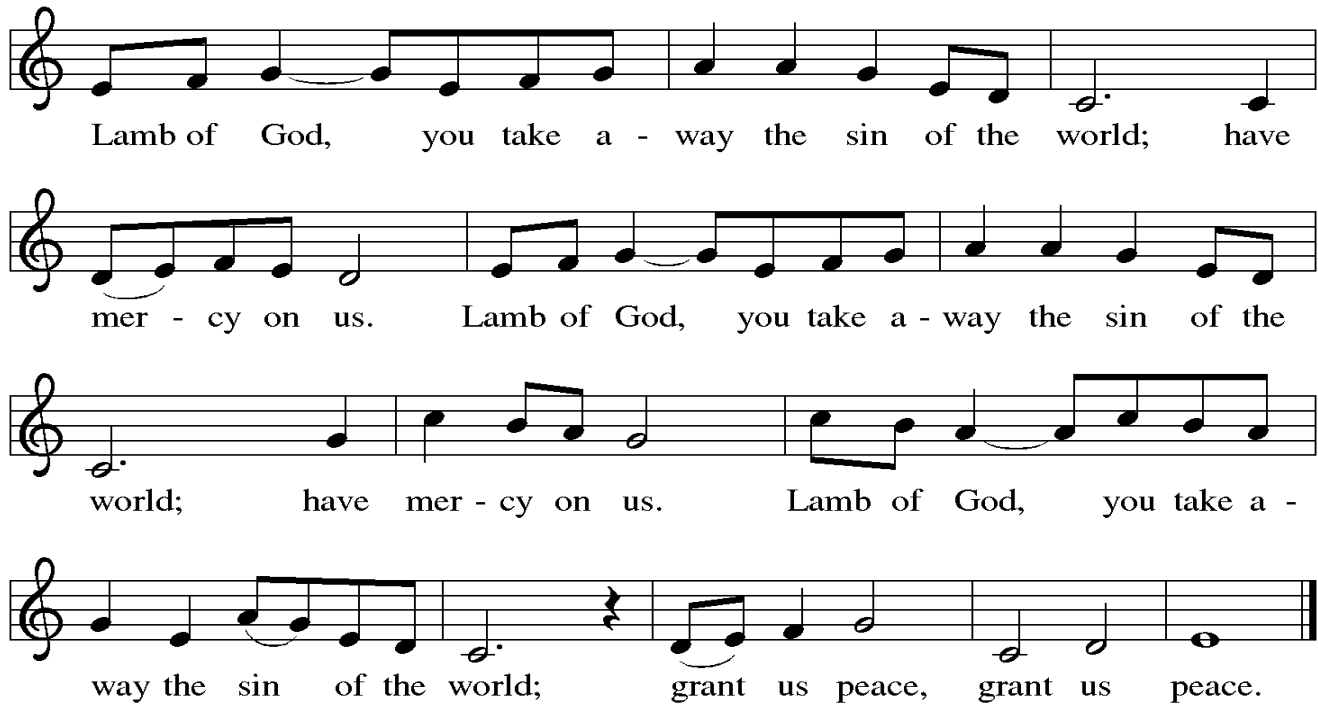
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

We pray as our Lord has taught us...

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.**

LAMB OF GOD *



HOLY COMMUNION

All those who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome to the table.

We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements from the servers.

You will be handed a wafer from the server and are invited to select a cup of wine from the tray.

Pre-packaged elements of grape juice and gluten free wafers are available

in the baskets at the communion rail and at each entrance to the sanctuary.

You may partake of the elements at the communion rail and dispose of the cups and packaging in the baskets at the end of each communion rail or take the elements back to your pew to partake of them and dispose of the cups and packaging after the service.

"Bread from the Lord's Table" and/or a pastoral blessing are available for children who do not yet commune.

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

As you are served communion:

Communion Server: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you

Communion Receiver: Amen.

Music at Distribution – *O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True*

8:00 & 11:10 – Organ – arr. Paul Manz

11:10 – Hymn #675

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Leader: 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.

Assembly: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION & SERVICE

BLESSING *

Leader: The God who calls you from darkness into light,
 + Jesus, who says, "Follow me,"
 and the Holy Spirit, who strengthens you for the journey,
 bless you now and always.

Assembly: Amen.

SENDING HYMN #314 *

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

DISMISSAL *

Leader: Go in peace.
 Share God's Light with the world.

Assembly: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *

Arise, Your Light Has Come! – arr. Wayne Wold

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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor Leslie Fox Lott, Transition Pastor
Pastor Denny Asp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Diane Schwiger-Alexander, Director of Youth & Family
Brian Timm, 8:00 Lector & Communion Assistant
Jane Baldwin, 11:10 Lector & Communion Assistant
Chad Baker, Director of Worship & Music
Samuel Owens, Cantor
Casey Calderhead, 11:10 Pianist

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FLOWER DEDICATION:

*The altar flowers are given in loving memory of Marie and Jason Hamil
by the George Schuliger family.*

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