

Third Sunday after Epiphany



January 21, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church... A warm welcome to all on this cold winter morning! May you know the fire of God's love as we worship in the name of Jesus, who showed us how to love.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"I Love to Tell the Story"

ELW #661

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P We start this service by reminding ourselves:
That it is not we who chose Christ,

C but Christ who chose us,

P That we are not here because of our goodness,

C but because of Christ's grace,

P That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

C but to allow Christ to enlighten us,

P That we have not come to be entertained

C but to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Trusting in the promise of grace,
let us pour out our hearts before God.

Ps. 62:8

**C Forgiving God,
we repent of all the ways we turn from you.
You call, but we do not listen;
you show us your path, but we prefer our own way.
Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you,
that we might show mercy to others.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Jonah 3:1-2, 10

P This is the word of the Lord:
in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven by God and given new life. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult” (vs. 1-3, 5) ELW #696

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **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.**

LESSON: 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.

PSALM 62:5-12

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

C ⁶**God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold,
so that I shall never be shaken.**

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

C ⁸**Put your trust in God always, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.**

L 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.

C ¹⁰**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.**

L ¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

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

LESSON: 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C **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.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

ELW #817

APOSTLES’ CREED

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C **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 Pilot,
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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P Jesus calls us to repent and draw near to him,
to share the realm of God and the peace that passes all understanding.
May the peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE “As with Gladness Men of Old” (vs. 1 & 3) ELW #302

OFFERING PRAYER

P May these gifts we offer show we recognize your claim upon us, Holy God. Use them so your grace, your love, and your hope may be shared with everyone who needs them.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

CHARGE

P Now, take the word of God into the world.

C **we will place hope in the arms of others.**

P Now, take the word of Jesus into the world.

C **We will follow to serve beside him in all the broken places.**

P Now, take the word of the Spirit into the world.

C **We will bring others near to the kingdom where all are welcome.**

BLESSING

P As the disciples walked with Christ so long ago, walk with Christ in your hearts and spirits. Feel the power of the Holy Spirit guiding your path. Know the love of God which is poured out for you and rejoice. Go in peace and may God's peace go with you.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

ELW #810
(Alt. tune: ELW #820)

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. You are God’s beloved.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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