

Third Sunday after Epiphany



January 22, 2023 | 9:00 a.m.

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church... Family of God, welcome to worship, Christian education and fellowship! Please extend a word of friendship to those sitting near you.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “Dearest Jesus, at Your Word” (vs. 1 & 3) ELW #520

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9

P We walk in darkness.

C **We live in a land of deep darkness.**

P We have seen a great light!

C **Light shines upon us!**

P God brings us joy!

C **Rejoice before our God!**

OPENING PRAYER

Psalms 27

C **O God, our light and our salvation, shelter us in your love.**

O God, our stronghold, protect us from danger.

We come with shouts of joy to worship you this day.

We come with open hearts to celebrate your love.

We come with longing to seek your presence.

Be with us now, O God, as we sing your praises. Amen.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us confess our sins before God, the source of freedom and forgiveness.

C **Almighty God,**

we confess that we have not been faithful to you in our thoughts and actions.

We have been selfish in our desires and quarrelsome in our relationships.

We have allowed fear to divide us from those who seem different,

and let distrust separate us from our brothers and sisters.

**Shine your light into our darkened hearts.
Save us from our divisive ways.
Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ who dwells with you
and the Holy Spirit in perfect harmony. Amen.**

1 Cor. 1:10

P God offers forgiveness to those who turn to God in true repentance.
Therefore, trust in God, who breaks the bonds of our oppression,
and covers us in mercy.

Isa. 9:4

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”

ELW #676

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 **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.
Amen.**

LESSON: 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.

PSALM 27:1, 4-9

L ¹The 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 ⁴**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.**

L ⁵For 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 ⁶**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.**

L ⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

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

L ⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

LESSON: 1 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: 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.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

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

HYMN “O Master, Let Me Walk with You”

ELW # 818

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 Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” ELW #884

**OFFERING PRAYER

P God of our salvation, receive these gifts we offer and bless them for the work of your kingdom, through Christ, our Lord.

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

Matthew 4

P Jesus, the light of the world, calls us to follow.

C **Go and tell the news of God's love.**

P Cast the nets of grace wide, that all may see the glory of God.

C **Go forth and shine with God's light!**

P May God—Source, Word, and Spirit—bless you with the radiance of love.

****BLESSING**

P May the grace of Christ who calls us go with you.
May the power of the Holy Spirit who empowers us sustain you.
May the salvation of God who loves us give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“I Love to Tell the Story”

ELW #661

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Follow in the way of Jesus.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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