



**St. John's of Hatboro**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Faith - Service - Community



## Third Sunday after Epiphany January 21, 2024

*Bulletin for Online Service*

*The Good News for Today: Though we may have lost everything but God's love, that's the only baggage we need to make it to the Promised Land.*

To view this service, please visit [our YouTube channel](#).

*Thank you for worshipping with St. John's, where we are building a loving, accepting community centered on growing in Christ.*

### Greeting

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

**And also with you.**

### Confession and Forgiveness

Let us take a moment and confess our sins before God.

*(moment of spoken or silent confession)*

1 John 1.9 says that, "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from everything that is not right." By Christ's authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Opening Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story – ELW 661 (Red Book)

1 I love to tell the story  
of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory,  
of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story,  
because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings  
as nothing else would do.

### *Refrain*

I love to tell the story;  
'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story:  
how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it,  
more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story,  
for some have never heard  
the message of salvation  
from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

3 I love to tell the story,  
for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting  
to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory,  
I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story  
that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911  
Arr. Michael Brinkworth

## Prayer of the Day

Let us Pray.... 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.**

## Scriptures

### Jonah 3:1-10

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So 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. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>6</sup>When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. <sup>7</sup>Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. <sup>8</sup>Humans and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry

mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. <sup>9</sup> Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.”

<sup>10</sup> When 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.

The Word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 62:5-12 *(Read Responsively)*

<sup>5</sup>For God alone I wait in silence;  
truly, my hope is in God.

**<sup>6</sup>God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.**

<sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance and my honor;  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

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

<sup>9</sup>Those 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.

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

<sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice have I heard it,  
that power belongs to God.

**<sup>12</sup>Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord,  
for you repay all according to their deeds.**

## 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

<sup>29</sup> I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup> and 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, <sup>31</sup> and 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 Word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

## Mark 1:14-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter:

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

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God <sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

<sup>16</sup> As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon – “All That You Can’t Leave Behind” – Pastor Bo Bannister

## The Apostles’ Creed

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

**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 Pilate, 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 Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

We pray for... (pastor will pray for these topics spontaneously)

*the church universal, its ministry, and the mission of the gospel...*

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

*for the well-being of creation...*

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

*for peace and justice in the world, the nations and those in authority, the community...*

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

*for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, lonely...*

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

*for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit...*

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

*for St. John's, for online viewers, and for special concerns...*

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

*thanksgiving for the faithful departed may include those who recently have died and those commemorated on the church's calendar...*

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Let us offer up prayers of our own hearts.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray, saying,

## The 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.**

## Closing Hymn: Rejoice in the Mission — W&P 120 (Purple Book)

1 Oh, the Lord came down from heav'n,  
tiny baby, great physician,  
gave his body and his blood  
to live out a holy mission.  
His disciples, they went out  
to fulfill the great commission;  
with a seed of faith so small,  
learned a diff'rent kind of fishin'.  
Will we go?

### *Refrain*

And we'll all share the vision,  
who in Christ we all shall be.  
Come, rejoice in the mission  
of a new community.  
In this place where we gather,  
Jesus, still our restless souls;  
to your Spirit we will listen.  
We will go.

2 As we ponder and we plan  
in this age of great transition,  
we will keep the word of God  
at the heart of each decision.  
Praise the Father, Lord of love;  
praise the Christ, in glory risen;  
praise the Spirit, by whose pow'r  
we will share the gifts we're given--  
as we go. *Refrain*

Text: Dan Bielenberg  
© 1999 Augsburg Fortress  
Arr. Michael Brinkworth

## Benediction and Dismissal

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**