

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 21, 2024

9:30 AM

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

Improvisation on *O Jesu Christe, Wahres Licht*

+ Gathering +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

The congregation may stand.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
Whose Spirit blew over the waters of creation
the God who gave us a new birth in the waters of Christ baptism,
our light and our salvation.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant.
Renew your creation.
Restore us,
that we might proclaim your good news to all.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters, God has spoken:
The time of grace is now.
In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
By the authority of ✠ Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True (ELW 675)

1 O Christ, our light, O Ra - diance true, shine forth on
2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the wan - d'ers
3 Lord, o - pen all re - luc - tant ears and take a -
4 Lord, let your mer - cy's gen - tle ray shine down on
5 Make theirs with ours a sin - gle voice up - lift - ed,

those es - tranged from you, and bring them to your home a -
lost in er - ror's maze. Set free all those whose hearts and
way the need - less fears of those who trem - ble to ex -
oth - ers strayed a - way. To those in con - science wound - ed
ev - er to re - joice with wond - 'ring grat - i - tude and

gain, where their de - light shall nev - er end.
minds some deep de - lu - sion haunts and binds.
press the faith their in - most hearts con - fess.
sore show heav - en's wait - ing, o - pen door.
praise to you, O Lord, for bound - less grace.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. composite
 Music: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT, *Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1676
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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

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.

The congregation may be seated.

+ Word +

READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

A reading from Jonah.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

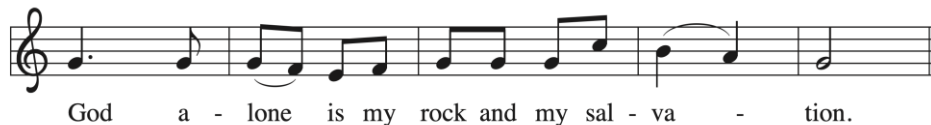
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 62:5-12

The congregation sings the refrain and the verses in bold.

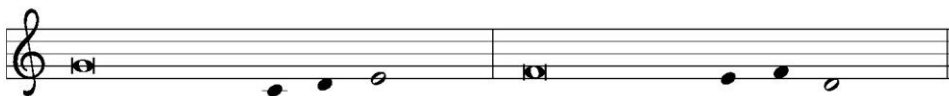
Psalm Refrain



Psalm 62:6

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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Psalm Tone



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.**

Refrain

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.**

Refrain

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:14-20

The holy gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The congregation may be seated.
Vicar Alex Linn

HYMN OF THE DAY

The congregation may be stand.
Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult (ELW 696)



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -

sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**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 THE PEOPLE

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. You may assume a posture of prayer through standing, kneeling, or sitting. Let us pray.

God our rock and deliverance, do not let your church be shaken. We trust you never abandon your promises to the most vulnerable among us. Give your church wisdom and empathy in its varied ministries. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God our hope and refuge, you placed the fish in the sea. Guide our care of oceans and all creatures that live in them. Hold us accountable for actions that endanger water sources and the people who depend on them. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God who proclaims judgement and offers mercy, be a model to the leaders of our nation and the world. As they lead, may they follow in your way of justice and truth. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God who cares for the suffering, care for survivors of assault and sexual abuse and sustain all who minister to them. Keep safe any who live under threat of violence, those living in poverty, and any among us who are ill or in pain. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection and new life, as the first disciples shared the good news, empower us and this faith community to be open to your call. When we are uncertain of your call, assure us. When we have strayed from your ways, redirect us. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

People of God, for what else shall we pray this day? Your prayers are invited now, either silently or aloud. (*Pause for prayers.*) God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God who holds the saints against your tender bosom, we trust you welcome them into your care. Comfort those who grieve, even as we place our hope in your salvation. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

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.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (wave, handshake, hug, etc.), honoring the personal boundaries of all. Those online may unmute and verbally share the peace.

+ Meal +

OFFERTORY

We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Seek Ye the Lord

by Richard DeLong

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
And let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him;
And to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

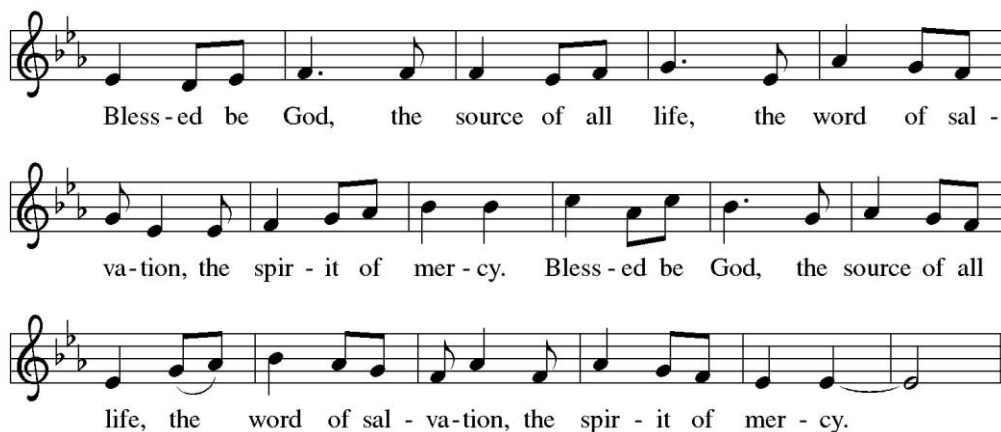
Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways,
And My thoughts than your thoughts

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

OFFERTORY VERSE

The congregation may stand.
Blessed Be God, the Source of All Life



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

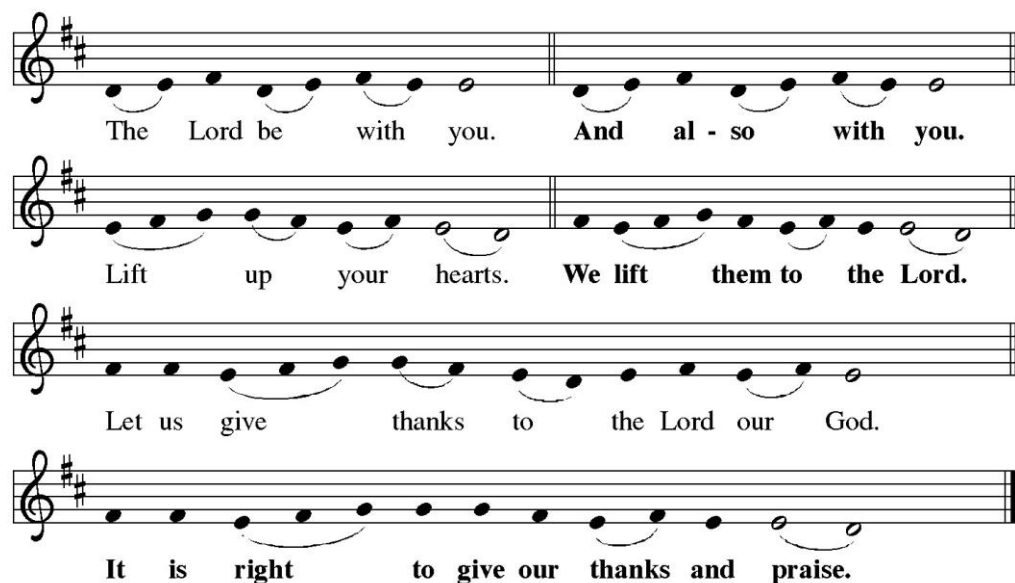
Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you.

In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

**Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.**

Amen.

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

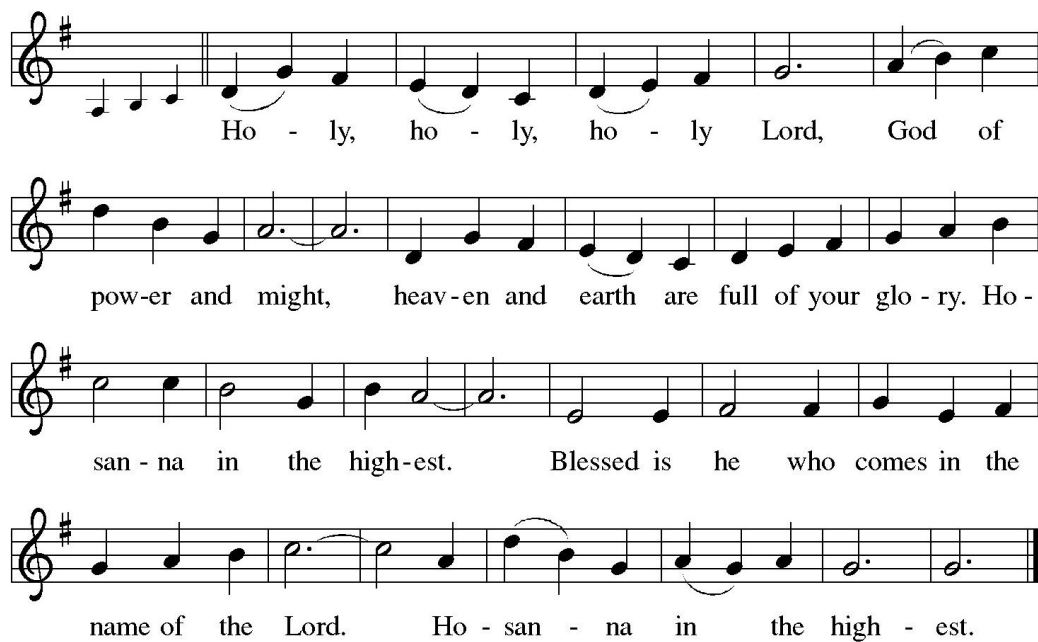
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

“... we praise your name and join their un-ending hymn:”

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Live among us and bless this meal.
May your Word dwell in us to awaken your people and Fill us with your light.
That we might be a gift of peace on earth.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us in the many and varied languages we hold dear...

**Our God in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION

In this meal is the light for all life, Come, for Christ first welcomed us.

COMMUNION

The congregation may be seated.

All are welcome to commune at Christ's table without exception! If you are online, serve yourself or those worshipping with you by saying, "The body of Christ, given for you," and, "The blood of Christ, shed for you." If you are communing in person, please proceed down the center aisle at the direction of an usher. You may receive bread or request a gluten-free wafer. A glass of wine (dark colored) will be placed on the table for you, or you may request grape juice (light colored). After drinking, please place your empty glass in the basket before returning to your seat via the side aisle. If you would prefer to receive only a blessing, you may cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please inform an usher, and the sacrament will be brought to you.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

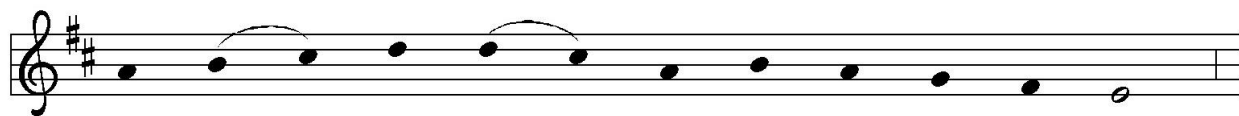
Thee We Adore, O Savior (ELW 476)



1 Thee we a - dore, O Sav - ior, God most true,
 2 O true re - mem - brance of Christ cru - ci - fied,
 3 Foun - tain of good - ness, Je - sus, Lord and God,
 4 Je - sus, by faith we see thee here be - low;



thy glo - ry clothed in bread and wine a - new;
 the bread of life to us for whom he died;
 cleanse us, O Christ, with thy most cleans - ing blood:
 send us, we pray thee, what we thirst for so:



our hearts to thee in true de - vo - tion bow,
 lend us this life then; feed and feast our mind,
 in - crease our faith and love, that we may know
 some - day to gaze up - on thy face in light,



in hum - ble awe, we hail thy pres - ence now.
 be thou the sweet - ness we were meant to find.
 the hope and peace which from thy pres - ence flow.
 blest ev - er - more with thy full glo - ry's sight. A - men.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, 1227–1274; tr. Gerard Manley Hopkins, 1844–1889, and James R. Woodford, 1820–1885, alt.
 Music: ADORE TE DEVOTE, plainsong mode V; Processionale, Paris, 1697

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The congregation may stand.

Let us pray together.
Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.
Amen.

+ Sending +

BENEDICTION

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord (ELW 580)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV 553

by J.S. Bach

Worship materials adapted this day from multiple ecumenical partners including the Episcopal Church, USA, and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (2023).

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- Scripture readings from the NRS

SERVING TODAY

Interim:

Assisting Minister:

Director of Music:

Cantor:

Usher:

Altar Guild:

Livestream Camera:

Vicar Alex Linn

Jan Wendel

Luke Duroc-Danner

Audrey Neace

Buckley Crist

Jan Wendel

Jason Shutters

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notice of Congregational Meeting

Our Congregational Meeting will be held next Sunday, January 28, at the beginning of the 9:30 am service. The congregation will vote on the 2024 budget and elect representatives to the 2024 Metro Chicago Synod Assembly. Please plan to attend this important meeting!

Children's Church

Today is Children's Church, and children will be dismissed after the announcements.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class continues their winter session today. Class will meet at Grace Lutheran Church in Evanston, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm. The class is currently studying Luther's Small Catechism.

Call Committee Update

This Sunday is Survey Sunday. We will have copies of the 2024 Call Process Survey available for everyone to complete after church. You may also take it home and complete it later. Surveys will be accepted until Monday, February 5.

Have a Heart' Valentine Benefit Luncheon

The Women of Trinity Lutheran Church cordially invite the Women of St. John's Lutheran Church to join them for a Holy Family Benefit Luncheon on Saturday, **February 10 at 11:30 am** at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Road, Evanston. Please make your reservation by Saturday, February 2 by signing up in the gathering area or contacting Cindi Rachowicz 224-307-3513 or e-mail att41623@sbcglobal.net. Let's show our support with a table for 8. All proceeds will fund the annual tuition for a child at Holy Family School.

Also, on Feb. 10, Trinity will accept DONATIONS of gently used adult clothing for **LUCILLE Resale** to benefit Holy Family Ministries. (To donate large items/furniture, email clear photos directly to donate@hfm.org.) If you're unable to join us at the luncheon, donations to support the scholarship fund would be gratefully appreciated. Send checks to Holy Family Ministries | 2215 Enterprise Drive, Suite 1510 | Westchester IL 60154 Online at: www.hfm.org/donate

Tuesday Bible Study

Bible study meets on Tuesday mornings, 11am-12:00pm. with Vicar Alex Linn. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Helping Migrant Families

St. John's members can help by dropping off coats, hats, gloves, scarves, pants, and boots in designated boxes inside the **Wilmette Metra Station** at 722 Green Bay Road. The greatest needs are for children's outdoor clothing. Our donations will help migrants stay warm and feel acknowledged as they make their way to the Chicago Welcoming Center.

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

Richard DeLong (1963-2020) was an American singer, conductor, and expert in contemporary Sacred Harp singing. Sacred Harp is a tradition of sacred choral music that originated in New England before being carried and perpetuated in the American South. This tradition represents one of the oldest branches of traditional American music that developed between 1770-1820. The name was derived from *The Sacred Harp*, a landmark tunebook published in 1844 with the characteristic shape notes. Richard DeLong was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and raised in the Sacred Harp tradition. In interviews, he often described being taken to his first singing by his grandmother when he was only six months old. Over the course of his career, DeLong taught and hosted workshops at more than 60 music schools across the US, and he was invited to teach Sacred Harp singing in England. DeLong would also serve as the Executive Secretary of the Sacred Harp Publishing Company alongside his own teaching and composition work. Finally, over his life, he put together a collection of over 1500 hours of recordings dated between 1929 and 2011 of Sacred Harp singings.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) was a major composer of the end of the Baroque era, and today he is among the most celebrated composers of all time. J.S. Bach came from a large family of North German musicians, and in his day, he was primarily known as a virtuosic organist, harpsichordist, and organ builder. One of the principal features of J.S. Bach's music is synthesis - bringing together many styles, forms, and national traditions developed earlier in the Baroque period - as well as his mastery of both counterpoint and harmony, the horizontal and vertical in music. J.S. Bach has contributed major works to almost every genre of both instrumental and vocal music, but he is best known for his organ music and sacred compositions.

IN OUR PRAYERS

- † Family & friends of Peter Knobel, who died 1/13/24
- † Rena Leinberger, cancer diagnosis 11/12/23
- † Family and Friends of Hing You Tam Siu, mother-in-law of Jim Dossa, who passed away
- † Family & friends of Viola Gonder, mother of Craig Gonder, who died 8/7/23
- † Congratulations to Dano Johnson & Emily Mock, who were married June 17, 2023
- † Family & friends of Richard Rusz, who died 6/6/23
- † Family & friends of Karen Daugherty, aunt of Erin Rasmussen, who died 5/8/23
- † Family & friends of Joan Schinler, who died 5/5/23
- † Sarah Rink, hospitalized after a fall 3/8/23
- † Family & friends of Ruby Winter, who died 1/10/23
- † Steve Morrison, son of Tom & Judy Morrison, recovering from back surgery 1/1/23
- † Family & friends of Marge Bennett, loved one of Kristen Danielsen, who died 11/17/22
- † Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- † Natalie Domchenko & Hilaire Sainson, sister of Olga Domchenko and sister's husband, in need of healing
- † Karen Brunn, daughter of Dave & Lyn Brunn, recovering from spinal cord injury
- † Mindy Davis, seeking permanent housing, 2/23/22
- † Lorraine Beutelspacher, moved to new home in Arizona 2/3/23