

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Lectionary 3

January 25, 2026

9 am



**Saint John Lutheran Church
Fairfield, Pennsylvania
Rev. Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor
Carol Garman, Organist/ Music Director**

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Pastor's Office Hours – Mon. & Tues. 8:30am – 4:30pm

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Office Hours
Monday – Thursday 8:30am-12:00pm

Our Mission is to make Christ known.

We welcome all guests this morning.
We are very pleased to have you worship with us.
All are welcome to receive communion.

Sunday School for all ages meets at 10:15.
Everyone is welcome! Grab some refreshments and join us!

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARING CONVERSATION: “What Does it Mean to Repent”

PRELUDE Here I Am, Lord

Schutte, arr. Carter

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of Almighty God, the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his 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**

GATHERING HYMN Dearest Jesus, At Your Word

ELW 520

INVOCATION

P: May 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.

- 1 Praise to you, O God of mercy:
thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly:
thanks be to you forever!
- 2 From of old you loved and sought us:
thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us:
thanks be to you forever!
- 3 Praise to you, O God of mercy:
thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly:
thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!

Bridge

Strong is your faithfulness,
strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us. **(go to verse 3)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

P: Lord God, your loving kindness 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.**

Arise All Ye People(Jothen)**WOV****FIRST READING****Isaiah 9:1-4**

¹There 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.²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For 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.

The Word of the Lord...Thanks be to God

PSALM 27:1, 4-9 (Read Responsively)

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?

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.**

⁵ For 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.

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.

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

⁸ **My heart speaks your message - "Seek my face." Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

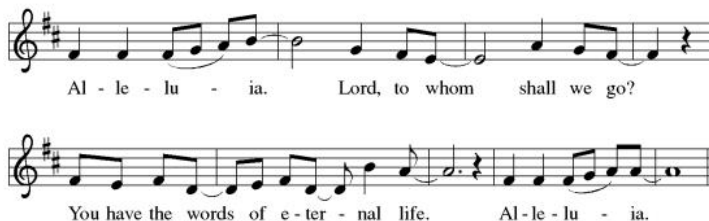
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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. *The Word of the Lord...Thanks be to God.*

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ *please stand if able*



P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew....**Glory to you O Lord**

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-25

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. ²⁴ So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, people possessed by demons or having epilepsy or afflicted with paralysis, and he cured them. ²⁵ And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan. *“The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you O Christ.***

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Wayne Gallipo

HYMN Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

APOSTLES CREED

(inside back cover of hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH Response: Merciful God... **Receive our prayer.**

PEACE

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

C: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us; with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right....

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: On the night in which he was betrayed ... for as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes again.

LORD'S PRAYER

THE FRACTION AND INVITATION

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION

We practice “open communion” at St. John. ALL are invited to come forward as ushered to receive this life-giving sacrament. Those not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. As you are given the bread and wine an appropriate response is “Amen.” Please be respectful of this meditative time within our worship.

COMMUNION HYMNS

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

ELW 815

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray... 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. **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN This Little Light of Mine

ELW 677

*This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine;
This little light of mine; I'm goin'a let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

*Everywhere I go....
Jesus gave it to me...*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Christ is the World's True Light

arr. Haan