

January 26, 2025

*Third Sunday after Epiphany
Lectionary 3, Year C*



Ringling of Bell

PRELUDE *Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator, our protector,
our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words
and the meditations of our hearts,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

**C: you speak blessing and compassion into
the world. Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume
the worst about one another. Cleanse us
from our faults and release us from their
grasp. Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P God proclaims these words of assurance:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine."
In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit,
you are made free. Refreshed by the
waters of mercy, live anew as beloved
children of God.

C: Amen.

O Holy Spirit, Enter In

1 O Holy Spirit, enter in, and in our hearts your
work begin, and make our hearts your dwelling.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine, around and in us
brightly shine, your strength in us upwelling. In
your radiance, life from heaven now is given
overflowing, gift of gifts beyond all knowing.

2 Left to ourselves, we surely stray; oh, lead us
on the narrow way, with wisest counsel guide us;
and give us steadfastness, that we may follow you
forever free, no matter who derides us. Gently
heal those hearts now broken; give some token
you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer
us.

3 O mighty Rock, O Source of life, let your good
Word in doubt and strife be in us strongly
burning, that we be faithful unto death and live in
love and holy faith, from you true wisdom
learning. Lord, your mercy on us shower; by your
power Christ confessing, we will cherish all your
blessing.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy
scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your
people.

**C: Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn,
and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your
promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast
to the hope of eternal life, through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings

FIRST READING: NEHEMIAH 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Ezra reads the law of Moses before the people

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the
square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the
scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which
the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, Ezra the
priest brought the law before the assembly, both
men and women and all who could hear with
understanding. This was on the first day of the
seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square
before the Water Gate from early morning until
midday, in the presence of the men and the women
and those who could understand, and the ears of all
the people were attentive to the book of the
law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all
the people, for he was standing above all the people,
and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God,
and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting

up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD, and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

PSALM 19 *We read responsively*

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31A

You are the body of Christ

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

◆ GOSPEL: LUKE 4:14-21

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

Jesus reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah

¹⁴Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed,¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

P: THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.

C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S WORD

MESSAGE *Pr. D.J. Chatelaine*

HYMN *Arise, Your Light Has Come* No 314

1 **Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.**

2 **Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door; proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.**

3 **Arise, your light has come! All you in sorrow born, bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.**

4 **Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.**

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 INTERCESSION

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY—OFFERING—GLOBE OFFERING

Children are invited to bring an offering to the globe in the front of the church.

◆ OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

C: **Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Spoken*

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN *Christ Be Our Light* No. 715

1 **Longing for light, we wait in darkness, longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**

REFRAIN ***Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in you church gathered to day.***

2 **Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has pow’r to save us. Make us your living voice.** REFRAIN

3 **Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.** REFRAIN

4 **Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.** REFRAIN

5 **Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servant to one another, signs of your kingdom come.** REFRAIN

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.

C: Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C Amen.

◆ HYMN No. 866
We Are Marching in the Light (Siyahamba)

1 **We are MARCHING in the light of God, we are MARCHING in the light of God. We are MARCHING in the light of God, we are MARCHING in the light of God. We are MARCHING, we are MARCHING in the light of God. We are MARCHING, we are MARCHING in the light of God.**

2 **We are SINGING ... etc.**

Ringing of Bell

DISMISSAL L: Go in peace. Live in hope.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Siyahamba (Reprise)*

PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—Pastor D.J. Chatelaine
ACOLYTE—Henry Buchal
WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Eric Hoversten
KEYBD/PIANO—Annette Thunhorst
COMMUNION SET-UP—Amy Lee
GREETERS—Allen & Lenice Hoversten
COMMUNION SERVERS—Amy Lee, Carmen & Brad Nesseth
COFFEE SERVERS—Hoversten
TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jennifer Lurfald, Lavon Underdahl, Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Dick Overby, Dax Eggert.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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OL/SKU#1059089 *Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart* Piano

OL/SKU#95802 *O Holy Spirit Enter In* #786

OL/SKU#08411 *Arise Your Light Has Come* #314

OL/SKU#106006 *Spirit Song* Piano

OL/SKU#80229 *Christ Be Our Light* #715

OL/SKU#65063 *We Are Marching (Siyahamba)* #866

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUN JAN 26	9 AM WORSHIP <i>3rd Sun aftr Epiph</i> 10:15 ANNUAL MEETING 10 AM Sun. School 10 AM Coffee
TUE 1/28	7 PM KAIC
WED 1/29	5:30-7 PM Confirmation
THU 1/30	7 PM AA
SUN FEB 2	9 AM WORSHIP 10 AM Sun.School 10 AM Coffee 4-7 PM ♪ HYMN SING & LASAGNA SUPPER - Freewill offering for Organ Repair Fund SEE FLYER
Reschedule date	

GET—ORGAN—IZED



By donating items to The Organ Fund Garage Sale – Coming MARCH 29!

SEE FLYER for details. Contacts: Susan Hoversten 907-854-5959 or Christine Erslund 507-319-4754.



Please consider donating 1, 2, 5, or more Dollars to 'TACKLE HUNGER.' Monetary donations are being collected now through Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 9) with proceeds going to ELCA World Hunger. Give Generously.

THRIVENT MEMBERS: If you have a \$250 Action Team Grant available, please contact Bryana Lothert to discuss how this money could be used to support children and youth ministry here at First Lutheran. Find Contact Info Below ↓

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 309 Forest St., Kenyon, MN 55946

PASTOR D.J. CHATELAINE Phone: 507-213-0708

Email: flickenyonpastor@gmail.com

CHURCH OFS Phone: 507-789-5261

Email: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com

KAIC INTERN Yvonne Godfrey-Roesel

Phone: 708-846-9138 Email: intern.kaic@gmail.com

YOUTH DIRECTOR, BRYANA LOTHERT

Phone 507-210-0814 Email: flcyouth45@gmail.com

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

<https://www.youtube.com/@flickenyon>

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WEBSITE flickenyon.org