

St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

"A Legacy of Worship and Outreach in San Antonio since 1857"

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Phone 210-223-2611

January 19, 2020
2nd Sunday after Epiphany



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God...

Prelude

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Dietrich Buxtehude

Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,
the Eternal Voice from heaven,
the Anointed and Beloved One,
the Spirit moving over the waters.

Amen.

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

God who searches us and knows us:

**You have shown us what is good,
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.
We have not been just in our dealings with others.
We have chosen revenge over mercy.
We have promoted ourselves
instead of walking humbly with you.
With what shall we come before you?
Forgive us our sin,
and show us your salvation
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved of God:

Do not receive the spirit of this world,
but the Spirit that is from God,
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.
Receive the promise of baptism,
that you are God's child; † and your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Thy Strong Word"

(v 1-3, 6) ELW #511

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.

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture and preaching; we respond in profession of faith and prayer

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."

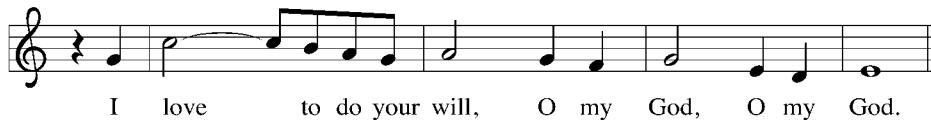
⁵And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— ⁶he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

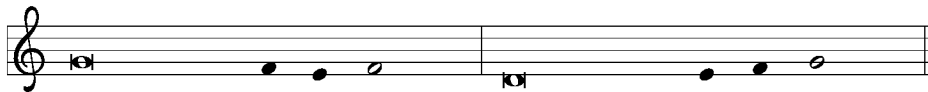
Word of God, word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40:1-11



Psalm 40:8
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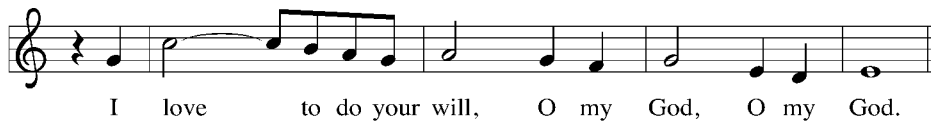


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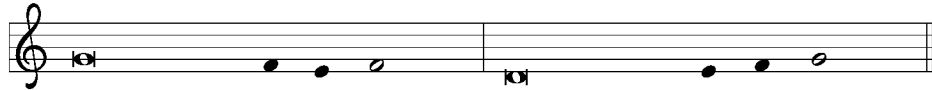
¹I waited patiently up- | on the LORD,
who stooped to me and | heard my cry.

²**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.**

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in the LORD.



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⁴Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!

They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies. R

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be com- | pared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than | I can count.

⁶Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;

you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have | not required. R

⁷And so I said, "Here I | am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

⁸I love to do your will, | O my God;

your law is | deep within me.'"

⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O | LORD, you know.

¹⁰I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and | your deliverance;

I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the | great assembly.

¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compas- | sion from me;

may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep me safe. R

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

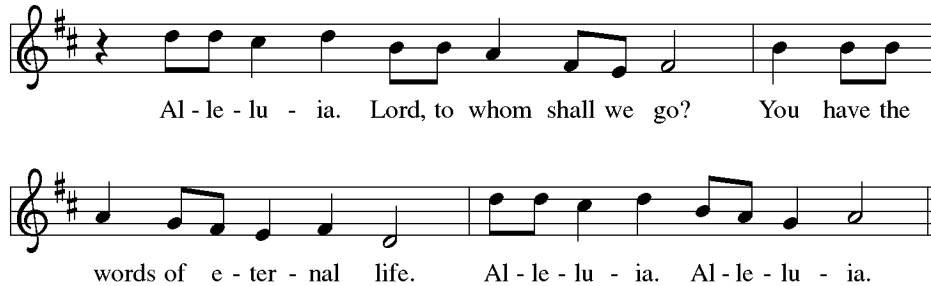
¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also

strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Cantor: Alleluia. In the | Word was life, and the life was the light | of all people. Alleluia. (John 1:4)*

The Holy Gospel: John 1:29-42

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

The good news of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John:
Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him."³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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

Children are invited to go to their Sunday lesson and activity. They will return at Holy Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany them.

Apostles' Creed

With the whole Church in heaven and on earth, we 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

*Each petition concludes: "Lord, in your mercy," The congregation responds: "**Hear our prayer.**"*

We hold in prayer: Bob Cauble, Frances Bara, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Janice Williams, Ralph Detwiler, Joan Arnet, Louis Spreen, Jon Bohmann, Janie McWhirter, family of Mourette Boehme.

*For prayer requests and updates, please contact the church office
(210) 223-2611 or info@StJohnsSA.org*

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

(Please share with those nearest you these or similar words: "Peace be with you.")

MEAL

*We bring our "first fruit" offerings to the Table of the Lord
where we are strengthened and nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ*

Offering

"Agnus Dei"

Jim Stanton

Offertory Hymn

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW #182

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
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Offertory Prayer

God of wonder,

We bring our gifts to your table, together with our lives and all that you have made. Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit. We wait for your mercy; we long for your peace; we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ, our banquet of life. Amen.

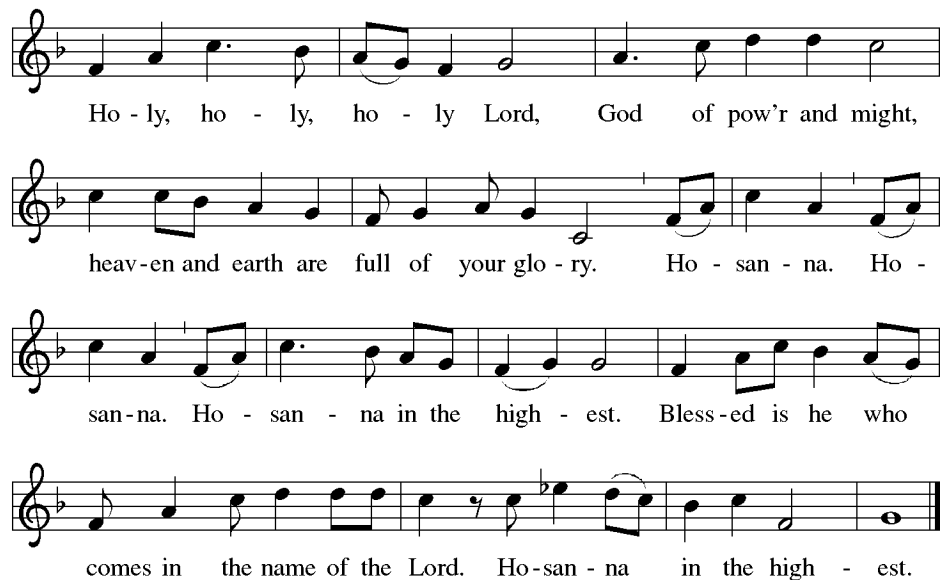
Great Thanksgiving

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Holy, Mighty, and Merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love for us and for all your creation, you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who took upon himself our own flesh and blood, who showed us your face, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

For on 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, as often as you drink of it, for the remembrance of me.

As we bind ourselves to his life, his death, and his rising, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, upon these gifts of this bread and wine, and upon all who come to your table seeking, your touch upon their lives. Shape us to be a kingdom people, living out your vision for our world. Transform us, that we may be your vessels of hope, mercy, justice, and peace. And work through us, that we, who are truly abundant in gifts beyond measure, might share from all your give us, for the sake of the life of the world.

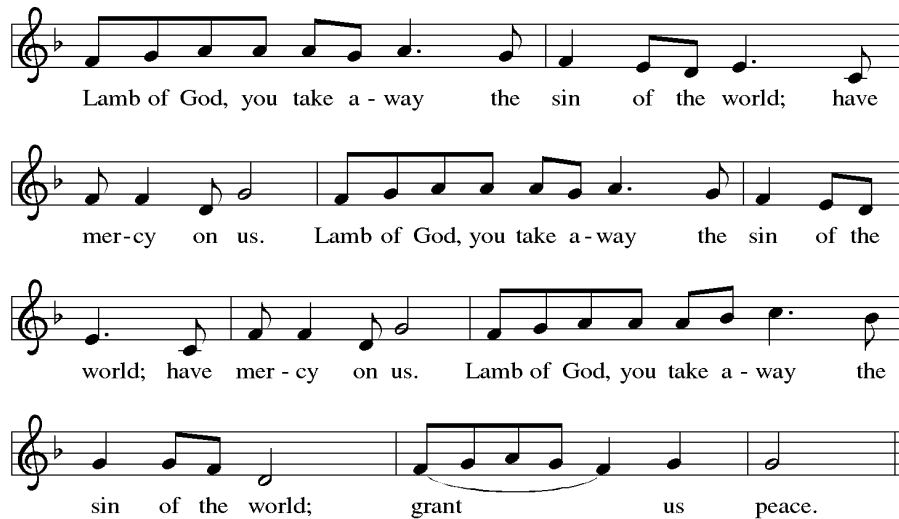
(Intoned) Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Remember us, Lord, in your kingdom, and help us to pray:

**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.**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, who welcomes you to his table of mercy and joy.

Agnus Dei



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.

Holy Communion

We believe that Christ is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and we welcome all who wish to receive the Holy Sacrament. Please follow the direction of the ushers. A gluten free host is available upon request.

Communion Hymns

- ELW #481 *Come to the Table*
- ELW #814 *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am*
- ELW #815 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Communion Blessing

Communion Prayer

Faithful God,
You have kept your promise to us in this meal,
nourishing us with the gift of salvation.
Now send your servants forth in peace,
that we may testify to your goodness
and share the hope that is ours
in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world

Benediction

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God,
and the source of our life together,
keep you united in mind and purpose.
And the blessing of Almighty God,
the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

ELW #841

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

O Lamb of God, Unstained

J.S. Bach

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister + Pastor James Dew
Assisting Minister + Karen Knudson
Lector + Fred Pfeiffer

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Worship is central to who we are as a people of God. Every time we gather to hear and respond to the Word, to offer up our prayers for the needs of many, and to receive Christ's living presence in the consecrated bread and wine, we seek to "become what we receive", namely, the Body of Christ for the sake of the life of the world. As we are gathered, fed, and then sent back out in mission, God empowers us to be bearers of blessing and vessels of grace, commissioning us to intentionally live out the reign of God throughout the course of our weekly living.

This week at St. John's

Mon 20 • Church office closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Wed 22 • Mid-Week Word and Prayer 12:15 PM
Wed 22 • Campus Ministry Dinner 6:00 PM
Wed 22 • Choir Practice 7:00 PM
Thu 23 • Finance Team Meeting 9:30 AM
Sun 26 • Dcn. John Dellis Legacy Planning 11:00 AM

*Please see our online calendar at stjohnssa.org (under the Home tab)
for weekly recurring events and the current month's Tidings.*

Financial Reports and Council Minutes are available in the church office by request.

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest

Plan on participating in a **Legacy Giving for Family and Ministry Seminar** in Memorial Hall at 11:00 AM on Sunday, Jan. 26 presented by Deacon John Dellis, our synod's senior gift planner with Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. The synod's gift planner will share ideas that may help you plan for your family's future along with the benefits of legacy generosity for ministry and other non-profits. The foundation he represents has acted on behalf of families, organizations and congregations for the past 40 years. He facilitates legacy planning to maximize the way funds benefit family *and* the ministries of the church that are important to you.

Liturgical Calendar Commemorations

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Sunday, January 19, 2020

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

Conversion of Paul

Saturday, January 25, 2020

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.