

**SUNDAY- JANUARY 21, 2024 -9:00 AM**



## **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB**

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love  
with all people.*

MINISTERS  
PASTOR  
INTERIM

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH  
JOHN TWITON  
ZACH SMIRIS

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 21, 2024 | Third Sunday after Epiphany | 9:00 AM

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C** = Congregation)

**PRELUDE** Diane Dangerfield

**WELCOMING WORD** *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.*

**OPENING HYMN: #574 - Here I Am, Lord**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C - 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.

**C - Amen.**

**P** - Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one  
another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*  
Most merciful God,

**C - we confess that we are captive 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** - God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been  
saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty  
God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ  
may live in your hearts through faith.

**C - Amen**

## **GREETING**

L: 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.**

**+ KYRIE pg. 138**

**+ HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 140** *"This is the feast..."*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Almighty God,

**C: 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.**

**Congregational Songs –**     *God of Wonders*  
                                                      *In the Secret*

## **FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 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>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.

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31** <sup>29</sup>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.

## **+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)**

**(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

L: The Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 1

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

## **GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20**

<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 fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for 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.

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

**+C: Praise to you, O Christ**

**CHOIR ANTHEM** – *The Whisper*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**MESSAGE** Pastor John Twiton

**+HYMN #798** - *Will You Come and Follow Me*

**+NICENE CREED** pg. 104

**THE PRAYERS** pg. 143

(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:

"Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: Hear our prayer.")

**OFFERING SONG** *Follow Me*

**OFFERTORY** - #182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

## **MEAL**

**+ Offering Prayer:** 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.

**+The Great Thanksgiving** pg. 144

**+Words of Institution**

**+ The Lord's Prayer** pg. 145 (right hand column)

**Communion Hymn: #685 - Take My Life, That I May Be**

**Prayer after Communion: 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**

**COMMUNITY WORD**

**+BLESSING**

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

**C: Amen.**

**+HYMN #720 - We Are Called**

**+DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!**

*Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.*

## **DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 2024**

**SHARE:** What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

**READ:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

**Monday,** Genesis 12:1-9, The Call of Abram

**Tuesday,** Genesis 45:25-46:7, Joseph Brings His Family to Egypt

**Wednesday,** Proverbs 8:1-21, The Gifts of Wisdom

**Thursday,** Galatians 1:11-24, Paul's Defense of His Apostleship

**Friday,** Deuteronomy 12:28-32, Warnings against Idolatry

**Saturday,** Deuteronomy 13:1-5, Don't be Led Astray

**TALK:** Consider some of these ideas:

**“And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” -- Mark 1:17**

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

- God gave Jonah and Nineveh a second chance. Who needs a second chance from you? (Jonah 3:1-5, 10)
- How does knowing the certainty of God's reign help us with present troubles in this life? (1 Cor 7:29-31)
- God's call is always into an uncertain future. What call, job or relationship are you pondering? (Mark 1:14-20)

**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.*

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