

United Lutheran Church

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024



WORSHIP PREPARATION PRAYER

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

To all in attendance today:

- Please fill out the attendance form found as an insert in the Weekly Witness and place it in the woven basket in the Narthex as you leave.
- You may take your used bulletin and Weekly Witness with you or place them in the basket in the Narthex.
- If you are unable to come to the altar, please indicate your desire for communion to an usher.

◆ Congregation Stands P = Pastor A = Assistant C = Congregation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ GATHERED IN GRATITUDE

C Baptized into the Body of Jesus Christ and Nourished by His Supper, we are United in Gratitude, Living Everywhere the Love of the Triune God.

P O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

C for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 118:29

◆ GREETING OUR NEIGHBORS

P The Lord is with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us share that greeting with one another.

◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen

P Christ is coming soon. Let us prepare our hearts as we confess our sins against God and one another.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

P Most merciful God,

C we confess our failure to watch for your coming and to make ready your way. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed; we have not welcomed one another as we have been welcomed. Restore us, O God. Open our hearts to receive you. Clothe us in Christ that we may live in the light of your day. Amen

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

C Amen

◆ GATHERING HYMN

"I Love to Tell the Story"
ELW #661

◆ GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

C And also with you.

◆ KYRIE

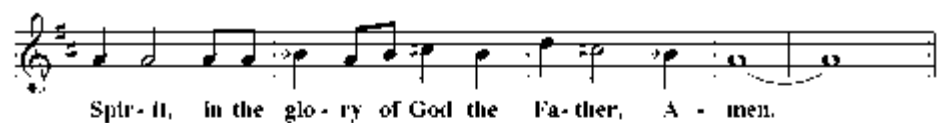
<i>Cantor</i>	<i>Congregation</i>

◆ HYMN OF PRAISE

Congregation



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est;
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
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.
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est;
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
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.



◆ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Almighty God,

C **you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

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.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

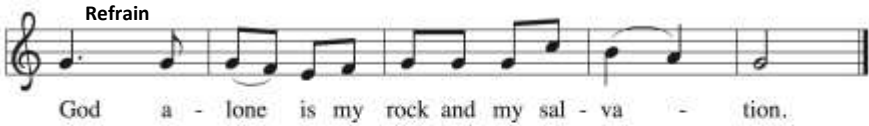
PSALM

Psalm 62:5-12

Cantor chants the light printed verses. Congregation chants the bold printed verses.



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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Psalm 62:6

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

SECOND READING

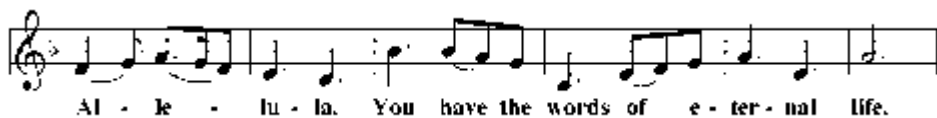
1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and 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, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

A Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

◆ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



◆ GOSPEL

Mark 1:14-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **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.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Neal J. Anthony

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”
ELW #810

◆ APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 CHURCH

Each Petition will end with the Pastor saying, "Lord in your mercy"
The congregation responds with, "Hear our Prayer"

◆ SHARING OF THE PEACE

◆ OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & TITHES

◆ OFFERING PRAYER

P God in whose image we are created,
C you have created in the image of Jesus Christ. Today through
Word and Sacrament you have reconciled us to you and have
restored us to the image in whom we are created. At this hour,
it is from this image that we give of ourselves. May our offering
serve your kingdom. Amen

◆ GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor *Congregation*

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

Pastor *Congregation*

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

Pastor

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right . . . praise your name and join their unending hymn:

◆ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Congregation

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of power and
might. heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

◆ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

◆ **LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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**

COMMUNION INVITATION

P Jesus Christ died and was raised for sinners. We qualify.

At United we practice Open Communion.

Those who will receive forgiveness of sins are welcome to the Table.

The dark colored liquid is wine, and the light colored liquid is grape juice.

For those who need an alternative to wheat flour wafers, gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

"Lamb of God"



The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The lyrics are: "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." The music ends with a double bar line.

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.

◆ THE POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen

◆ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P Lord who has created in us new hearts,

C through this fellowship and meal you have crucified our bondage to self and released us to serve in the freedom of your self-less, self-giving Love. Empower us in this freedom to be the mercy for others you have been for us. Without conditions. Without distinctions. Amen.

◆ **BENEDICTION**

P Now receive the Benediction.

(Congregation: Face your neighbor.)

**C The Lord blesses you and keeps you;
The Lord's face shines upon you and is gracious to you;
The Lord looks upon you with favor and gives you peace.**

◆ **DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord by taking care of one another.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Meister Eckhart Sayings and Quotes

One person who has mastered life
is better than a thousand persons
who have mastered only
the contents of books,
but no one can get anything
out of life without God.

SENDING PRAYER

Almighty God, grant that your holy word which has been proclaimed this day may enter into our hearts through your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

United Lutheran Church
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 email: office@unitedlutheranlincoln.com

Our Staff

Pastor—Rev. Dr. Neal J. Anthony
 Church Office Secretary—Karen Daffer Secretary for Pastoral Care—Marie Sandell
 Bookkeeper—Jo Hill Financial Secretary—Denice Hoops
 Choir Director—Julie Allen



Altar Flowers

are provided today to the glory of God
 by **Ernie and Debbie Thomas**
 In celebration of D’Kota’s birthday
 and in memory of friend, Melody Buck.

Worship Leaders for January 21	
Leadership Position	Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Organist	Denice Hoops
Cantor	Roger Jaques
Acolyte	Sylas Berggren
Lector	Gloria Asch
Communion Assistants	Linda Stubbendick & Laura Thalken
Usher & Greeter	Thomas Berggren & Joan Berggren
Bulletin Artist	Tillie Ash
Parking Lot Monitor	Jason Schmeeckle

Office Hours

Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Guidelines for Wedding, Baptism, and Funeral Services at United

Before setting a date or make plans for a wedding, baptism, or funeral at United, please contact the church office to clear a date. This is to ensure the availability of the pastor and facility. Baptisms and weddings are not done during the church season of Lent. Additionally, weddings are not held during Holy Week or busy church seasons.