

+DIVINE SERVICE IV+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

+THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY + 21 JANUARY 2024+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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tgsicms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

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 - ❖ Mr. Jose Lopez, Congregational Chairman
 - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

Welcome to our Divine Service!

We are pleased that you are with us.

+Worship Notes+

The entire service, including the rubrics of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!

A Note From The Organist:

The hymn tune which forms the basis for Jacob Wezber's prelude is known variously as Terra Beata and Terra Patris. It is most closely associated with the text "This is My Father's World." Wezber gives it a colorful setting.

Mendelssohn spent much of his career in England, and his six organ sonatas were commissioned by an English publisher. Pedal keyboards were only beginning to appear on English organs, and even experienced players were still getting used to them. Therefore, when Mendelssohn wrote some challenging pedal passages, he arranged the music in such a way that the right hand could play the manuals while the left hand played the pedal part. The opening movement of the First Sonata contains a couple of such passages.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

867 Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds



1 Let chil - dren hear the might - y deeds Which God per -
 2 So make to them His glo - ries known, His works of
 3 Our sons and daugh - ters we shall tell And they a -
 4 O teach them with all dil - i - gence The truths of
 5 To learn that in our God a - lone Their hope se -



formed of old, Which in our youn - ger
 pow'r and grace; And we'll con - vey His
 gain to theirs That gen - er - a - tions
 God's own Word, To place in Him their
 cure - ly stands, That they may nev - er



days we saw, And which our par - ents told.
 won - ders down Through ev - 'ry ris - ing race.
 yet un - born May teach them to their heirs.
 con - fi - dence, To fear and trust their Lord,
 doubt His love But walk in His com - mands.

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.; (st. 4): Bernhard Schumacher, 1886–1978
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 84:1-2a, 4, 10-11; antiphon: Psalm 77:18b

Your lightnings lighted | up the world;*
the earth trem- | bled and shook.

How lovely is your dwelling place, O | LORD of hosts!*

My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts | of the LORD.

Blessèd are those who dwell | in your house,*
ever sing- | ing your praise!

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand | elsewhere.*

**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents
of | wickedness.**

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and | honor.*

No good thing does he withhold from those who walk up- | rightly.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Your lightnings lighted | up the world;*
the earth trem- | bled and shook.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, died for the ungodly, declaring all of humanity righteous by the shedding of His blood.

Grant us the free gift of faith to receive this reality for our salvation, that by Your grace we may serve You in love and righteousness all the days of our lives; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. . . .

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 62

My Soul Waits for God Alone

¹For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from him comes my salvation.

²**He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress;
I shall not be greatly shaken.**

³How long will all of you attack a man
to batter him,
like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?

⁴**They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.
They take pleasure in falsehood.**

**They bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse.**

⁵For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.

**⁶He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress;
I shall not be shaken.**

⁷On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

**⁸Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.**

⁹Those of low estate are but a breath;
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.

**¹⁰Put no trust in extortion;
set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, set not your heart on them.**

¹¹Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,
¹²**and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.**
**For you will render to a man
according to his work.**

Epistle

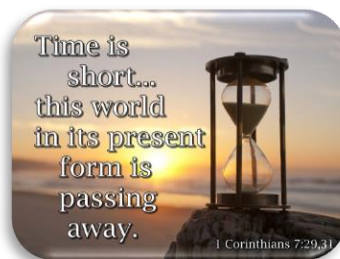
1 Corinthians 7:29–31

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live 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 goods, 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand



Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:14–20

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “**The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.**”

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “**Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.**” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit



Hymn of the Day

549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
 2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

- 5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
 The wormwood and the gall,
 Go, spread your trophies at His feet
 And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your trophies at His feet
 And crown Him Lord of all.
- 6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
 On this terrestrial ball
 To Him all majesty ascribe
 And crown Him Lord of all.
 To Him all majesty ascribe
 And crown Him Lord of all.
- 7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 We at His feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 And crown Him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

Text (sts. 1–5): Edward Perronet, 1726–92, alt.; (sts. 6–7): A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.
Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765–1844
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Proper response is "hear our prayer."

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, heavenly Father, You desire not the death of a sinner but that all would repent and believe the Gospel. In the epiphany of Your Son, Your time of salvation and Your kingdom have come near. As this world passes away, give faithfulness and urgency to Your Church to proclaim the Gospel of our God to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Lord of the harvest, as You called Simon Peter and Andrew, James and John to follow You and made them fishers of men, so send faithful preachers of Your Gospel in our time. Increase the spirit of generosity to all who support the missionaries, seminaries, colleges and other institutions of our Church for the spread of the Gospel and the service of God's people. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Eternal Lord, in view of every current distress as the present form of this world passes away, give constancy and contentment to Your people in their God-given stations. Give comfort and faithfulness to the married, and strengthen them to pass on the faith to the next generation. Show kindness also to the unmarried and assure them of the holiness of their place in life, that they would be freed from anxiety and attend to holiness in body and spirit, undividedly devoted to You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Almighty God, preserve our nation with its rulers. Call to repentance those who have forgotten You. Spare Joseph, our president; *Gavin*, our governor; and all who serve for the good of this people. Do not let disaster befall us but preserve us in peace and quietness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Merciful Father, turn us from every distracting anxiety and the dealings of this world that would draw our hearts away from Your blessed Gospel and its end, eternal life. Give us confidence in the resurrection and the peace of a clean conscience by the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name. Graciously behold and

help those for whom we pray, especially *Alice, Cynthia, Diane, Gene, Johnathan, Jose and his family, Lynette, Marion and her family, Owen, Susie, and Timothy. For our mothers, Adrianna and Sydney, and their babies.* Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Gracious Lord, in Your Holy Sacrament You deliver the Gospel proclaimed by Your Son and won by His death in His true body and blood. Work repentance and faith in all who commune, and unite them in a sincere confession of Your divine truth at this altar. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Offering *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 208

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210



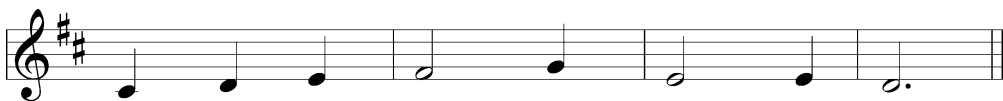
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which
2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
3 Who can con - demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is
4 Though death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, It can - not
5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.

Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401

Tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

628 Your Table I Approach



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
 2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
 3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
 4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
 A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
 Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
 God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
 That earth and hell combined
 May not about this sacrament
 Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail
 To thank You day and night
 For Your true body and true blood,
 O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis


LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart

412 The People That in Darkness Sat



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring
3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In
na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their
Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

5 His righteous government and pow'r
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.

△ 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561
Text and tune: Public domain

Allegro Maestoso from Sonata No. 1 in F Minor

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Acknowledgments

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✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Announcements

+ **Last Sunday's Attendance:** 37

+ **Altar Guild Set Up:** January 21st Marie
January 28th Susie

Cleanup for January: Gayle

+ **Ushers for January:** Leon Tarr and Johnathan Raelison

+ **LWML "Undie Sunday"** – LWML will be collecting new underwear and socks for children, men, and women throughout the rest of January until February 11th. They will be donated to the Orphan Grain Train to help those in need!

+ **Wednesday Evening Bible Study will be Wednesday at 7pm. We hope you will be able to join us in the continued study of the Book of Revelation! Links sent out weekly.**

January Birthdays!

Richard Huhn 26th

Kieran Maher 29th

Jill Killian 30th

Lectionary Summary for the Third Sunday in Epiphany

The Lord Calls Us to Himself by the Preaching of Repentance in His Name

When "the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time," sending him to preach judgment against the great city of Nineveh, "Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord" (Jonah 3:1, 3). By this preaching, the people were brought to repentance. Because they "believed God," as He spoke to them through His prophet, "they turned from their evil way" and were spared "the disaster that he had said he would do to them" (Jonah 3:5, 10). St. Paul also warns that "the appointed time has grown very short" (1 Cor. 7:29). Therefore, while we live in this world and deal with it, we are not to cling to it, nor put our trust in it, for "the present form of this world is passing away" (1 Cor. 7:31). Rather, give "your undivided devotion to the Lord" (1 Cor. 7:35). When our Lord Jesus Christ comes and is proclaimed in the Gospel, "the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand" (Mark 1:14–15). Therefore, He still calls men and sends them to become "fishers of men" with the net of that Gospel (Mark 1:17).

Verse for the Week

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved: in the quietness and in trust shall be your strength." **Isaiah 30:15**

Lutheran's For Life Thoughts

The size of a people (as in the case of Nineveh, Jonah 3:3-4) makes no difference to their worth. Nor does the height of an individual's status (so says the Psalmist, Psalm 62:9) affect his or her sanctity. The life-giving grace of God measures according to His abundance rather than our scarcities of age, appearance, or ability. May we likewise direct gazes beyond abortion's and assisted suicide's shortsightedness (1 Corinthians 7:30-31).

Martin Luther on Discipleship

Christ preaching. Everything proceeds in a simple way. There is a sea, and the Lord Christ preaches from the ship or boat on the sea; the people stand on the shore and listen to him. The people are praised because they listen so cheerfully to the word of God. Whoever has God's word and listens attentively to it has a great advantage.

First, from the word of God one learns to know the will of God, how he is disposed toward us, and what he will do for us in the life to come.

Secondly, We learn from the word how our outward life, position and manner, delineated in the word, and sanctified by the word, is a true service of God, and pleasing in his sight.

Launch out into the deep. Though God is near to us, and willing to supply our wants, yet he will have two things from us; namely, *work* and *hope*; though he delayed a little, yet he here directs Peter to make a draught for fishes; and says: "Launch out into the deep;" as if he would say, Cast in your net, do the works which pertain to a fisherman, and leave the result to me. I will not commit the care, but the work to you...

... *They enclosed a great multitude of fishes.* Christ confirms the faith of temporal and bodily help, in that he bestows so great a draught of fishes upon Peter. But he observes herein this order and rule, which he himself has given, ([Matt. 6:33](#)) "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." According to this Scripture he proceeds and proves the example and experience of it; whereby he also wishes to comfort his church and people, that he will care for them, though they may be everywhere persecuted and driven away. ([Ps. 34:11](#); [33:18](#).) When they had despaired of human counsel, consolation and power, then he comes with his help. Here let us count up what good things faith brings and accomplishes. For above this, that the believer has God's grace and blessing, he has also the promise that he shall have enough for his necessity, causing him a good, quiet, joyful heart; wherefore faith may indeed be called the root of all goodness. There is no lack in good things, there is a lack only in faith; sooner must the angels come and give. To this we must first come, that we may be able to confide our stomachs to the Lord; yet thereby we also must learn that we can confide our souls to God. The Evangelist teaches this.