

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 22, 2017

Worship Focus

Jesus Is Revealed through the Preaching of the Gospel



The people who walked
in darkness have seen
a great light; those who dwelt
in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

Isaiah 9:2

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

81 - Arise and Shine in Splendor

The choir will sing verses 1 and 2. The congregation is asked to sing verses 3 and 4.



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions
3 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er
4 Your heart will leap for glad - ness When from the realms of



ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove,
dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night, To you
yon - der From sin to be set free. The world
sad - ness They come from near and far. Your eyes



the day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty
the Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope—has
has heard your sto - ry; Your sons come to your
will wake from slum - ber As peo - ple with - out



gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.
giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.
glo - ry, And daugh - ters haste your light to see,
num - ber Re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

Text: Martin Opitz, 1597–1639, abc.; tr. Gerhard Gieschen, b. 1899–1987, alt.

Tune: EPPHANY (776 778) Bruce R. Backer, b. 1929. © 1993 Bruce R. Backer. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

Confession
& Absolution

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Almighty God, 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 Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:1-4

Isaiah prophesies that the Christ would come with the light of the Gospel to Galilee of the Gentiles.

^{ISAIAH 9:1} Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan--

² The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.

³ You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as men rejoice
when dividing the plunder.

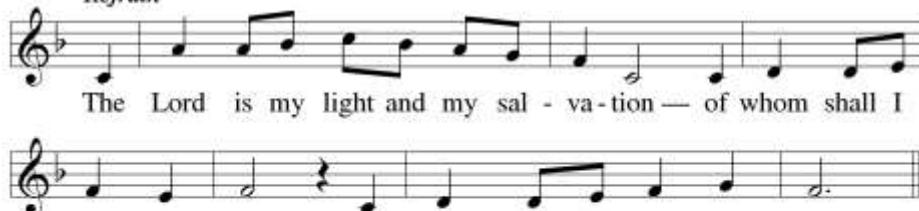
⁴ For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

PSALM

Psalm 27

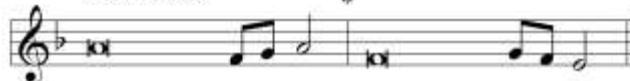
Refrain Tune: David Haas. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
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Refrain



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion — of whom shall I
be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

Psalm tone



Hear my voice when I | call, O LORD;*
be merciful to me and | answer me.

Do not hide your | face from me,*
do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my | helper.

Do not reject me or for | sake me,*
O God my | Savior.

Refrain

Though my father and mother for | sake me,*
the LORD will re | ceive me.

I am still confi | dent of this:*
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the | living.

Wait | for the LORD;*
be strong and take heart and wait | for the LORD.

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.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Paul's ministry focus was on preaching Christ – the great unifier of God's people.

¹ CORINTHIANS 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. ¹¹ My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. ¹² What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized into the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so no one can say that you were baptized into my name. ¹⁶ (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel--not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

VERSE OF THE DAY

**Praise the one who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the one who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands With the Father's word of peace.
(353:1)**

GOSPEL Matthew 4:12-23

Matthew reveals how Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy in his description of Jesus' day to day ministry.

^{MATTHEW 4:12} When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he returned to Galilee. ¹³ Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali-- ¹⁴ to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
the way to the sea, along the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles--

¹⁶ the people living in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.”

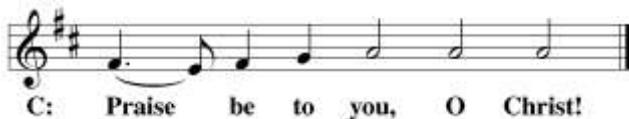
¹⁷ From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HYMN OF THE DAY

85 – O God from God, O Light from Light



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
2 Deep in the proph-ets' sa-cred page, Grand in the
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of
4 Sing to the Lord a might-y song; Sing to his



Peace and King of kings, To you in heav-en's
po-ets' wing-ed word, Slow-ly, in type, from
pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and
name, his glo-ries tell! Sing, heav'n-ly hosts, your



glo-ry bright The song of praise for-ev-er rings,
age to age The na-tions saw their com-ing Lord;
now a-bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn,
praise pro-long, And all on earth, your an-them swell!



To him who sits up-on the throne, The Lamb once
Till through the deep Ju-de-an night Rang out the
Lift up your heads, O might-y gates! So sang the
Wor-thy the Lamb for sin-ners slain! For-ev-er



slain but raised a-gain, Be all the glo-ry
song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in
an-gel hosts a-gain, Lift up your heads—your
let the song as-cend! Wor-thy the Lamb en-



he has won, All thanks and praise! A-men, A-men,
splen-dor bright, Re-ech-oed now, "Good will!" A-men,
King a-waits, We lift them up, A-men, A-men,
throned to reign; Glo-ry and pow'r! A-men, A-men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, *abr.*, *alt.*

Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LM D) Johann Störls . . . *Schlag-Gesang-Und Noten-Buch*, Stuttgart, 1744.

SERMON

Isaiah 9:1-4

The Christ-child is More than a Greeting Card

CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the people of God, that they might rejoice to repent, knowing that the kingdom of heaven is as near as Christ who visits them in His Word and Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church, that Christians may not be divided either by false teaching or foolish quarrels, but that they might live united in the wisdom of Christ as baptized children of their heavenly Father, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the holy ministry, that the Lord would raise up pastors who will faithfully follow Him to be fishers of men, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all people, that the Lord would deliver many from gloom and multiply His kingdom of grace, delivering people from their walk in darkness and bringing them to the light of salvation in Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all nations, that the Lord would increase wisdom among rulers, so that His people might live in peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who live in the darkness of loneliness and depression, that the Lord would attend to them in the shadows they are given to endure, strengthen their faith so that they know they are not forsaken, provide help and companionship, and deliver them to joyful light according to His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For [_____ and] all who are afflicted by disease, pain and evil, that the Christ who healed every disease and affliction among the people of Galilee might deliver them according to His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

We give thanks to You, Almighty God, for Your people whom You have delivered from this world and who now gaze upon Your beauty in glory as they await the day of the resurrection. Until that day when we are added to their number, grant us strength and courage by Your grace to trust Your promises and await Your Son's glorious appearing; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.



SERMON HYMN

90 - The People that in Darkness Sat



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
2 To us a child of hope is born, To us a
3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -
4 His right - eous gov - ern - ment and pow'r Shall o - ver
5 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, And make us



light have seen; The light has shone on them who long In
son is giv'n, And on his shoul - ders ev - er rests All
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The
all ex - tend; On judg - ment and on jus - tice based, His
yours a - lone, For you are with the Fa - ther and The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
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.
reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.
Spir - it ev - er one, The Spir - it ev - er one.

Text: John Morison, 1750-98, abt., alt.

Tune: LOBT GOTT, DER CHRISTEN (86 866) Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561.

PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

84 - Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made And end - less
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Praise his great
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: The pris - 'ner
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Wor - ship and

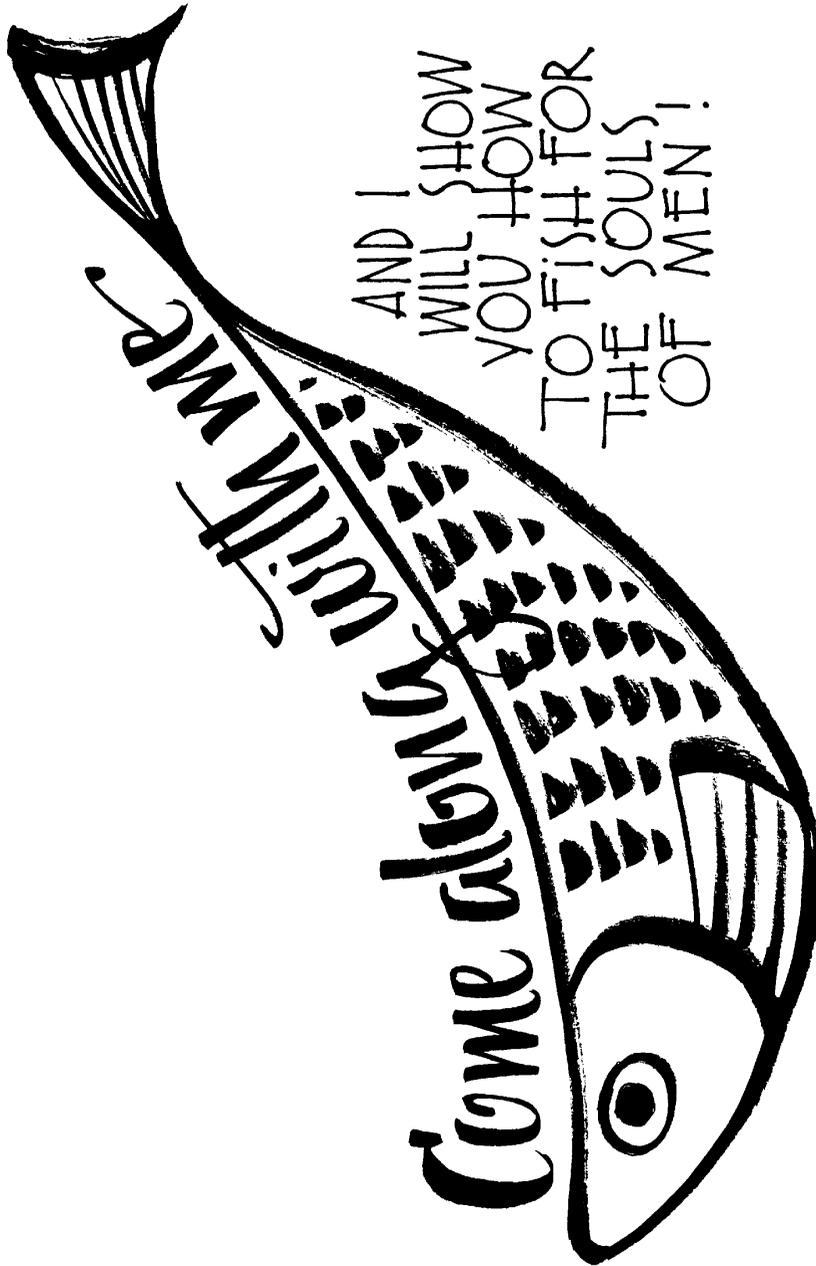


ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
prais - es crown his head; His name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song, And in - fant voic - es
leaps, un - loosed his chains, The wea - ry find e -
hon - or to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
Tune: TRURO (LM) *Psalmody Evangelica*, Part II, London, 1789.



M A T T H E W 4 : 19

COME
FOLLOW ME
AND I WILL MAKE YOU
FISHERS
OF MEN
MATTHEW 4:19