

Come Follow Me!

January 14,
2024



Second Sunday
after Epiphany

WELCOME, GUESTS!!! We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS – It is in the Word that we hear the call of God that has in it the secret power of God to give what he commands. He commands: Believe! and the Word creates faith. He says, Follow me! and the Word creates the desire and the ability to follow him. That he should consider it glorious to call sinners, is that not an amazing thing? That he should attach such power to his Word that we answer the call, is that not a wonder that lasts an eternity for each of us?

MORNING PRAYER - Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP— CW, p.15



OPENING HYMN:

#283

SPEAK, O SAVIOR; I AM LISTENING

****Please Stand for The Last Verse****



1 Speak, O Sav - ior; I am lis - t'ning, As a ser - vant
2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near you And to lis - ten
3 Lord, your words are wa - ters liv - ing Where I quench my
4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; Let your words in



to his lord. Let me show re - spect and hon - or
to your voice! Let me ev - er love and fear you;
thirst - y needs. Lord, your words are bread life - giv - ing;
me take root. May your Spir - it e'er be near me



To your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, That each day, my
Let your Word still be my choice. Man - y hard - ened
On your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, your words will
That I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly



whole life through, I may serve and fol - low
sin - ners, Lord, Flee in ter - ror at your
be my light Through death's cold and drear - y
sing your praise, From my heart glad an - thems



you. Let your Word e'er be my plea - sure
Word, But to all who feel sin's bur - den
night; Yes, they are my sword pre - vail - ing
raise, Till my high - est praise is giv - en



And my heart's most pre - cious trea - sure.
You give peace and words of par - don.
And my cup of joy un - fail - ing.
In the end - less joy of heav - en.

Text: Anna Sophia of Hesse-Darmstadt, 1638-83, abr.; tr. composite.
Tune: WERDE MÜNTER (87 87 77 88) Johann Schop, c. 1590-1667.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

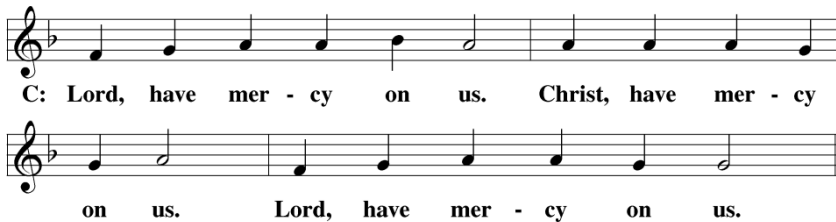
CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE



God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

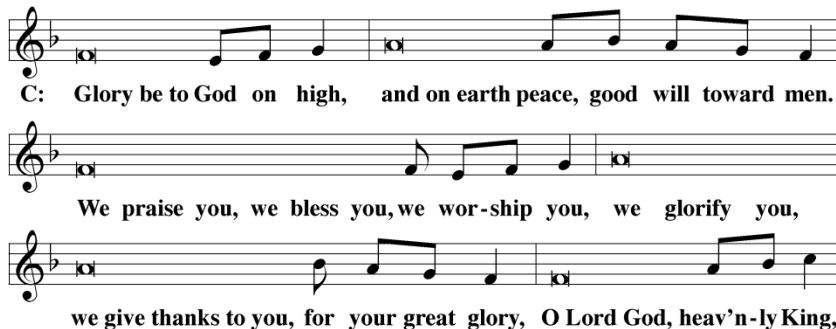


PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

GLORY BE TO GOD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the
 sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
 sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;
 you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

FIRST LESSON:

1 Samuel 3: 1 – 10

The call of God to Samuel initially required no work on Samuel's part. But like the call in the gospel lesson it implies a following that is not going to be easy. If Nathanael and the other disciples will follow Jesus who seems like nothing to reason and to the eyes, they will all need to listen carefully to that Word.

The boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days. Prophetic vision was not common. Now it happened that Eli's eyes had begun to grow dim, so that he could not see. Once when Eli was lying down in his place and God's lamp had not yet gone out, Samuel was lying down in the Lord's temple, where God's ark was. The Lord called Samuel, and Samuel said, "I am here." He ran to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." Eli said, "I did not call. Lie down again." So he went and lay down. Then the Lord called once more, "Samuel!" So Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son. Lie down again."

Now Samuel had not yet experienced the Lord's presence, that is, the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel for the third time. So he got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the young man. So Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'"

So Samuel went and once again lay down in his place. The Lord came and stood there and called as he had the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 67

Refrain



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone



Refrain

May God be gracious to us and bless us*
and make his face shine upon us;
may your ways be known on earth,*
your salvation among all nations.

May the nations be glad and sing for joy,*
for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.

Refrain

Then the land will yield its harvest,*
and God, our God, will bless us.

God will bless us,*
 and all the ends of the earth will fear him.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Refrain

SECOND LESSON

2 THESSALONIANS 2: 13 - 17

The call to faith was glorious in grace and in the power to accomplish its intended purpose. It is the sanctifying work of the Spirit in the Word that calls and creates faith. The call remains glorious when it is translated into the life that follows faith. For that life always has its source, its inspiration, its direction, its strength to persevere in the Word.

But we are always obligated to thank God for you, brothers, loved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning for salvation by the sanctifying work of the Spirit and faith in the truth. For this reason he also called you through our gospel so that you would obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold on to the teachings that were passed along to you, either by word of mouth or by a letter from us. May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and in his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and establish you in every good work and word.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. He said to me, "You are my servant Israel, in whom I will display my glory." Alleluia. (Isaiah 49:3)



HYMN OF THE DAY:

#453

COME, FOLLOW ME, THE SAVIOR SPOKE



1 "Come, fol - low me," the Sav - ior spoke, "All in my
 2 "I am the light; I light the way, A god - ly
 3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with
 4 "I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your
 5 Then let us fol - low Christ our Lord And take the
 way a - bid - ing. De - ny your - selves; the
 life dis - play - ing. I bid you walk as
 love is glow - ing, And gra - cious words my
 souls' sal - va - tion, Your hearts from ev - 'ry
 cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing
 world for - sake; O - bey my call and guid - ing.
 in the day; I keep your feet from stray - ing.
 lips ex - press, With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing.
 guile to free, From sin and its temp - ta - tion.
 to his Word, In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed.
 Oh, bear the cross, what - e'er be - tide; Take
 I am the way, and well I show How
 My heart, my mind, my strength, my all To
 I am the ref - uge of the soul And
 For those who bear the bat - tle's strain The
 my ex - am - ple for your guide.
 you should jour - ney here be - low.
 God I yield; on him I call.
 lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
 crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain."

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–77, abr., st. 1-3, 5; *Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge*, 1695, st. 4; tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96, alt.
 Tune: MACHS MIT MIR, GOTT (87 87 88) Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613, adapt.

GOSPEL

JOHN 1: 43 – 51

There is always a miraculous element in the call of Jesus. For anyone looking at him on the basis of appearance or reason will say what Nathanael said and turn away. In Nathanael's case Jesus read from a distance the thoughts of Nathanael and then promised even more wondrous things. Anyone who thinks that God is far and distant should consider that if he believes the gospel, it is because God is near at hand.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



The next day, Jesus wanted to leave for Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

Nathanael said to him, “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” “Come and see!” Philip told him.

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, “Truly, here is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.” Nathanael asked him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered, “Before Philip called you, while you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”

Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus replied, “You believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that!” Then he added, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



THE APOSTLE’S CREED

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.

****Please Be Seated****

SERMON TEXT

JOHN 1: 43 – 51

SERMON:

BEING SEEN! BEING FOUND!

CREATE IN ME





Please Be Seated

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR EPIPHANY

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

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.

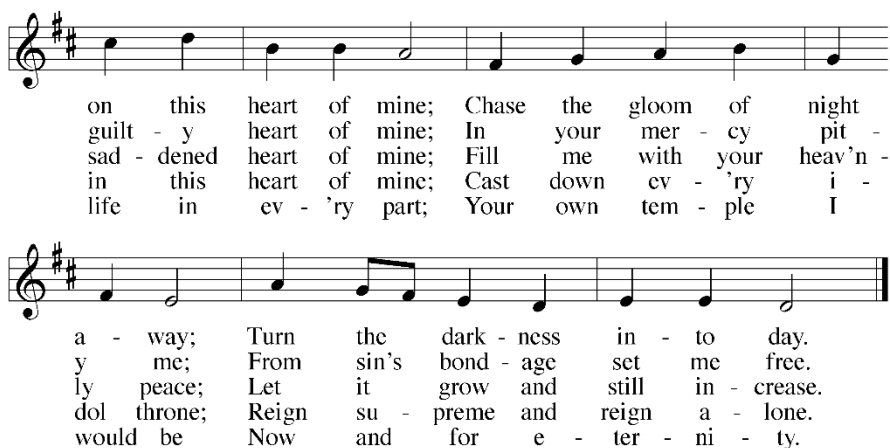


CLOSING HYMN:

#183

HOLY SPIRIT, LIGHT DIVINE





on this heart of mine; Chase the gloom of night
guilt - y heart of mine; In your mer - cy pit -
sad - dened heart of mine; Fill me with your heav'n -
in this heart of mine; Cast down ev - 'ry i -
life in ev - 'ry part; Your own tem - ple I

a - way; Turn the dark - ness in - to day.
y me; From sin's bond - age set me free.
ly peace; Let it grow and still in - crease.
dol throne; Reign su - preme and reign a - lone.
would be Now and for e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Andrew Reed, 1787–1862, abr., alt.

Tune: SONG 13 (77 77) Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625, alt.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Morning Bible Study – For January, we will continue our study of the book of Acts. If you have questions or topics you desire to consider, please email them to Pastor Emmons. Please feel free to come and go as you like; all reading is voluntary.

Council Members Needed – Beginning in May, we offer an additional opportunity to serve our congregation. We will be holding elections for the Vice-president and Treasurer. These are 3-year terms currently held by Mike Hanson and Greg Port (respectively.) Mike can serve one more term; however, Greg has asked to step down from his position. Please consider serving; your church needs you; we need someone to assist with the church's financial matters and monthly council meeting—which you could attend via Zoom.

Home Mission Convention – From January 28 to February 1, Pastor Emmons will attend the ELS Home Mission Convention in Dallas, TX. Should you have any emergency concerns, please contact Elder – Gene Baldwin at 541-610-9978.

Local Pastor Gathering – Weather permitting Pastor Emmons will be in Klamath Falls Thursday, January 18.

Midweek Bible Study – Tuesday Bible Studies will resume on January 9; we will continue studying Romans. We will meet at Pastor Emmons' home at 4384 SW 36th ST, Redmond, OR, or you can join us from the comfort of your home on Zoom. The meeting ID and password are below.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

Password: GraceOT

Annual Congregational/Voters Meeting – Our church body will be meeting April 28 for a congregational meeting this is an informative meeting to make all people aware of issues to be discussed at the Voters Meeting. This announcement is for our Annual voters meeting scheduled for May 5; we will be holding elections for Vice-President and Treasurer at this time along with approving our annual budget.

Summer Vicar – We had anticipated to have our summer vicar it would cost us approximately \$5000. We have received \$5500 in gifts towards this effort and so we are proceeding to plan for Peter Estrem to arrive May 10. We will need members to house him over the summer, please contact Pastor Emmons with the dates you would have a room available.

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