

SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER

Call to Worship • Epiphany 3

[Psalm 97:6, 9 (EHV)]

PASTOR: *Today we pray to the God who shows His humanity through His life and His glory through His miracles. May we be emboldened through His Word and Sacrament to share our saving faith with the strangers around us just as Jesus brought healing, faith, and forgiveness to the strangers around Him.*

“The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

CONGREGATION: **For you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth. You are raised up far above all gods.”**

Hymn • “Thou, Whose Almighty Word”

[ELH 202]

- 1. Thou, whose almighty Word
Chaos and darkness heard
And took their flight:
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the Gospel day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light!**
- 2. Thou who didst come to bring,
On Thy redeeming wing,
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind:
Oh now, to all mankind
Let there be light!**
- 3. Holy and blessed Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might!
Boundless as ocean’s tide,
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the world, far and wide,
Let there be light!**

Confession of Sins and Forgiveness

[Ps 3:7, 143:11, 27:9, 51:15]

P *In the Name of our Lord † Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we call on You, dear heavenly Father:*

C **Almighty Lord God, we stand in Your presence to hear Your Holy Word and to worship You with thanksgiving and prayer.**

P *Rise up, O Lord! Save me, my God!*

C **For the sake of Your name, O Lord, preserve my life.**

P *Do not hide Your face from me. You have been my help.*

C **Do not reject me or forsake me, O God who saves me.**

P *O Lord, open my lips;*

C **And my mouth will declare Your praise.**

P *Hear us as we pray, O Lord:*

A **LL** **Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against You through my own fault, in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life.**

P *Lift up your hearts! For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, God has had mercy upon you, forgiven you all your sin, and at the end will bring those who believe in Him to everlasting life.*

Peace † be with you.

Song of Praise

[TEXT: ELH 66; TUNE: ELH 32]



- A**
1. Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs
 2. "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry,
 3. Let all cre - a - tion join in one



With an - gels round the throne. Ten thou - sand
 "To be ex - al - ted thus." "Wor - thy the
 To bless the sac - red name Of Him that



thou - sand are their tongues, But all their joys are one.
 Lamb," our lips re - ply, For He was slain for us.
 sits up - on the throne And to a - dore the Lamb.

Prayer of the Day • Epiphany 3

P *Lord God, heavenly Father, You bring healing where this sinful world only brings disease and death. Because our greatest illness is unbelief, strengthen our faith through Your Word and Sacrament so that we confidently believe in You as our only Savior. And, as You brought Your healing to many foreigners outside the nation of Israel, strengthen our resolve to share Your Word with our neighbors who may be foreigners to us.*

C **We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our living Lord, who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.**

-Be seated-

First Lesson • 2 Kings 5:1–15



God's love for gentiles—those who are not Israelites—is shown in His healing of Na'aman's flesh which leads to Na'aman's soul being healed through faith.

Na'aman, the commander of the king of Aram's army, was a great man in the opinion of his master. He was highly honored because the LORD had provided victory for Aram through him. Although he was a powerful warrior, he had leprosy.

²Raiding parties had once gone out from Aram and brought back a young girl. She served Na'aman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "I wish my master stood before the prophet who is in Samaria, because he would cure him of his leprosy."

⁴So Na'aman went and told his master what the servant girl from the land of Israel had said.

⁵Then the king of Aram said, "Go there. I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Na'aman went, and he took ten talents of silver and six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. ⁶Then he took the letter to the king of Israel. The letter said, "Now, when you receive this letter, you will know that I am sending my officer Na'aman to you so that you can cure him of his leprosy."

⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothing and said, "Am I God that I can kill and make alive? Why is he sending a man to me for me to heal him from his leprosy? See how he is looking for a pretext to fight against me."

⁸But when Elisha, the man of God, heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king: "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."

⁹So Na'aman went with his horses and chariots and stopped in front of the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰But Elisha sent a messenger out to him to say, "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan. Then your flesh will be restored and you will be clean."

¹¹But Na'aman was angry and he left, saying, "Look, I said to myself, 'He will certainly come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and wave his hand over the place, and I will be cured of the leprosy!' ¹²Aren't the Abana and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went away in a burning rage.

¹³But his servants approached and spoke to him. They said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not do it? How much more when he says to you, 'Wash and be clean'?"

¹⁴So he went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. Then his flesh was restored like the flesh of a small child, and he was clean. ¹⁵Then he

and his whole escort went back to the man of God. He stood in front of Elisha and said, “To be sure, now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now accept a gift from your servant.” (EHV)

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm of the Day • Epiphany 3

[Psalm 97:6, 9, 1, 10 (EHV)]

P *The heavens proclaim his righteousness,*

G **and all the peoples see his glory.**

P *For you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth.*

G **You are raised up far above all gods.**

P *The LORD reigns. Let the earth celebrate.*

G **Let the many islands and coastlands rejoice.**

P *Let those who love the LORD hate evil.*

G **He guards the lives of his favored ones. He delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**

Second Lesson • Romans 12:16–21



Love for strangers is rooted in true Christian humility. Showing love to those who are different from us is not easy, but it is the kind of selfless love God calls us to. Let us show such kindness that we make our neighbors “blush with embarrassment” (or “heap burning coals on their head” as Hebrew-speakers would say).

Do not be arrogant, but associate with the humble. Do not think too highly of yourselves.

¹⁷Do not pay anyone back evil for evil. Focus on those things that everyone considers noble. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, maintain peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath. For it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay,” (Deuteronomy 32:35) says the Lord. ²⁰But:

If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him a drink.

For by doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head. (*Proverbs 25:21,22*)

²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (EHV)

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God!**

-Stand-

Gospel Acclamation • Epiphany 3

[*Psalm 97:1 (EHV)*]

P *Alleluia, alleluia. The LORD reigns. Let the earth celebrate.*

G **Let the many islands and coastlands rejoice. Alleluia!**

Gospel • Matthew 8:1–13



Two men are healed by Jesus through faith. First a leper who believes Jesus “is able to make him clean,” and then a Roman soldier who shows greater faith in Jesus than many others in Israel did.

When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him. ²Just then, a leper came to him and bowed down to him, saying, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”

³Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean.” Immediately he was healed of his leprosy. ⁴Jesus said to him, “See that you tell no one. Instead, go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

⁵When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him and pleaded with him, ⁶“Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed and suffering terribly.”

⁷Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.”

⁸The centurion answered, “Lord, I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. But only say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I am also a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

¹⁰When Jesus heard this, he marveled. He said to those who were following him,

“Amen I tell you: I have not found such great faith in anyone in Israel. ¹¹I tell you that many will come from the east and the west and will recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. ¹²But the children of the kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

¹³Jesus said to the centurion, “Go. Let it be done for you as you have believed.” And his servant was healed at that very hour. (EHV)

📖 *Here ends the Gospel.*

🙏 **Thanks be to God!**

-Be seated-

Sermon Hymn • “On Galilee’s High Mountain”

[ELH 195]

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| <p>1. On Galilee’s high mountain
Christ gave the great command
In words of strength and promise
Which all can understand:
“All pow’r to Me is given
To do what I shall choose.
Therefore I send My children;
Their witness I will use.”</p> | <p>2. The Lord, who, born of Mary,
Came down as Man and died,
Who preached to all who listened,
For us was crucified.
This Lord, our living Brother,
In pow’r at God’s right hand
Has chosen us to carry
His truth to ev’ry land.</p> |
| <p>3. Lord, gather all your children,
Wherever they may be,
And lead them on to heaven
To live eternally
With You, our loving Father,
And Christ, our Brother dear,
Whose Spirit guards and gives us
The joy to persevere.</p> | |

Sermon • 2 Kings 5:1–15

Na’aman Takes A Bath

Apostles' Creed

[ELH p. 46]

☐ *Having heard the Word of God, we confess our holy faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:*

☒ **I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

And 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 shall 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.**

Reception of Offerings and Prayer



Offerings are brought by those who are thankful to God for saving them through Jesus. Before the service starts we collect the offering in the designated areas in the entryway and Gathering Room.

For those who wish to give digitally, please use the link to our PayPal account to the left, or consult our Church Website: www.trinityels.org

Prayer for God's Continued Mercy ~ *Kyrie Eleison*

☐ *Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore.*

☒ **Amen.**

☐ *For our salvation which brings us peace with God; we pray to You, O Lord:*

☒ **Lord, have mercy.**

☐ *For the peace of the whole world, and the safety of the Christian Church; we pray to You, O Lord:*

☒ **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For this congregation and its members who join together in faith, reverence, and the fear of God; we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For all faithful pastors and teachers in the service of Christ; we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For our country, our elected officials, and all those in public service; we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For this city, for every city and country, and for all faithful Christians who live in them; we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For favorable weather, an abundance of crops, and temperate seasons; we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For all those who travel by land, sea, and air; and for the sick and the suffering; we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and distress; we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

-Additional petitions may be prayed here, each using the following formula-

P *For ... [additional petitions] ... we pray to You, O Lord:*

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P *Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions:*

-Silence for personal prayer-

☞ *Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.*

☞ **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord's Prayer

☞ *Hear us as we pray, O Lord:*

☞ 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.

-Be seated-

Hymn • “Before Your Awesome Majesty”

[ELH 50]

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| <p>1. Before Your awesome majesty,
We humbly bow, we bend the knee
As to no merely earthly king,
Creator, Lord of ev'rything.</p> | <p>2. No God is there besides You, Lord,
No life is there without Your Word;
Yet neither might nor glory move
Us to adore You as Your love.</p> |
| <p>3. Beginning and the End are You,
To You all praise and thanks are due;
What stars and saints and angels see,
Grant us to share eternally.</p> | |

-Stand-

Prayer of Thanksgiving

☞ *Let us pray:*

We give thanks to You, Lord God the Father, that You have given us Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

We give thanks to You, Lord Jesus Christ, that You have borne in Your sacred body all our sins, and by Your blood have blotted out all our transgressions.

We give thanks to You, Lord the Holy Spirit, that You have created in our hearts true faith, that we know of nothing to trust for our salvation except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

☞ O God, grant us Your grace to remain in this saving faith until we see You face to face in life eternal. We ask it all in Christ's name. Amen.

God's Final Blessing for His People

☞ *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.*

☞ Amen.

Closing Hymn • “Jesus Shall Reign Wher'er the Sun”

[ELH 193]

1. **Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.**
3. **People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.**
6. **Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen.**

Worship Notes

- Preacher: Pastor Hartwig
- Organist: Donna Moll
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