

Service of the Word for the Home and for ZOOM
Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 24, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Are You Online? Join Zoom Worship!

Please email Caitlyn in the office at officefelc@zoominternet.net to be added to the email list for a link to the service.

Not Online? Join Us Over the Phone!

+1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 956 305 5281
Password: 408299

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I 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.

Amen.

HYMN (next page)

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found
him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us,
which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord,
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,
that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing,
is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.

Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent.

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GREETING

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

And also with you

GLORY TO GOD

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE WORD

FIRST READING **Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 62:5-12 *read responsively*

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 never be shaken.**

⁷In God is my deliverance and my honor;

God is my strong rock and my refuge.

⁸**Put your trust in God always, 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 cannot 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 belongs to God.

¹²**Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord,
for you repay all according to their deeds.**

SECOND READING **1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We welcome the gospel:

***Alleluia!* The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 1:14-20

The Holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY *online*

HYMN

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

Responding together to Christ's call, let us offer our prayers for all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "Our hope is in you."

We pray for the church, especially Kurt and Elizabeth, our bishops, for Kimberly, our pastor, for Signe, Kevin, and Harry, and all musicians, and for Sharon, our education coordinator, and for all God's baptized people, that the Spirit grant wisdom to follow Christ's call. O God our salvation, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for Sunday schools and for all parish education, for teachers and participants, young and old, that God form the faithful even when classes cannot regularly meet in person. O God our power, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for the nations, for our elected and appointed leaders, for racial concord in our cities, and for those who have been considered our enemies, that God lead the world into commonwealths of justice and peace. O God our stronghold, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for those who are charged with maintaining an ordered society, for state and local law enforcement, and for the military, that God guide the powerful to serve the common good. O God our refuge, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for relief from COVID-19, for the fearful, the sick, and the dying, for medical workers, for all who await the vaccine, for the unemployed and the quarantined, that God uphold the world's people through this time of affliction. O God in whom we trust, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray for all who are sick, distressed, or grieving, that God sustain and comfort those who suffer; we remember especially those who are experiencing suicidal desperation in these times, that God hold before them comfort and hope. O God our deliverance, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We pray finally for ourselves, that as we pour out our hearts to God, our faith in divine mercy be renewed. O God of steadfast love receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

We join in thanksgiving for all your people from ancient times until today who have lived and died in faith. Today remember Jean, and we pray that at our end God unite us with them in everlasting peace. O God of eternal might, receive our prayer:

Our hope is in you.

Merciful God, receive the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Finally, as Jesus have taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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 SENDING

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of all hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Mollie Hibbs	Assisting Minister
Holly Schubert	Reader
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Marlin Boltz	AV Assisting Minister
Heather Helsel	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Susan Farrell and Sue Morrow	Counters

Flowers are given to the glory of God by the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 1/25	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 1/26	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
Wednesday, 1/27	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 1/28	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
Saturday, 1/30	9:00 AM	AA Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We mourn with the family and friends of Jean Baldauf, who died in resurrection hope on Monday, January 18th. A Zoom memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 30th, at 1 p.m. using the regular worship link. All are welcome.

The annual meeting will take place on January 31, in accordance with our congregation's by-laws. The meeting will be held in a hybrid zoom/in-person format. Those members of our congregation who call into zoom worship via landline or who do not have any zoom access will be invited to worship in person on that day and attend the congregational meeting. The church council respectfully asks that those who are able to join worship and the meeting by zoom video please do so. This arrangement will allow *all* members to be able to ask questions and make comments in the annual meeting (as is legally required) while keeping the risk of coronavirus transmission as low as possible. Please remember that community transmission is still high and that our staff, our A/V technicians, and a couple of our council members do not have the option of staying home if we are to lead worship and the meeting in a suitable way. We want to protect them as much as possible. *Following worship on January 24, Pastor Kimberly will host a zoom training to prepare zoom attendees to participate in the meeting.*

PRAYERS

The Jones family, the family of Jean Baldauf, Gene Fozard, Jamie Goehring, Jason Beckwith, and Devin, Codi, Savannah, Alyssa & Ethan, Rachel Faulkner, Graham Cannon, the family of Pastor Christine and Mark Rotella, Dewey Miller, Edna Hartman, and their loved ones; Debbie Damiano, Frida Nelson, Pam and children, the family and friends of Jake, the family of Marian Boltz, the family of Zack, Sue Morrow, Joan, Joey Lash, Andrea Dubler, Janice Critchlow, Pastor Karl Schoch, Anne Ferguson, the family of Dan Hanczar, Jeanette Cunningham, Marsh Miller, Ida Miller, Helen Wagner, the Lawson family, the Bodnar family, Tyler Jacob Huey, Meredith, Mary and Eleanor, Larry, Frederick Miller, Jim Buehler, Justin Buehler, Cyndy Halin, Cindy Regis & her daughter Angie, Josh, Aryl Bashline, Dave and Diana Braun, David and Gina & family, Shirley Sellers, Crystal, the family of Mary Heist, Gayle Wynn, Mary Maloney, the family of Ryan Warheit, the family of Scot Taylor, Claude, Audrey & Jonah Clark, Ed Beck, the family of Jim Templet, all those affected by the wildfires in California and Colorado, the family of Edgard Nieto, the family of Marjorie Ellis, Anita, Jamie and Kaitlin Sprague, Graham Cannon, Becky Wyckoff, Larry Hamil, Jan Nieto, the family of Mildred Dollhopf, Sandy Snyder, David and Emma Lee Hartle, the family of Hailey Matheson, Ryan, Forest and Marietta White, Christine Pflugh, Asyiah, the family of Nancy, Joyce Hall, Bruni Bilowich, Karen Vavro, Doug Horner, Sandy, Lisa, Wendy, Rhonda, Judy M., Mary Ellen, Claudia, Karen, Kitty Walker, Gina Ambrosio, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Tad Sellers, Ralph D'Antonio.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The prophet speaks with God's authority

Psalm 111

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps. 111:10)

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Limits to liberty: the case of food offered to idols

Mark 1:21-28

The healing of one with an unclean spirit