# The Third Sunday after Epiphany

Commemoration of Agnes, Martyr ELW Holy Communion Setting One January 21, 2024

10:30 AM



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

www.oslc-warrenton.org

#### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

#### Amen.

The presiding minister leads the prayer of preparation.

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

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 presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore 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.

The service continues with gathering song.

# GATHERING SONG I Love to Tell the Story

of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

#### Refrain

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

#### **ELW 661**

- 2 I love to tell the story:
  how pleasant to repeat
  what seems, each time I tell it,
  more wonderfully sweet!
  I love to tell the story,
  for some have never heard
  the message of salvation
  from God's own holy word.
  Refrain
- 3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.

  And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

# During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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.

The assembly is seated.

#### **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

#### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Children come forward as we sing:

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)Let it shine, let it shine

FIRST READING: JONAH 3:1-5, 10 A reading from Jonah.

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So 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. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When 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: PSALM 62:5-12**

<sup>5</sup>For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.

<sup>6</sup>God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall nev- er be shaken.

<sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

<sup>8</sup>Put your trust in God al- ways, O people,

pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

<sup>9</sup>Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate can- not be trusted.

Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

<sup>10</sup>Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

<sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power be-longs to God.

<sup>12</sup>Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

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

## A reading from First Corinthians.

<sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and 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, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

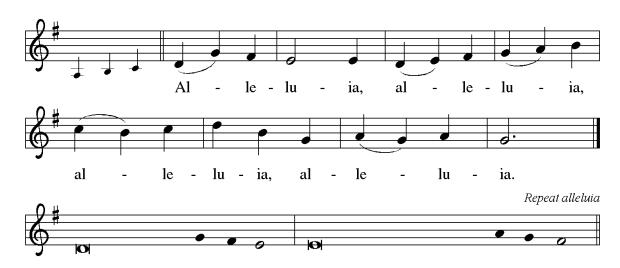
The word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(JOHN 1:41, 17)

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Alleluia. We have found | the Messiah:\* Jesus Christ, who brings us | grace and truth. Alleluia.

#### **GOSPEL: MARK 1:14-20**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of

Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

## The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** 

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

# There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

- 1 There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.

  There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n.

  There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.
- 2 There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good; there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

  There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

#### **ELW 588**

- 3 For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
  But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all: greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall. Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word, and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

#### **CREED**

Let us profess the faith of the whole church, using the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

- For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
- For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

#### A brief silence.

God our rock and deliverance, do not let your church be shaken. We trust you never abandon your promises to the most vulnerable among us. Give your church wisdom and empathy in its varied ministries. God of grace,

#### receive our prayer.

God who proclaims judgement and offers mercy, be a model to the leaders of our nation and the world. As they lead, may they follow in your way of justice and truth. God of grace,

# receive our prayer.

God of resurrection and new life, as the first disciples shared the good news, empower us and this faith community to be open to your call. When we are uncertain of your call, assure us. When we have strayed from your ways, redirect us. God of grace,

# receive our prayer.

# Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who cares for the suffering, care for survivors of assault and sexual abuse, such as the martyr, Agnes of Rome. Keep safe any who live under threat of violence, those living in poverty, and any among us who are ill or in pain (*especially*). God of grace,

# receive our prayer.

God who holds the saints against your tender bosom, we trust you welcome them into your care. Comfort those who grieve, even as we place our hope in your salvation. God of grace,

#### receive our prayer.

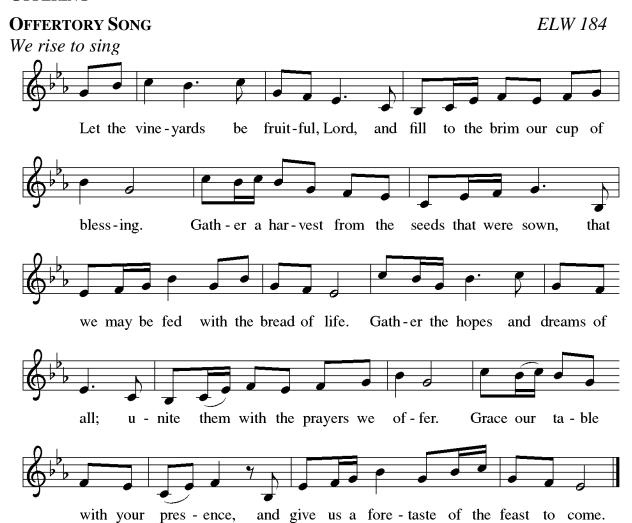
Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

#### **PEACE**

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of Christ.

# MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### **OFFERING**



#### OFFERING PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister may lead the following prayer.

Let us pray together.

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

#### DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **PREFACE**

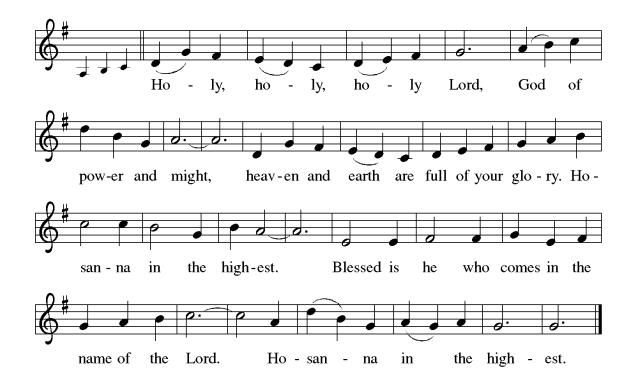
The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

On behalf of the assembly, the presiding minister offers a sacrifice of praise and thanks.

Blessed are you, O holy God: by you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

#### Amen

#### LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

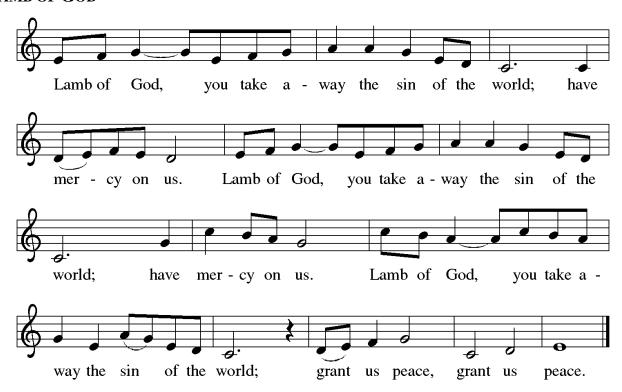
#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The presiding minister may address the assembly in the words of Isaiah 60.

Arise, shine, the Light has come.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

#### LAMB OF GOD



#### **COMMUNION**

We believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. All baptized Christians are invited to his table. To learn about being baptized, speak to a pastor.

You may eat the Body and drink the Blood from the cup, or you may dip the Body into the Blood before consuming them together. Alternatively, you may cross your arms in front of your chest to ask for a blessing instead of either or both elements. Those who refrain may do so trusting that Christ is fully present according to his promise.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads the following prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BLESSING**

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

#### SENDING SONG

### I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

#### Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

# ELW 815

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.
Refrain

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 TEXT © 1970, 1975 CELEBRATION.

#### DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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#### **UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

# Agnes, martyr, died around 304 Sunday, January 21, 2024

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

#### **Conversion of Paul**

#### Thursday, January 25, 2024

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.

# Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries Friday, January 26, 2024

These three early Christian men were missionary companions of the apostle Paul. Timothy became bishop of Ephesus, Titus bishop of Crete, and Silas was imprisoned with Paul at Philippi until they were delivered by an earthquake.

# Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith Saturday, January 27, 2024

Women as well as men were important Christian leaders from the beginning, as demonstrated by these coworkers of the apostle Paul. Lydia, a seller of purple goods, lent her home for a church; Dorcas was known for charitable works; and Phoebe was a deacon in the church at Cenchrae.