

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 23, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

At Easter, on the road to Emmaus, the Lord Jesus taught us how all the Scriptures ultimately point to Him and His ministry of salvation. Today, we hear the same claim at the beginning of His ministry. Quoting Isaiah 61, He tells His hometown neighbors, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing” (Luke 4:21). They were impressed. But only for a short moment. Not everyone will listen to the Word of God until it first inspires repentance over sin. Only when God gets us to face up to our real need, the forgiveness of sins, does the Spirit of God work true faith in the heart that results in praise of God who saves us. The world wants only to cover up and does not like hearing God call what we are doing and what we are sin. In a strange way, however, the Christian actually likes getting honest and facing up to sin, confessing it in order to receive God’s gift of forgiveness and new life. As one Body in Christ, we respond with one voice in praise to God.

HYMN “You Are My All in All” -Dennis Jernigan
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1. You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my All in All.
Seeking you as a precious jewel,
Lord to give up I’d be a fool,
You are my All in All.

Chorus: Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.

2. Taking my sin my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name,
You are my All in All.
When I fall down, You pick me up;
When I am dry, You fill my cup.
You are my All in All. *Chorus*

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Romans 7:12, 22–24*

Pastor: In Romans 7, St. Paul writes about the battle between the old nature and the new one. He says, “The law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

People: For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,

Pastor: but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

People: Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

People: To You, O God, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds, and also by the good that we have failed to do. Our love for You and for our neighbors has been weak or

even dead. By Your Law, You reveal the judgment we rightly deserve. Because Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, has fulfilled Your Law on our behalf, we beg Your forgiveness and grace to restore us to life with You in the fellowship of all believers. Amen.

Pastor: Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ, our Lord! In the stead and by the command of our Savior, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

BELL CHOIR “Be Thou My Vision” -arr. Lloyd Larson

INTROIT *Psalm 102:18–22; antiphon v. 13*

You will arise and have pity on Zion; it is the time to favor her; the appointed time has come. Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord: that he looked down from his holy height; from heaven the Lord looked at the earth, to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die, that they may declare in Zion the name of the Lord, and in Jerusalem his praise, when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the Lord. **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.** You will arise and have pity on Zion; it is the time to favor her; the appointed time has come.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Jesus, Name Above All Names” -Naida Hearn

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1. Jesus, name above all names
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord
Emmanuel, God is with us
Blessed Redeemer, living Word

2. Jesus, loving Shepherd
Vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world

3. Praise him, Lord above all lords
King above all kings, God’s only Son
The Prince of Peace, who by his Spirit
Comes to live in us, Master and Friend

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, Your Word clearly shows Your love for the world in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Give to us both heartfelt repentance and faith that we may rejoice together and praise Your goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10* (Ezra reads the Law.) All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men

and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ... And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ... They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 19:7–14*

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the just decrees of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 12:12–31a* (One Body with many members) For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Luke 4:18a*

Pastor: Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor.

People: Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 4:16–30* (Jesus rejected at Nazareth)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” -Stuart Townend

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1. How deep the Father’s love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything:
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

SERMON "Rejected"

Every fall at Seminary, the new students would be placed at congregation that they would serve at for at least two years while studying to be a pastor. When that day would roll around, it was always a big day on campus. All of the new students, as well as the pastors that would soon mentor them, would gather in the auditorium to have Professor Pless announce the assignments. Once your name was called, you would get up, meet your supervisor, and then go have lunch with him in the cafeteria. With a last name like Kooi, I figured I would receive my placement about half-way through. As he made his way through the "G's" and the "H's", he skipped me! I wondered, "was it a simple mistake? Did he forget me?" "Am I doing something else?" "Is there not a place for me?" As he announced the other names, he skipped over others, too. Jens, John, and Robert weren't called, either. Once he "finished," he said, "And now, for the Ohio placements...."

I thought "Ohio placements?! How far is that from here?" Professor Pless continued through the names, and then said, "Nick Kooi, St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Ohio City, Ohio, with Tim Simms." I got up, met my supervisor, and then went to lunch. As we ate together, he said, "You will enjoy your time here; St. Thomas is a little country church, and you're probably going to have a hard time finding this place. It's not on google maps. You should probably write this down. Take 469 to 30, and stay on that for 30 miles. Once you see some windmills, get ready to turn on this little side road. Take that for another ten miles, and after the second stop sign, turn right." It would take about an hour to get there. Pastor Simms was right, though. It was hard to find, but I did enjoy the time there. When I was installed, they had a nice reception for me, and had one for when I went on vicarage. It was the place where I learned how to lead services, and learned how to feel less nervous about leading them. It was where I did my first sermons, and where I learned how to do Bible studies. It was a good place to grow, and Pastor Simms was a good mentor. (The people were nice and gracious, just like at Emmaus.) It was a great first experience into the public ministry. In Luke 4, we see Jesus beginning His public ministry, and in His hometown, nonetheless! How does the experience go? Let's find out.

Luke tells us that Jesus returns from His temptation "**in the power of the Spirit to Galilee**," and that a positive report about Him goes out into all the surrounding country. Jesus puts the opportunity to good use, and He preaches in their synagogues, being praised by all. He next goes to His hometown, Nazareth. Nazareth was the place He grew up in, played in, worked in, and lived in. It should be a homecoming of sorts for Jesus; He should receive a hero's welcome! If He was praised elsewhere, He should certainly be praised here!

Following the custom instilled on Him by His parents, He goes on the Sabbath Day to the synagogue for worship. At the synagogue, the Scriptures would be read and explained, the origin of which comes from our Old Testament reading. At the synagogue, Jesus is handed a massive Isaiah scroll. A complete Isaiah scroll from the period measured 20 feet long by 10 inches wide! I remember seeing one that was about 30 feet long!

As Jesus holds this massive scroll, He finds the appointed reading for the day: Isaiah 61:1-2. There, it is not Isaiah speaking, but the Messiah! How appropriate! Jesus reads, "**The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.**" As the words finish leaving His mouth, He rolls up the scroll, hands it back to the attendant, and sits down.

The eyes of all in the synagogue are upon Him. There is a touch of suspense, a feel of awe, a tingle of anticipation, an awkwardness of silence. The hometown hero speaks: "**Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.**" Who wouldn't like to hear that? A message of freedom, release, good news, and God's favor that is being fulfilled as He speaks! The people speak well of Jesus, and they marvel at the gracious words coming from His mouth. They are filled with wonder, and say, "**Is not this Joseph's son?**" The one we

know, and have lived with? Where did this come from? Joseph must be so proud of Him!” Things seem to be going well as people marvel over the hometown prophet and boy.

However, there will be no nice reception for Jesus. He anticipates their response, and what will happen next. He knows they will want to see some miracles, and He announces they won’t get any. He breaks the news that “**no prophet is acceptable in his hometown.**” His prediction will shortly come true, but not without one more teaching moment.

He takes them back to His sermon, and says that the freedom, release, good news, and favor He proclaimed is not just *for them*: it is for gentiles, too. Jesus points them back to Elijah and Elisha, other prophetic miracle workers who show how God’s grace was extended to Gentiles. He says, “Don’t you remember how Elijah was sent to the widow of Zarephath, and Elisha cleansed Naaman the Syrian? God’s grace isn’t just for the Jews.”

And so, do level heads prevail? Do people come to their senses? Does repentance pour forth over their hard heartedness and pride? Do their eyes open, and their ears hear the wonderful message that Jesus proclaimed? Not at all.

Their senses remain dull. Their hearts remained closed. Their eyes are squinted shut. Their ears are covered. Jesus is the One Who should repent for such a message! Their anger erupts, and they drive Him out of town, ready to kill. Poor Jesus is rejected by the people He grew up with and knows. He is shunned by friends, and those whom He smiled at in the marketplace. He is rejected by those He built tables for, and repaired carts for. He is rejected by those whom He lived among, and worked by. All of those relationships and memories are tossed aside, or in this case, off the cliff. The hometown prophet must die...but not today. He passes through their midst, and goes on His way. How did His experience go? How was His first taste of public ministry? Not great. He is utterly rejected, which is a precursor of things to come. Sadly, it is the pattern of His life and ministry.

Jesus is rejected by the religious elite: the scribes, Sadducees, Pharisees, and experts of the Law. They want to kill the One they read about for years! Jesus will be rejected by the rulers: Pilate, Herod, and the Sanhedrin will not pay homage to this King. He is rejected by His disciples: He was not the Messiah Judas wanted, but was the One he needed; the others will leave Him for dead. He is rejected by the crowd as they choose the guilty murderer Barabbas, and it gets worse. He is even rejected by the most despised people in society: the thief on the cross rails at Him as they both die. He is rejected by you, and me, when we sin, which is us choosing ourselves and our ways over Him.

All of this culminates at another hill that Jesus will find Himself at, but this one, He does not escape. At this one, He doesn’t walk through the crowd. At the cross, Jesus is finally rejected by His Father as He yells out these words: “**My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?**” What a terrible pattern: rejected by all.

But Jesus was rejected so I never have to say these words: “**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**” Jesus was rejected so He could one day say to me: “Today you will be with Me in paradise.” He was rejected so I could be free from sin’s power and control, and the devil’s domain. He was rejected so I can have my eyes opened by the Holy Spirit. And it all culminates in this paradox: He was rejected so I could be His own. His rejection is my acceptance before God. His punishment is my peace. His death is my deliverance, and His suffering is my salvation.

Jesus’ foray into public ministry was less than ideal but shows us what to expect: Jesus is rejected so that I may be His own.

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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;

Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us

with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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 WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

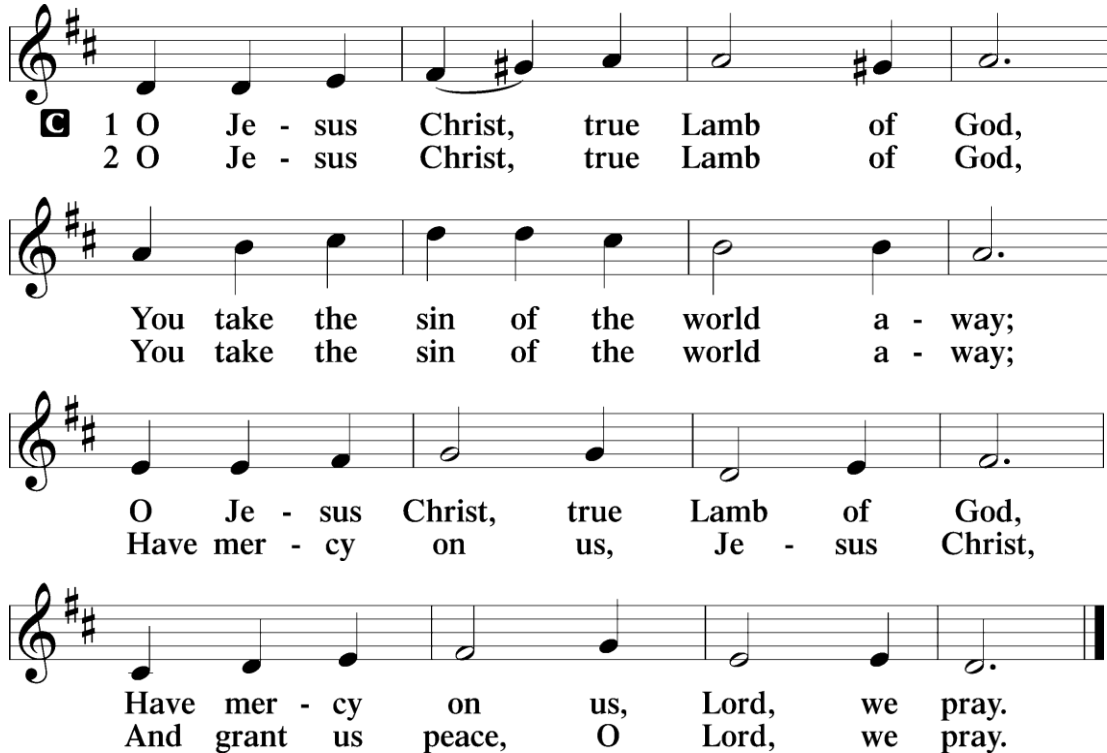
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "Beautiful Savior" *LSB 537*

1 Beautiful Savior,
 King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
 Truly I'd love Thee,
 Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
 Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
 Jesus is fairer,
 Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
 Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
 Jesus shines brighter,
 Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,
 Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
 Glory and honor,
 Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!
Text: Public domain

BLESSING

Pastor: May our Lord's body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN “Freely, Freely” -Carol Owens
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1. God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to.

Chorus: He said, “Freely, freely, you have received:
Freely, freely give.
Go in my name and because you believe,
Others will know that I live.”

2. All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name,
In earth and heav'n in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His pow'r as He told me to. *Chorus*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *1 Corinthians 12:16* – “And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ that would not make it any less a part of the body.” The Lord has called each of us individually and given each of us unique gifts. He has made our whole lives holy in our Baptism and has called us to a life together in the Church, His body. You are a part of that body, and that body needs you and the gifts the Lord has given you. This is your holy calling from the Lord.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Please join us after worship on Sunday, January 30 for our next Congregational Meeting. We will be voting on the 2022 budget. Copies of the full proposed budget and the summary are in the narthex available for review.

CONVENTION DELEGATES: Plans are underway for the 2022 District Convention to be held on June 9-11, 2022 at Concordia University, St. Paul. Emmaus must submit delegate nominations by February 4. We are accepting nominations. If anyone would like more information, please talk to Pam U. or Pastor K.

SUPER BOWL TRAIL MIX: Are you ready for the big game? Are you ready for the better than normal commercials? Are you ready to have a good time on February 13th? The answer is...NO. You are missing something! What is it, you may ask? Emmaus Youth Trail Mix! To help enhance your Super Bowl experience (along with raise money for upcoming conferences), the Youth will be making a variety of trail mixes. They are...

- Chocolate Cherry (NUT FREE)
- Chex Mix with or without nuts
- Fruit and Nut with or without M&M's
- Puppy Chow

Trail mix comes in a quart-sized bag and is a free will donation. Let Pastor Nick or Dawn know how much and what you would like by January 28th. Orders will be available February 13th for pickup before and after church. You can also pickup or have it dropped off during the week of 2/7.

2021 GIVING STATEMENTS: You will receive your contribution statement in the mail if your total contribution amount for 2021 is \$250 or more. Statements will be mailed no later than January 31. If your contribution to Emmaus was less than \$250, you did not receive the statement by early February, or you need a replacement copy of your statement please either leave a message on the Emmaus church phone or call Nancy W and I will get one sent to you as soon as possible.

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “It’s Not the Healthy” Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The story of a pastor who preached Christ’s forgiveness to a congregation of criminals. (Luke 5:17-39)

B3: BEACON BASKETBALL BLAST FOR 6TH-8TH GRADERS: Students in Grades 6-8 are invited to Concordia Academy on Friday, February 4, at 5:00 PM for home boys and girls basketball games vs. St. Agnes, pizza, popcorn, photo booth pics, halftime games, and awesome prizes. It’s all free for 6th-8th graders! (Parents also get free admission to the basketball games.) Get more details and RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/b3.

CONCORDIA ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE: Concordia Academy’s open house on February 10, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, gives prospective students and families a great chance to see how CA honors God through excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and more! Meet teachers and students, take a tour, learn about programs, and see if CA is the right fit. Please RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/openhouse.

THIS WEEK AT EMMAUS:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. ZOOM Education Hour

Mon: Annual Reports due to Maria

Wed: Bulletin Deadline

1:30 p.m. Bible Study

5 p.m. Confirmation Class

Fri: Office closed – call Pastor in emergencies

Sat: 12-5 p.m. Organist Rehearsal

Next Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting (in person and Zoom)