



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620

www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org + 402-395-2043

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

January 21, 2024 ✝️ THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

✝️ GATHERING ✝️

Prelude

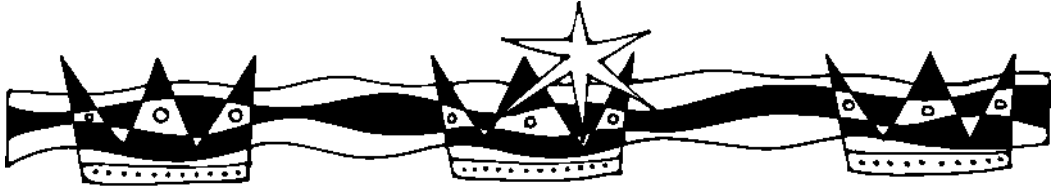
(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





Third Sunday After The Epiphany

Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

When we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Today the Good News is announced. The Savior calls!

(Silence is kept for self-reflection and confession.)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**Our lives have been shortsighted
and surrounded only with ourselves.**

We need repentance

and the good News your Son Jesus Christ came to proclaim.

For his sake, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and let your light shine upon us,
so that we may delight in your will and follow where you call,
to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Good News! Jesus Christ was given to die for us;
in him the time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near.

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.

Gathering Song

We Are Called

#720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text & Music: David Haas, b. 1957
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Opening Litany

Lord, you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
And only you can take us where we want to go.

But we are so often so easily enticed to go down the road that leads to self destruction.

Forgive us, O Lord, and turn us from our evil ways.

We so often find ourselves walking on paths that only lead to pain.

Forgive us, O Lord, and turn us from our evil ways.

We so often let our physical desires and selfish needs dictate where we will go.

Forgive us, O Lord, and turn us from our evil ways.

We so often are directed by people who don't have our best interests at heart.

Forgive us, O Lord, and turn us from our evil ways.

Turn our lives around, O Lord,
**and lead us on your path to fulfillment and joy,
forgiveness and salvation.**

Apostolic Greeting

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the wisdom of God the Father,
and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

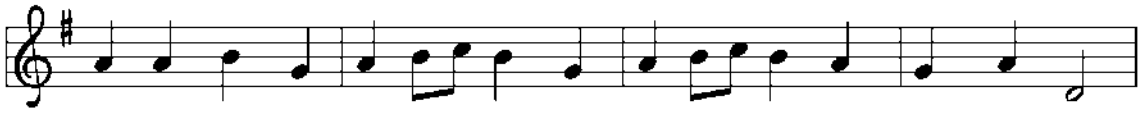
ELW setting 10



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

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.**

✠ 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?"

A reading from Jonah.

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

Let us read Psalm 65 responsively.

⁵For God alone I wait in silence;
truly, my hope is in God.

**⁶God 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.

**⁸Put 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.

**¹⁰Put 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.

**¹²Steadfast 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.

A reading from First Corinthians.

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.**

Alleluia Verse

ELW setting 10



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:14-20

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.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.**

Children's Time Sermon

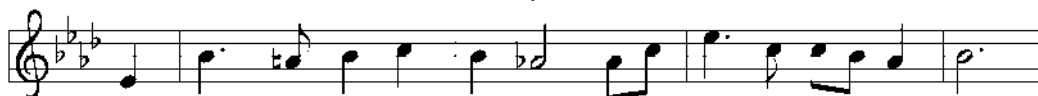
Hymn of the Day

I Love to Tell the Story

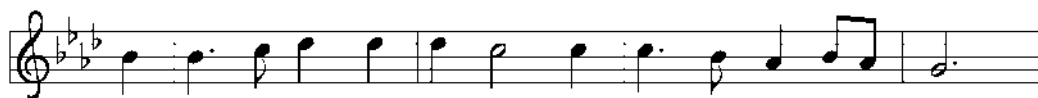
#661



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Apostle's Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 the People

P 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.

A 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.**

P God our hope and refuge, you placed the fish in the sea.

Guide our care of oceans and all creatures that live in them.

Hold us accountable for actions that endanger water sources
and the people who depend on them.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A 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.**

P God who cares for the suffering,
care for survivors of assault and sexual abuse
and sustain all who minister to them.
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.**

A 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.**

P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence...
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A 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.**

P 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

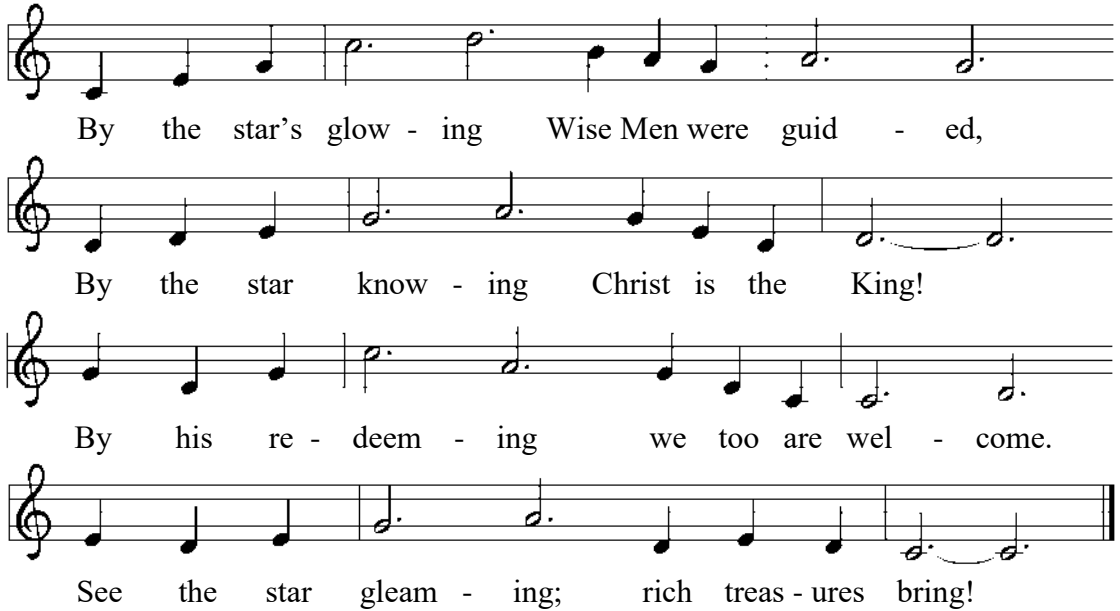
The Peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.



✠ OFFERING ✠

Offering Response

(Tune: #556)



By the star's glow - ing Wise Men were guid - ed,
By the star know - ing Christ is the King!
By his re - deem - ing we too are wel - come.
See the star gleam - ing; rich treas - ures bring!

Tune: Public Domain

✠ MEAL ✠

Great Thanksgiving

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.



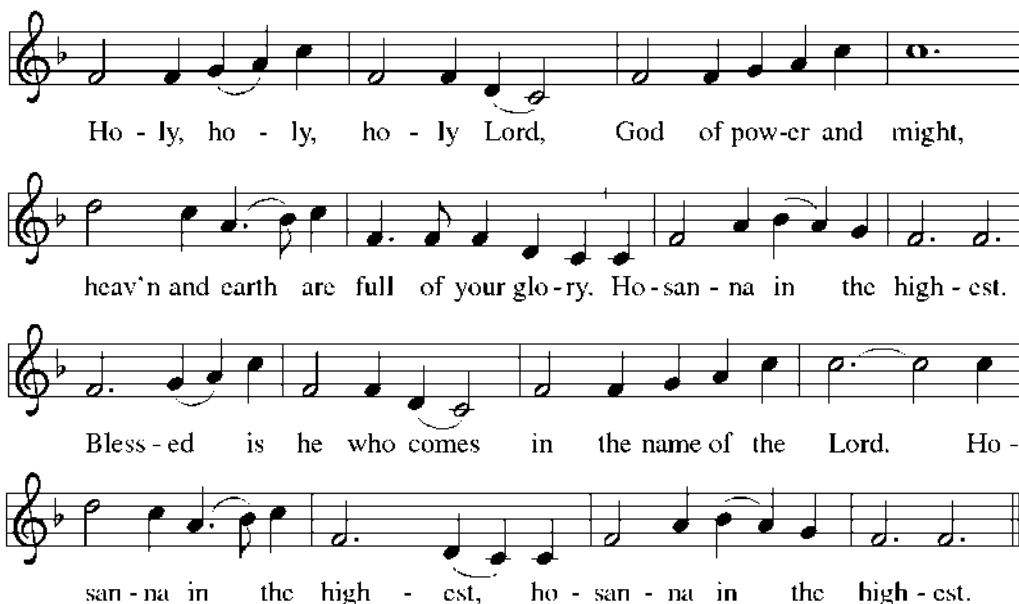
Proper Preface

It is with joy that we give you thanks and praise, summoning Lord,
for you called creation into being;
you invited a people to be your own;
and in your prophets you called your children time after time
to return to your ways and live.

In Jesus you embodied your call to the whole world to worship you,
to be your friends, and to eat at this table with you.
Through the Spirit you continue to beckon us
to become members of your body and channels of your grace.
Even when our sin put your Son on the cross,
your mercy turned death into resurrection and shame into glory.
And so we enjoy you now and forever,
with saints and angels and archangels.
and all the company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Sanctus

ELW setting 10



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Restoring God, at your Son's birth you called together
heaven and earth, rich and poor, humans and animals;
among your Son's disciples you called together
fisherman, tax collectors, and zealots;
in his ministry you summoned
soldiers and widows, criminals and Samaritans;

at this table now you draw together
the food of daily endeavor and the cup of celebration.
Send your Holy Spirit among us
to make us your diverse but holy people.
By the power of your Spirit, make these gifts of bread and wine
be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;
who, at supper with his disciples took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them saying,
*Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

After supper, Jesus took the cup.
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
*Drink this, all of you, this my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Calling God, you find us where we are and summon us to follow you.
As you sent your disciples to fish in the waters of the world,
renew your people in their vocations and ministries;
sanctify your children to share your good news
and discover your kingdom near and far;
mend the nets of those who labor long and in vain, that all who
look to you in faith may find from you fitting work to do:
until that day when you gather your whole creation
into one great net of grace,
and shower your universe with the wonder of your glory.
ever one God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together 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.

Agnus Dei

ELW setting 10



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

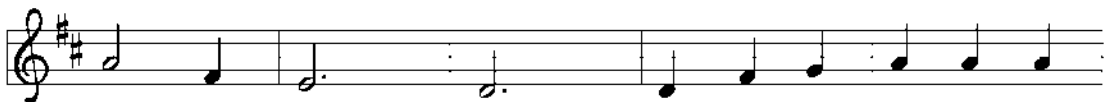
Distribution Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

#815



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text & Music: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
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Distribution Hymn

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#588



- 1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide -ness of the sea;
- 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
- 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
Music: North American, 19th cent.
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Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

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 ✠

Announcements

Benediction

God who names you, Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

✠ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Song

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#547



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
 2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing,



the peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.
 the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—



The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed
 our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,



the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
 em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.



The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
 lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
 Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing

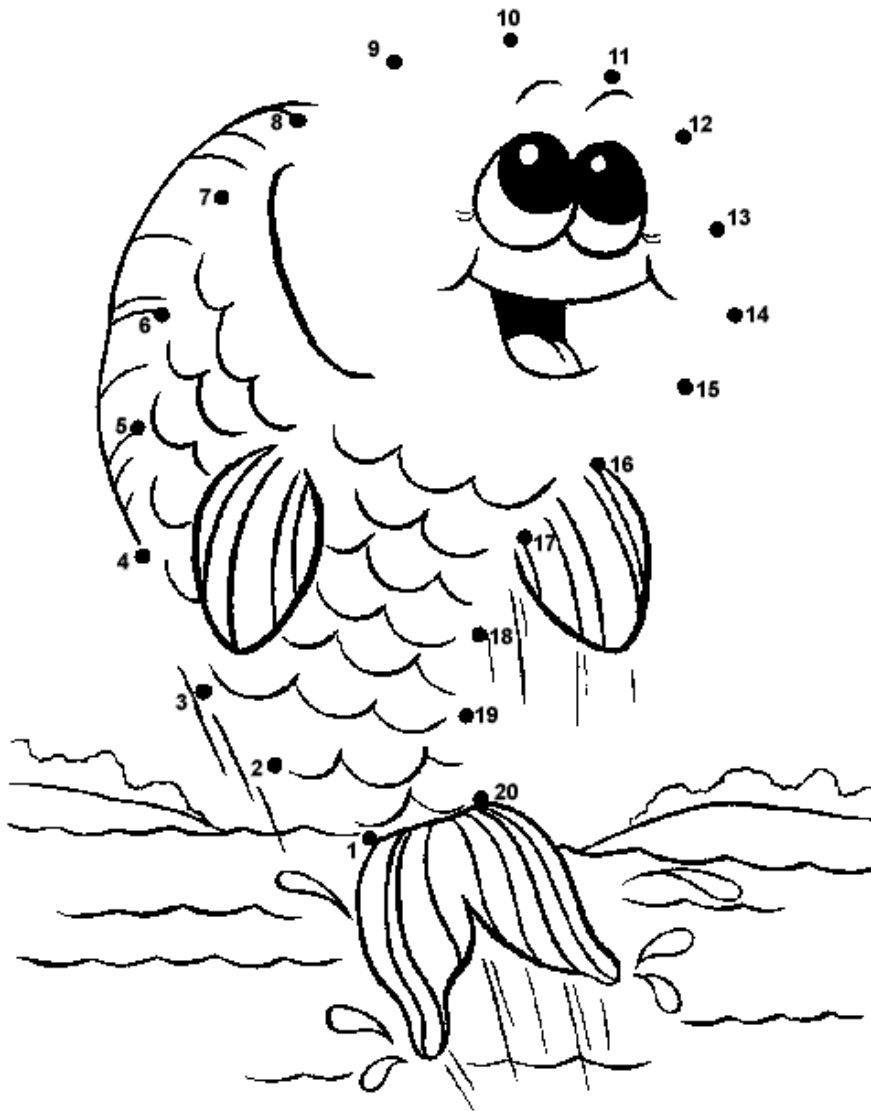


to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
 give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

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 Music: Welsh folk tune Public Domain

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



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Fishing for People

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." Mark 1:17 (TNIV)

Based on Mark 1:14-20



L A K E U I J A M E S Z S O C
 H F Q U F O B E L I E V E P A
 X O I W I C K I N G D O M J S
 M L H N S M E I E E G S E A T
 W L T G H X N J D C O M E N I
 L O Q Y E N W G N S L W H R N
 F W H Q R E O C B G L O T O G
 S M Q C M T G O O D J Q F G G
 B P D F E S L B O A T Z P R A
 A L E S N Y F A T H E R E Y L
 D N Q Z N T Z L V W S H X D I
 T P D P T Y N E W S T I R K L
 Q V Y R H B I D Q O K O M Y E
 Z R E P E N T D R E E N F O E
 F I G U K W I B X B D Q T L N

JOHN
 KINGDOM
 ANDREW
 GOOD

NEWS
 BOAT
 REPENT
 COME

CASTING
 GALILEE
 SEA
 FOLLOW

FISHERMEN
 NETS
 BROTHER
 JAMES

SIMON
 BELIEVE
 FATHER
 LAKE

Jonah Maze

Help Jonah find his way to Nineveh.

