



January 21, 2024 - Third Sunday after the Epiphany

As We Gather: Can't somebody else do it? Those words and thoughts often come to our minds and out of our mouths when being asked to do something we'd rather not do. It happens in our work and jobs, it happens in homes and families, and it even happens within the church. It happened to Jonah when the Lord told him to go to Nineveh. Today we hear the second time God called to Jonah, telling him to again go to a place he'd rather not go. There are many times we hear things in Scripture we'd rather not hear when it comes to difficult things. Can't somebody else do it? Instead of that thought entering our minds, may we instead be reminded of God's continued promises and presence with us in whatever we do in faith, and wherever we are called to go - even to our own Ninevehs.

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 394 "Songs Of Thankfulness And Praise"

Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession and Absolution *Jonah 3:2, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29, 31; Mark 1:15, 17*

Pastor: Hearing the Word of God, we are called to confess our sin, trusting in the one true God who is faithful and just and who will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

Pastor: Though Jonah was reluctant when the Lord spoke to him the first time, He spoke to Jonah a second time and told him, "Go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you."

All: **As You, O Lord, have given us the message of the Gospel, we have at times been reluctant to go bring Your truth and grace to all people. For this we seek Your forgiveness.**

Pastor: Paul reminds the people of God, "The appointed time has grown very short. . . . The present form of this world is passing away."

All: **As You, O Lord, have given us each day and hold all time in Your hands, we have not always used our time wisely. For this we seek Your forgiveness.**

Pastor: In today's Gospel, Jesus called to Simon and Andrew, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." Immediately they dropped their nets and followed Him.

All: **You, O Lord, have also called us to follow You, but we have instead sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. For this we seek Your forgiveness.**

Pastor: Even to the evil Ninevites, God showed His mercy upon their repentance. "When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it." Jesus proclaimed to the people, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." Though we deserve His present and eternal punishment, God has relented by sending His Son to bear our sin and to be our Savior. Christ has taken our punishment on the cross, paid the price of our sins through His perfect life and sacrificial death, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Kyrie

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Hymn of Praise "Glory to God in the Highest" (*Words and music in the hymnal--LSB page 204*)

- 1. To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Good-will from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory. Lord God our heavenly King.**
- 2. To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.**
- 3. For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit, Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious God, though we are not deserving of it, You continue to call to us as Your people as You came to Jonah with another opportunity of sharing Your message.

People: Though not deserving, You showed mercy to the city of Nineveh through their repentance and You continue to show mercy to us.

Pastor: Continue to grant us the gift of a bold and confident faith in You, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

People: Amen.

First Reading – Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (*The account of Jonah going to Nineveh after he is called by God the second time.*)

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: ² "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you. ³ Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴ Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown. ⁵ The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 7:29-35 (*Paul encourages the believers to be focused on Christ and free from earthly concerns since the world in its present form is passing away.*)

²⁹ What I mean, brothers and sisters, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they do not; ³⁰ those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; ³¹ those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away. ³² I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord. ³³ But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—³⁴ and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband. ³⁵ I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading – Mark 1:14-20 (*Mark's account of Jesus calling Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John to become fishers of men.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come, he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" ¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ "Come, follow me, Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people. ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰ Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: LSB 511 "Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment" (*Sung to Melody 924*)

Sermon: Jonah 3:1-5, 10) "Lessons from Jonah and Nineveh"

Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Prayers of the Church

Offerings

The Communion Liturgy

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

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

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, who since the beginning of time has been present and continues to bless us in this time. Prepare our hearts with true repentance as we receive Your gracious giving of the forgiveness of sins in this Supper. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy (*Words and music in the hymnal—LSB page 208*)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sab-a-oth adored;

Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created, and out of perfect love sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. As You turned Your wrath away from the people of Nineveh through their repentance, You have turned Your wrath away from us through the cross of our Savior, Jesus Christ. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. 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.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Words of Institution

Greeting of Peace

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

People: Amen.

Lamb of God (*Words and music in the hymnal—LSB page 210*)

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord we pray.**

Communion Distribution

Distribution Hymns: LSB 570 "Just As I Am, Without One Plea"
LSB 761 "Rock Of Ages"

Nunc Dimittis—Song of Simeon (*Words and music in the Hymnal—LSB page 211*)

**O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heavenly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this sacrament, 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

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen.

Hymn: LSB 643 "Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

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ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of January 21, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO
Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597
pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Tabitha Packwood
Zion, Prairie City, MO

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:
For the family of Margie Wood – (David Lampe's Son-In-Law's mother)

Prayers of Thanks:
Will Stalcup – (Cheryl Lile's cousin)

Prayers for Health and Healing:
Jim Troyke – (Health and healing with upcoming surgery)
Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile's uncle – health and healing from stroke)

Complete Prayer List:

Janet Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel – health and healing from surgery)
Norma Kaiser – (Friend of Gwen & Harold Lampe – health and healing from a stroke);
Jill Bode – (Nice of Rachel Sanford – health and healing from cancer)
Alice Troyke – (health and healing from a fall)
Joyce Ellyne – (friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing)
Babara Wilson – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing)
Cheryl Trinett – (Ardella Frerichs' daughter - health and healing)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken hip)
Betty Gordon – (health and healing)
Greg Davis – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing from cancer)
Linda Kennell – (Pastor Kennell's mother – health and healing)
Bob & Bev Hess – (health and healing from a fall)
Paul Gripka - (friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing from back surgery)
Kathy Brown – (friend of Kathy Holle - health and healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard's friend – health and healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
Mike Wilson – (friend of Jodi Wright – health and healing from cancer)
Dean Hadley – (health and healing)
Kooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer's Great-grandson - health and healing)
Don Munden – (Bill Munden's brother – health and healing from cancer)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle's cousin – health and healing from cancer)
Tessie Holle – (Kathy Holle's cousin – health and healing from cancer)

Jeff Flatten – (great Nephew of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
Danata Hopkins – (continued health and healing)
Pete Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Ellie Armstrong – (friend of David Lampe – health and healing)
Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health and healing)
Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health and healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer - health and healing from cancer)
Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	January 21st	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service with Communion
Monday	January 22nd	Braille in Freistatt - 9:00 am Braille in Freistatt - 1:00 pm
Wednesday	January 24th	Pastor in Office Bible Study – 7:00 pm
Thursday	January 25th	Pastor in Office
Sunday	January 28th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service

Birthdays: Peggy Lilienkamp-Jan. 25; Mathew Springer-Jan. 28

Anniversaries: Harold & Vonnie Suelter-Jan. 28

Pastor Ken: I want to thank the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. It is a joy and privilege to serve as pastor for Grace. I pray that God will bless each of you and that He will guide our congregation in 2024 as we together seek to serve the people of this community and to call a fulltime pastor.

Lutheran Witness: If anyone who is not currently receiving the Lutheran Witness would like to receive it, please sign up by January 21. The signup sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you.

Portals of Prayer – now available beneath the church mail boxes.



January

GREETERS:

21: Bill & Joanne Michel
28: Bill & Diane Thompson

USHERS:

21: Harold Lampe
28: Charlie Chambers