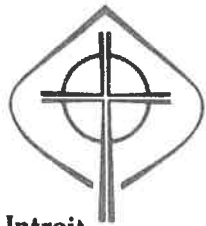


THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY



An entire nation, a congregation, and individual persons stand in the light of Epiphany in today's readings. May we also stand in the light of Christ!

Introit



From the rising of the sun
to the place where it sets*
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Praise, O servants of the Lord,*
praise the name of the Lord.
Let the name of the Lord be praised,*
both now and forevermore.
The Lord is exalted over all the nations,*
his glory above the heavens.
He raises the poor from the dust*
and lifts the needy from the ash heap;
he seats them with princes,*
with the princes of their people.

He settles the barren woman
in her home*
as a happy mother of children.

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

From the rising of the sun
to the place where it sets*
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

(Antiphon, Ps. 113:3;
Ps. 113:1-2, 4, 7-9)

Collect of the Day

O Lord God Almighty, because you have always supplied your servants with the several gifts which come from your Holy Spirit alone, leave also us not destitute of your manifold gifts nor of grace to use them always to your honor and glory and the good of others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual

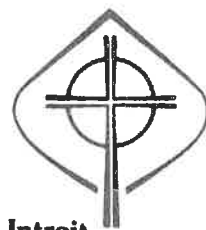
Praise the Lord, all you nations;*
extol him, all you peoples.
For great is his love toward us,*
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;*
bring an offering and come into his courts. (Ps. 117; 96:8)

For Daily Devotions

Ps. 51; Gen. 25-27; Ps. 52; Gen. 28-30; Ps. 53; Gen. 31-33; Ps. 54; Gen. 34-36; Ps. 55;
Gen. 37-39; Ps. 56; Gen. 40-42; Ps. 57; Gen. 43-45.

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Ps. 55; Gen. 37-39; Ps. 56; Gen. 40-42; Ps. 57; Gen. 43-45; Ps. 58; Gen. 46-48; Luke 1:68-79; Gen. 49-50; Luke 2:29-32; Ex. 1-3; Ps. 59; Ex. 4-6.

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Isaiah 9:1-4

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan—

The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the
shadow of death
a light has dawned.
You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as men rejoice
when dividing the plunder.
For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

1 Corinthians 1:10-17

I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized into the name of Paul? I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, so no one can say that you were baptized into my name. (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I bap-

tized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Matthew 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he returned to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

"Land of Zebulun and land of
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the way to the sea, along the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles—
the people living in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the
shadow of death
a light has dawned."

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

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