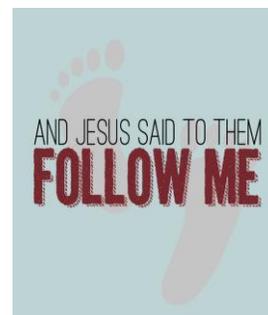


# Morning Worship

## Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 24, 2021 (Online)



Ringling of the Bell

Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude Music

### Call to Worship

One: We gather to respond to the call of God's love

**People: Thankful that someone cared enough to share this good news with us.**

One: May we be compassionate enough to share this divine presence with others.

**People: Love, when shared, is not divided but multiplied.**

One: Love, given away, is not diminished but expanded.

**People: May our gathering beckon and welcome those near and far to know the love of this divine presence.**

### Prayer of Invocation

One: From deep within us we know of a loving presence.  
All around us we see glory, beauty, life and light.  
We have no words for what we experience so we cry out,  
"God!"

In this moment of worship may that loving presence grow deeper, may our awareness of the divine presence around us grow more intense.

May we, gathered in this place, learn to pay more attention to God, who loves us at all times and in all places.

**People: God, of love and life, in this moment of prayer be more and more in us that we might live more and more in you. Amen.**

### **Call to Confession**

Now is the appointed time. Pour out your hearts to God, bringing those harmful words you spoke, the chances to help you turned your backs on, and the foolish choices of your lives. Offer them to the One who longs to hear us, trusting that God will forgive us.

### **Confession**

**Our comfortable lives convince us we do not need to follow Jesus, Steadfast God. Our work provides for our wants, so we have no need for your grace. Our friends are found through social media, so we do not need your community. Our fear of the beliefs and cultures of others makes us sure that we do not need to share your grace with them.**

**Forgive us for dragging our feet as Jesus' disciples, Compassionate God. May we get up from our comfort zones and step out in faith. May we go to all the uncomfortable places to bring hope. May we proclaim with our lips, but especially with our lives, that the kingdom of love is near, brought by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

*...time of silent prayer...*

### **Assurance**

Now, after we confess, we hear the good news proclaimed: God hears our words, God sees our changed hearts, God's steadfast love is poured out upon us!

**We will trust in God, in whom our salvation rests. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

## **A Hard, Deep Call to Obedience (Unison)**

**You are the God who makes extravagant promises.  
We relish your great promises of fidelity and presence and solidarity,  
and we exude in them.  
Only to find out, always too late,  
that your promise always comes in the midst of a hard, deep call to  
obedience.**

**You are the God who calls people like us,  
and the long list of mothers and fathers before us,  
who trusted the promise enough to keep the call.**

**So we give you thanks that you are a calling God,  
who calls always to dangerous new places.  
We pray enough of your grace and mercy among us  
that we may be among those who believe your promises  
enough to respond to your call.**

**We pray in the one who embodied your promise  
and enacted your call, even Jesus. Amen.**

Scripture

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

The Gospel

Mark 1:14-20

Morning Message

Pastor Jim

Morning Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

Symbolic Offering

Gestures of gratitude are a demonstration  
that a blessing or benefit has been received.

We heard a call, dropped our nets and came to this place to find new life.  
The gifts we give today are but tokens of the blessings of the new life we  
live in Christ.

Bring your gifts with joy for they remind us of  
just how blessed we are to know this love  
that flows so generously from the spirit of God.

Offertory Music

**Dedication**

**May these gifts, given to these ministries of grace,  
be a blessing to friends and strangers,  
those like us and those not,  
those deserving and those not,  
for in this way the love of God reaches all of God's beloved. Amen.**

Benediction

Now, take the word of God into the world.

**we will place hope in the arms of others.**

Now, take the word of Jesus into the world.

**We will follow to serve beside him in all the broken places.**

Now, take the word of the Spirit into the world.

**We will bring others near to the kingdom where all are welcome.**

**\*Three-fold Amen**

**#812 (NCH)**

\*Postlude

Share  
Your  
Faith!