

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Rev. Kevin M. Pleas

Online Worship

January 24, 2021

PRELUDE "A Mighty Fortress" – arr. by Joel Raney Adam Peithmann

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Kevin Pleas

INTROIT (#469) "I Am the Light of the World!" – Jim Strathee

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

People: God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble; our hope and joy on days of celebration!

Leader: Day after day, we seek God's face and the assurance of God's holy love:

People: O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us! Be our guide and our light!

Leader: Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving, for God is among and within us!

People: Thanks be to God!

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Gracious God, Bearer of Light, into the shadows of our isolation you speak words of life and community. Challenger of our lives, you call us from places we call home to lead us more deeply into the world you love. With your gentle, healing touch you redeem the broken places of our lives and you heal the wounded places of the earth. Inspire our worship here this day, so that we may receive liberation in your word, and be filled to overflowing, to share your reconciling love throughout the earth. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

OPENING HYMN #537 "My Hope is Built"

PASTORAL PRAYER Barbara Papagian

TIME OF SILENCE

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE (#303) "In This Time"

ANTHEM "Guide My Feet, Lord" – Spiritual/arr. by John Carter

Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race 'cause I don't want to run this race in vain.

Hold my hand, Lord...

Stand by me, Lord...

SCRIPTURE READING Barbara Papagian

Psalm 62:1-12 (New Revised Standard Version)

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken. How long will you assail a person, will you batter your victim, all of you, as you would a leaning wall, a tottering fence? Their only plan is to bring down a person of prominence. They take pleasure in falsehood; they bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse. Selah For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God. Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. Selah Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath. Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them. Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“For God Alone”

Rev. Kevin Pleas

CLOSING HYMN (#684)

“We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

CLOSING WORDS

BENEDICTION (Unison)

**May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
Shine in our hearts, transform our lives,
And brighten our world.
And the blessing of God almighty,
The Creator, the Christ and the Holy Spirit,
Rest upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

“Toccata” by Douglas Wagner

Please note: In these difficult times, we are holding you all in our thoughts and prayers. For those who are able, we are grateful for your continuing contributions to the stewardship of our church.

Introit Hymn No. 469

“I Am the Light of the World!”

“I am the light of the world! You people come and follow me!” If you follow and love you’ll learn the mystery of what you were meant to do and be.

1. When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the magi and the shepherds have found their way home, the work of Christmas is begun:
2. To find the lost and lonely one, to heal the broken soul with love, to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food, to feel the earth below, the sky above!
3. To free the pris’ner from all chains, to make the powerful care, to rebuild the nations with strength of good will, to see God’s children ev’rywhere!
4. To bring hope to ev’ry task you do, to dance at a baby’s new birth, to make music in an old person’s heart, and sing to the colors of the earth!

Opening Hymn No. 537

“My Hope is Built”

1. My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

Refrain:

On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

2. When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on is unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)
3. His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood. When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)
4. When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found! Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne! (Refrain)

Prayer Response Hymn No. 303

“In This Time”

In this time of quiet reverence, God fill us now with everlasting peace and may each and ev’ry day we live bring true faith in your abiding love.

Closing Hymn No. 684

“We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

1. We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon, the wildflowers growing, for we are part of all that is within life's river flowing. With open hands receive and share the gifts of God's creation, that all may have abundant life in every earthly nation.

2. When bodies shiver in the night and, weary, wait for morning, when children have no bread but tears, and war horns sound their warning, God calls humanity to wake, to join in common labor, that all may have abundant life in oneness with their neighbor.

3. God calls humanity to join as partners in creating a future free from want and fear, life's goodness celebrating. That new world beckons from afar, invites our shared endeavor, that all may have abundant life and peace endure forever.