

January 22, 2023



**TO THOSE SANCTIFIED  
IN CHRIST JESUS  
CALLED TO BE  
SAINTS**

**1 CORINTHIANS 1:5, ESV**



**MT. ZION**

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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Epiphany

**Pre-Service Personal Prayer:** *Lord God, heavenly Father, make us diligent in the use of Your Word, and enable us by the grace of Your Holy Spirit to walk before You in fervent faith and all holy obedience. Through the Word made flesh, Your Son and our Savior Jesus Christ, work Your blessings in us for now and eternity. In His saving name, Amen.*

### Today's Worship!

#### Greeting and Prayer

**Opening Hymn 718 (WS2000):** *O Jesus, King of Glory*

- 1. O Jesus, King of glory, Both David's Lord and Son!  
Your rule endures forever, In heaven is Your throne.  
Help that in earth's dominions, From pole to farthest pole,  
Your reign may spread salvation, To each benighted soul.*
- 2. The eastern Magi, coming, Their gifts of love to bring,  
Bear witness to Your glory, And worship You, their King.  
To You the star is pointing, And the prophetic Word;  
So joyously we hail You: Our Savior and our Lord.*
- 3. You are a mighty monarch, As by Your Word is told,  
And yet You care but little For earthly goods or gold.  
You do not come displaying Your power and renown.  
You dwell in no high castle; You wear no jeweled crown.*
- 4. Oh, look on me with pity Though I am weak and poor;  
Admit me to Your kingdom To dwell there, blest and sure.  
I pray, Lord, guide and keep me Safe from my bitter foes,  
From sin and death and Satan; Free me from all my woes.*
- 5. Then let Your Word within me Shine as the fairest star;  
Keep sin and all false doctrine Forever from me far.  
Help me confess you truly And with all Christendom  
Here hail You King and Savior And in the world to come.*

#### The Invocation

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen!

#### The Confession and Absolution of Sins

*We come before our Holy God admitting that we are sinful and need His forgiveness.*

**P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

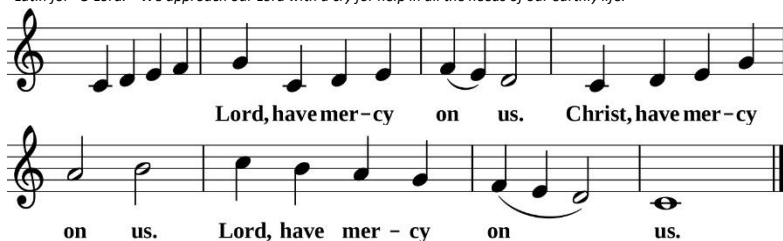
**C** Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

**P** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

**C** Amen!

## Lord, Have Mercy

*Kyrie – Latin for “O Lord.” We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.*



## Glory to God in the Highest

*Gloria in Excelsis – Latin for “Glory in the Highest (to God).” A hymn glorifying and praising our God.*



## The Prayer for the Day

*The main thoughts for the day are collected together in this prayer.*

**P** Let us pray. . . through Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 49:1-6*

Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God." <sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him-- for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength-- <sup>6</sup> he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

## The Responsive Reading: *Psalms 89:1-8*

**P** I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

**C** For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

**P** You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:

**C** 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'"

**P** Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

**C** For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,

**P** A God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all who are around him?

**C** O LORD God of hosts, who is mighty as you are, O LORD, with your faithfulness all around you?

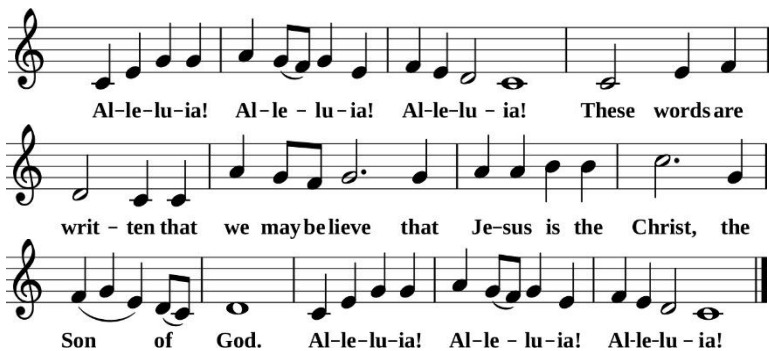


## The Gospel Reading: *John 1:29-41*

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

<sup>35</sup> The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ).

**[P]** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



## **The Apostle's Creed** *We boldly confess what we believe.*

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven; And is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Hymn 358 (TLH):** *Lamb of God, We Fall Before Thee*

- 1. Lamb of God, we fall before Thee, Humbly trusting in Thy Cross.  
That alone be all our glory; All things else are only dross.*
- 2. Thee we own a perfect Savior, Only Source of all that's good.  
Every grace and every favor Comes to us through Jesus' blood.*
- 3. Jesus gives us true repentance By His Spirit sent from heaven;  
Whispers this transporting sentence, "Son, thy sins are all forgiven."*
- 4. Faith He grants us to believe it, Grateful hearts His love to prize;  
Want we wisdom? He must give it, Hearing ears and seeing eyes.*
- 5. Jesus gives us pure affections, Wills to do what He requires,  
Makes us follow His directions, And what He commands, inspires.*
- 6. All our prayers and all our praises, Rightly offered in His name,--  
He that dictates them is Jesus; He that answers is the same.*

## **The Sermon: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge-- <sup>6</sup> even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you-- <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of

our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup> who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Theme: WHAT CHRIST JESUS REVEALS ABOUT ME!

- I. He reveals WHO I am
- II. He reveals WHY I'm here
- III. He reveals WHERE I'm going

### The Offertory

*Having heard God's Word, we ask Him to spiritually heal us, giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit.*



### Hymn 342 (TLH): Chief of Sinners Though I Be

**1. Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me;  
Died that I might live on high, Lived that I might never die,  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.**

**2. Oh, the height of Jesus' love! Higher than the heavens above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity.  
Love that found me--wondrous thought!-- Found me when I sought Him not.**

**3. Jesus only can impart Balm to heal the smitten heart;  
Peace that flows from sin forgiven, Joy that lifts the soul to heaven;  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.**

**4. Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is All in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.  
Safe with Him from earthly strife, He sustains the hidden life.**

**5. O my Savior, help afford By Thy Spirit and Thy Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.**

## **The Offering of Thankful Hearts**

*In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. If you wish to give your church offering electronically, you can do so by using the CashApp on your mobile device. The church's Scashtag is "ScIcmztion". While the usher brings the offering plate forward we sing the following hymn verse*

*(127:3): **As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring Christ to Thee our heav'nly King!***

## **Prayer of the Church – The Lord's Prayer**

**C** 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.

## **The Benediction**

*The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26)*

**P** 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.

**C** Amen!

## **Closing Hymn 779:1 (WS2000): Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven**

**1. Redeemed, restored, forgiven, Through Jesus' precious blood,  
Heirs of His home in heaven, Oh, praise our pardoning God!  
Praise Him in tuneful measures Who gave His Son to die;  
Praise Him Whose sev'nfold treasures Enrich and sanctify.**