

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 26th, 2025



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
Pastor Seth Georgson
314-914-6457

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Hymn ----- In You, O Lord, I Put My Trust

CW 448

1. In you, O Lord, I put my trust-
Leave me not helpless in the dust;
Let me not be confounded.
My faith, O Lord, Must in your Word
Be always firmly grounded.
2. Oh, listen, Lord, most graciously,
And hear my cry, my prayer, my plea;
Make haste for my protection,
For woes and fear Surround me here.
Help me in my affliction.
3. You are my strength, my shield, my rock,
My fortress that withstands each shock,
My help, my life, my tower,
My battle sword, Almighty Lord-
What can resist your power?
4. With you, O Lord, I cast my lot;
O faithful God, forsake me not,
To you my soul commending.
Lord, be my stay, And lead the way
Now and when life is ending.
5. All honor, praise, and majesty
To Father, Son, and Spirit be,
Our God forever glorious,
In whose rich grace We run our race
Till we depart victorious.

Stand.

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Lord, Have Mercy

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: **Lord, have mer - cy.**

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O Lord, Our Lord



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,



but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.



O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,



you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;



you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the



Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on us in all our dangers and needs, and stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- 2 Kings 5:1–15a

Na'aman, the commander of the king of Aram's army, was a great man in the opinion of his master. He was highly honored because the LORD had provided victory for Aram through him. Although he was a powerful warrior, he had leprosy.

Raiding parties had once gone out from Aram and brought back a young girl. She served Na'aman's wife. She said to her mistress, "I wish my master stood before the prophet who is in

Samaria, because he would cure him of his leprosy."

So Na'aman went and told his master what the servant girl from the land of Israel had said.

Then the king of Aram said, "Go there. I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Na'aman went, and he took ten talents of silver and six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. Then he took the letter to the king of Israel. The letter said, "Now, when you receive this letter, you

will know that I am sending my officer Na'aman to you so that you can cure him of his leprosy."

When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothing and said, "Am I God that I can kill and make alive? Why is he sending a man to me for me to heal him from his leprosy? See how he is looking for a pretext to fight against me."

But when Elisha, the man of God, heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king: "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."

So Na'aman went with his horses and chariots and stopped in front of the door of Elisha's house. But Elisha sent a messenger out to him to say, "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan. Then your flesh will be restored and you will be clean."

But Na'aman was angry and he left, saying, "Look, I said to myself, 'He will certainly come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his

God and wave his hand over the place, and I will be cured of the leprosy!' Aren't the Abana and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went away in a burning rage.

But his servants approached and spoke to him. They said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not do it? How much more when he says to you, 'Wash and be clean'?"

So he went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. Then his flesh was restored like the flesh of a small child, and he was clean. Then he and his whole escort went back to the man of God. He stood in front of Elisha and said, "To be sure, now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 121

CW p.112

Refrain

Keep me, keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me, hide me in the shadow of your wings.

I lift up my eyes to the hills.*

Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,*

the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip,*

he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel*
will neither slumberu nor sleep.

Refrain

The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.

**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.**

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- Romans 12:16b-21

Do not be arrogant, but associate with the humble. Do not think too highly of yourselves.

Do not pay anyone back evil for evil. Focus on those things that everyone considers noble. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, maintain peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. For it is

written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay," says the Lord. But:

If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him a drink.

For by doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Verse of the Day

Matthew 4:23

M: Alleluia. Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Stand.

Gospel ----- Matthew 8:1–13

When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him. Just then, a leper came to him and bowed down to him, saying, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”

Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean.” Immediately he was healed of his leprosy. Jesus said to him, “See that you tell no one. Instead, go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him and pleaded with him, “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed and suffering terribly.”

Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.”

The centurion answered, “Lord, I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. But only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am also a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to

another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

When Jesus heard this, he marveled. He said to those who were following him, "Amen I tell you: I have not found such great faith in anyone in Israel. I tell you that many will come from the east and the west and will recline at the table with

Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Jesus said to the centurion, "Go. Let it be done for you as you have believed." And his servant was healed at that very hour.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him

CW 235

1. Praise the Almighty; my soul, adore him!
Yes, I will laud him until death.
With songs and anthems I'll come before him
As long as he allows me breath.
From him my life and all things came;
Bless, O my soul, his holy name. Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,
Pardon and peace from him obtain;
Ever the wants of the poor supplying,
Their faithful God he will remain.
He helps his children in distress,
The widows and the fatherless. Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. Trust not in princes, they are but mortal;
Earthborn they are and soon decay.
Vain are their counsels at life's last portal
When the dark grave will claim its prey.
Since, then, no one can help afford,
Trust only Christ, our God and Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. Praise, all you people, the name so holy
Of him who does such wondrous things!
All that has being, to praise him solely,
With happy heart its Amen sings!
Children of God, with angel host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon ----- Matthew 8:1-13

Jesus Loves to Save the Humble

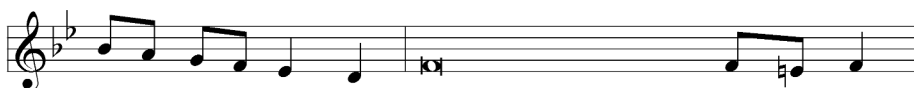
Stand.

We Praise You, O God

Te Deum



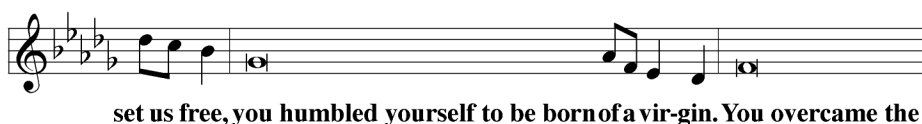
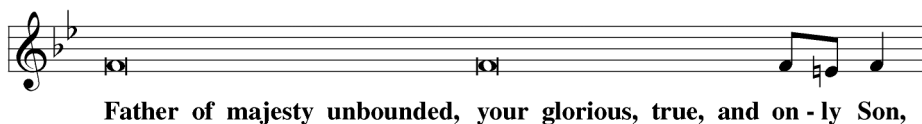
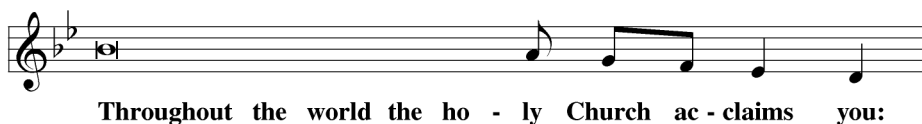
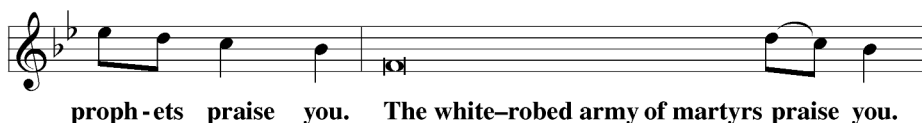
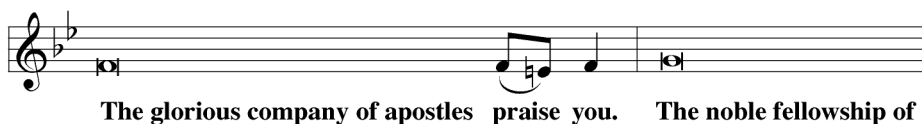
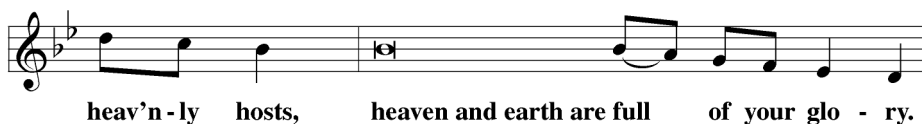
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,

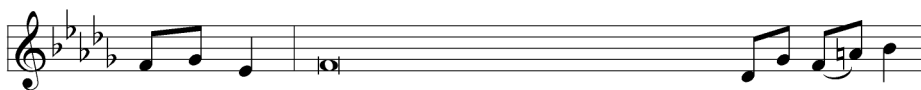


Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of





sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be seated.

Offering

Installation of Officers

Stand.

Online giving option:
mluther.org/offerings

Offerings support the spread
of the Gospel here and around the world.



Prayer of the Church

The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with “hear our prayer.”

- M: Lord of hosts, You call those who are far from You into Your one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church through the cleansing waters of Holy Baptism. Grant that all who seek healing in those blessed waters would receive Your grace for body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, strengthen this congregation by the preaching of the Gospel and the faithful administration of the Holy Sacraments. Bless those who hear the Word and confirm them in Your holy faith and fear all their days. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, enable every Christian to learn Your Word and teach the faith to family and children. Give them boldness to speak the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all those within their acquaintance and care. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord of all, You order the nations of the world to the end that everyone might seek You. Call the rulers and authorities to receive Your salvation in Holy Baptism with humility and to dedicate every earthly endeavor to You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Heavenly Father, look with compassion on the sick and suffering, [*especially _____*], that they would receive healing and relief according to Your will. Comfort them by the sure and certain knowledge that nothing can separate them from the love You have for them in Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Gracious God, let it be done for us as we believe. As You have promised to give us forgiveness, life and salvation in the Communion of this altar, so let us faithfully receive the body and blood of Christ for healing and strength in body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Merciful Father, when Your Son came, His own people did not receive Him but turned away from Your salvation. Call those who have forsaken Your Church to turn from their dark ways, behold Your light and recline at Your table with us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, do not throw us into the outer darkness of weeping and gnashing of teeth. Strengthen and preserve our faith in Christ Jesus, our only Mediator, by whom we also are welcomed to recline at table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as true Israelites. When our last hour comes, welcome us as brothers and sisters of Christ, baptized into His name, and therefore as sons of Your kingdom by grace; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: **And al - so with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus



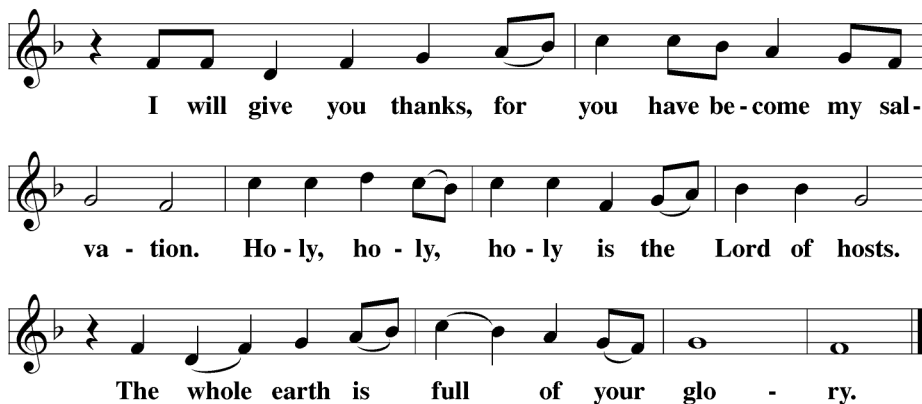
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be-come my sal-
va-tion. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo-ry.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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



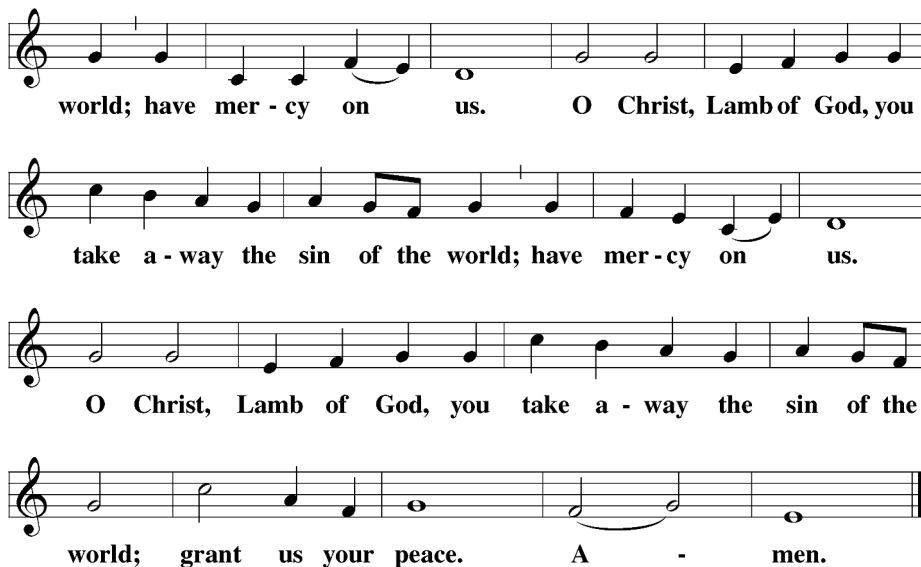
C: A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymn:

Hymn ----- Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

CW 312

1. Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared This feast for our salvation;
It is your body and your blood, And at your invitation
As weary souls, with sin oppressed, We come to you for needed rest,
For comfort, and for pardon.

2. Although you did to heav'n ascend, Where angel hosts are dwelling,
And in your presence they behold Your glory, all excelling,
And though your people shall not see Your glory and your majesty
Till dawns the judgment morning,
3. Yet, Savior, you are not confined To any habitation,
But you are present ev'rywhere And with your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Unmoved by any daring hand
Or subtle craft and cunning.
4. We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your precious Word believing
That your true body and your blood Our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true, And there is naught you cannot do,
For you, Lord, are almighty.
5. Though reason cannot understand, Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is ev'rywhere At once in many places.
I leave to you how this can be; Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.
6. Lord, I believe what you have said; Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust, And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.
7. Grant that we worthily receive Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins, May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for your grace And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.
8. For your consoling supper, Lord, Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

THANKSGIVING

Stand.

Thank the Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev'-ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



Be seated.

Hymn ----- Go, My Children, with My Blessing

CW 332

1. Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing-You are my own.
2. Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story;
Here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
3. Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

4. I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.



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