

You are welcome here! We are disciples of Jesus, growing in Faith, Hope, and Love

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Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am Wednesday 7:00 pm

X

Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



January 21, 2024 3rd Sunday after Epíphany

Gathering

▼ INTRODUCTION

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God, our rock and refuge,
- C we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

- P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.
- C Amen.

★GATHERING HYMN – You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore (ELW #817)

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A GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

★ GLORY TO GOD – (ELW Setting Five, p.159)



▶ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Word

₹ FIRST LESSON – Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

▼ RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 62:5-12

⁵For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.

⁶God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

⁷In God is my deliverance and my honor;

God is my strong rock and my refuge.

⁸Put your trust in God always, O people, pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

⁹Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted. Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

¹²Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

★ SECOND LESSON – 2 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.





▼ GOSPEL – Mark 1:14-20

- P The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the first chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

¥ SERMON

★ HYMN OF THE DAY— Will You Come and Follow Me (ELW #798)

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* APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 105)

- P With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

▼ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A God our rock and deliverance, do not let your church be shaken. We trust you never abandon your promises to the most vulnerable among us. Give your church wisdom and empathy in its varied ministries. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God our hope and refuge, you placed the fish in the sea. Guide our care of oceans and all creatures that live in them. Hold us accountable for actions that endanger water sources and the people who depend on them. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God who proclaims judgement and offers mercy, be a model to the leaders of our nation and the world. As they lead, may they follow in your way of justice and truth. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God who cares for the suffering, care for survivors of assault and sexual abuse and sustain all who minister to them. Keep safe any who live under threat of violence, those living in poverty, and any among us who are ill or in pain, especially those we name before you now, silently or aloud. (pause) God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God of resurrection and new life, as the first disciples shared the good news, empower us and this faith community to be open to your call. When we are uncertain of your call, assure us. When we have strayed from your ways, redirect us. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God who holds the saints against your tender bosom, we trust you welcome them into your care. Comfort those who grieve, even as we place our hope in your salvation. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

₩ PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you all.
- C And also with you.

A OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, here and around the world. After the offering is gathered, the gifts are brought forward to the altar. As this happens, please stand as you are able for the offering prayer and meal.

▼ OFFERING PRAYER

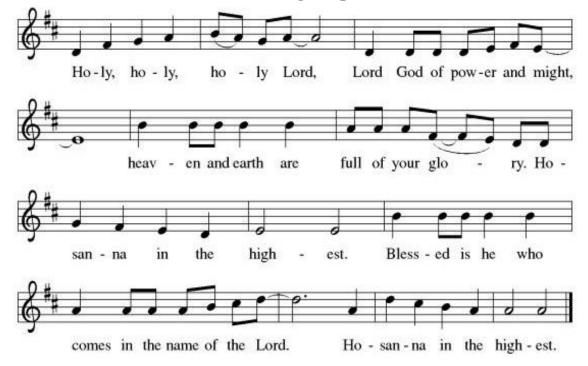
- A Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.
- C Amen.

Meal

★ GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

₩ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW Setting Six p. 173)



*** EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

- P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P With this bread and cup... We look with hope for his coming.
- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.... Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P All praise and glory are yours... one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

★ LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
- 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.

★ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

★ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

▼ COMMUNION HYMN – I Love to Tell the Story (ELW #661)

★ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.
- C Amen.

₩ NUNC DIMITTIS – O Lord, Now Let Your Servant (ELW #313) vs. 1

Oh Lord, now let your servant depart in heavenly peace, For I have seen the glory of your redeeming grace;

A light to lead the nations unto your holy hill,

The glory of your people, the chosen Israel.

¥ BLESSING

- P God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

 + bless you and remain with you always.
- C Amen.

*** ANNOUNCEMENTS**

▼ SENDING HYMN – Come and See (ACS #976)

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₩ DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
- C Thanks be to God.

Grand Prairie Food and Clothing Co-op

The current list of needed items include:

- Canned soup (large and small)
- Canned vegetables, especially peas
- Canned meat items
- Dried beans
- Macaroni and cheese (dinner size)
- Peanut butter

Please leave donations in the big tub in the narthex.

Grand Prairie Homeless Outreach

Here is a link to Amazon to shop for different packages of Mylar Blankets Amazon.com : mylar blankets

The delivery address for GPHOO is their Chamber of Commerce address: GPHOO c/o Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce

900 Conover St. Grand Prairie, TX 75051

OTHER NEEDED ITEMS -

The sleeping bag we are asking for is XL and cold weather rated to 0 F. PALLYGO 0 Degree Sleeping Bag Cotton Flannel Sleeping Bags for Adults Cold Weather Camping Winter Zero Degree Warm Weather Big and Tall. Found online at: AmazonSleepingBag

We have two tent options. Right now Academy has their Magellan tents in stock. We like them because they have a tarp bottom.

Magellan Outdoors Tellico 3 Person Dome Tent. Found online at:

AcademyTent

Or, we also like Mansader 2/4 Person Camping Tent for Outdoor Camping Family Beach Hiking Travel as they are easy setup and also have a tarp bottom. Found online at: AmazonTent

★ SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal

Music Director:

Altar:

Assisting Minister:

Lay Reader:

Usher:

John Zacharias

Leah Adix

Kris Davies

Phil Schrader

Adix Family

Videographer: Adix Family
Videographer: Gene Davies
Communion Cup Holder: Kyle Bennett

Children in attendance are welcome to break away during our services with our Sunday School teachers. Those teachers include Cheri Oertel (director), Julie Bothun, Katie Valencia and Phyllis Bell.

If anyone would be interested in volunteering once a month to teach Sunday School during the service, please contact the church office or talk to Cheri Oertel.

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