



# Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We celebrate gathering together  
this third Sunday of Epiphany!  
As always, all are WELCOME here!  
January 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.*

The People of Covenant are called to:

**Gather, Grow and Go Serve**

...With God's Love!

**Welcome Thank you for joining us for Worship today!**

**WORSHIP ORDER – Sunday, January 21, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.**

*Congregation participation in bold in bulletin*

*ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymn Book, Setting 10 pg. 203*

*\*=please stand*

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

Jesus is here, calling us to become his disciples.

**We will follow the Lord of life.**

Jesus is here, calling us to leave our nets.

**We will follow the Lord of life.**

Jesus is here, calling us to be fishers of God's children.

**We will follow the Lord of life.**

### **Children's Time**

#### **\*Gathering Hymn**

*I Love To Tell the Story*

ELW 661

### **Greeting**

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

#### **\*Hymn of Praise**

*Glory*

pg. 204

### **Prayer of the Day**

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. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

### **First Reading**

**Jonah 3: 1-5, 10**

*A reading from Jonah, the third chapter.*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So 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. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. <sup>10</sup>When 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. The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

## **1 Corinthians 7: 29-31**

*A reading from first Corinthians, the seventh chapter.*

<sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and 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, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

## **\*Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia!*

pg. 205

## **Gospel**

## **Mark 1: 14-20**

*The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” <sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the

boat with the hired men, and followed him. The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

## \*Hymn of the Day

*Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

ELW 618

## Prayers of Intercession

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.*

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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 Pat, John and those we name out loud or silently in our hearts. <Pause- Silence for 5 seconds> God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

## **Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.*

## **Announcements**

## **Offering Prayer**

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. **Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **Liturgy of Holy Communion**

## **Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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**

pg. 207

Holy God, mighty Lord: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast. **Amen.**

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Creator, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray as our Lord taught us:*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

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

## Communion Hymns

*Lamb of God*

pg. 208

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

ELW 471

*Amazing Grace*

R. Carlos Nakai

## Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

## Prayer after Communion

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. **Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Blessing

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## \*Sending Hymn

*Now Thank We All Our God*

ELW 840

## Dismissal

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God.**



*Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?*  
Scan this QR Code to give digitally with Vanco Online Giving.  
Or visit [www.covluth.org](http://www.covluth.org) and click 'On-line Giving'!



## Announcements:

- ✝ Budget Listening Session Today join after worship to hear the hard work discussed for 2024
- ✝ **Social Action meets January 22<sup>nd</sup>** - work on inclusion here at Covenant with our team
- ✝ The American Red Cross reports major blood shortages- Give Blood at Covenant **Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>**
- ✝ Annual Congregational Meeting planned for **Jan 28<sup>th</sup>** Member voting required & appreciated!
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch- 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of the Month at 11:30am Feb 7<sup>th</sup>** Join at *BBJack's* in Cottage Grove
- ✝ Join Book Group **Feb 8<sup>th</sup>** discussing *Northwoods* by Amy Pease Meeting at 1pm in Gateway
- ✝ Feed the Hungry at St. Marks in Madison, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month **Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 10:30a-1:30p**
- ✝ Looking for a winter hobby? Join **Blanket Makers** Tues Mornings 8-Noon, they'll teach you!
- ✝ **Bible Study Returns Jan 17** Wed Evenings at **5pm** in the Gateway Room- through Feb 6<sup>th</sup>

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** *Pastor Wendy Moen;*

**Acolyte:** *Andrew Kettner;*

**Assistant Minister:** *Judy & Matthew Heil;*

**Lector:** *Tom Nelson;*

**Greeters:** *Karen Hanson-Cook and Bill Cook;*

**Communion Worship Assistants:** *Karen Hanson-Cook, Bill Cook;*

**Organist/Pianist:** *Recorded Music;*

**Ushers:** *Tom Chose, Jack Cope, Stephen Peterson;*

**Sound/projection:** *Amanda Burian, Jude Surrell;*

**Altar Guild:** *Eileen and Jack Nelson;*

**Communion Prep:** *Christy Unzicker;*

**Altar Flowers:** *Given for Rhetta's Poppa, Karen's Dad, Hanford Hanson by the Family!*

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