

Liturgy

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

GATHERING

We are gathered to worship the eternal God.

He is the source of love and life,
who creates and sustains us.

**Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

How blessed are those whose hope is in the LORD!

On God rests my salvation and my glory;

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress.

**Therefore we will not be afraid,
though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains be toppled
into the depths of the sea;**

**though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.**

**For the LORD of hosts is with us,
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Come and behold the works of the LORD,
what awesome things he has done on the earth.

*In His hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the hills are His also.*

*The sea is His, for He made it,
and His hands formed the dry land.*

**If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,
then the waters would have engulfed us,
the raging waters would have swept over our soul.**

This is what the LORD, our God, says:

“Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!”

Amen! Blessed be the LORD!

— Scripture weaving from Psalms 46, 62, 95 and 124

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
The King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him,
For He is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
So wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings,
Yea, so gently sustaineth!

Hast thou not seen
How all thy longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

*LECTIONARY for the third Sunday
after the Epiphany, Year B:*

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

On this third Sunday of the season of Epiphany, we continue our focus and reflection on the Person, work, and glorious acts of Jesus in His incarnation here on earth. In these readings, the lectionary again directs our attention to parallel stories of calling—this time, with a focus on the contrasting responses of the prophet Jonah, who ran from God’s call to join Him in His purposes for the world, and Jesus’ calling of Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John, who immediately left their old lives behind to follow Him.

The Old Testament narrative of Jonah is a familiar one: The prophet initially resists God’s instructions, and instead runs in the opposite direction. But he can’t outrun or hide from God, who brings about a fierce storm; and when Jonah is cast overboard in order to calm it, God provides a large fish to swallow Jonah. Three days and nights in the belly of the fish bring Jonah to repentance. Thus returned to his commitment to serve God, he goes to Nineveh and delivers the message of God’s judgment on the people.

But does Jonah really return to a position of trust and rest in God, recognizing Him as his only refuge and hope? And where might we see ourselves in this cautionary tale of obedience, compassion, and mercy?

The Gathering antiphonal reading weaves together Psalm passages that speak of trust and rest in our eternal and powerful God, who alone is our refuge and deliverer in times of storm and tumult.

This well-known hymn echoes the refuge and resounds the praise of the Psalm readings.

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper
Thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy
Here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew
What the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Setting: Ellen Koehler Copyright ©2013 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.
Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; transl. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863.
Hymn tune: LOBE DEN HERREN, 1665.

INVOCATION

Prayers of adoration, praise, and thanksgiving for God's presence

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace.
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto Thy love has blest me,
Thou hast brought me to this place.
And I know Thy hand will bring me
Safely home by Thy good grace.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He to rescue me from danger
Bought me with His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be.
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. ©2003 Ellen Koehler.
Text: Robert Robinson, 1757.
Hymn tune: NETTLETON; traditional American melody,
John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813

Ellen's setting of Praise to the Lord, the Almighty is available in the music catalog (Hymn Settings) as a lead sheet and scored for keyboard (suitable for piano or organ, also). Please see the commentary on this hymn setting for reflections on the text, performance suggestions, and creative ideas for using the hymn verses throughout a worship service.

Here's the link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/praise-lord-almighty>

Music for Ellen's setting of Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing is available in the music catalog as a lead sheet and scored for three-part vocal harmony ("vocals").

Here's the link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/come-thou-fount-every-blessing>

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Leader:

Oh, the depth of the riches
of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are His judgments
and unfathomable His ways!

For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

This is the hope of His calling,
the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
and the surpassing greatness
of His power toward us who believe:

*He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and blameless before Him.*

In love He predestined us to adoption as His children,
in accordance with His pleasure and His will;

*In Him we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of our sins,
according to the riches of His grace
which He lavished upon us.*

He has made known to us the mystery of His will,
that in the fullness of the times,
He might gather together in one all things in Christ,
things in the heavens and things on the earth.

*In Him also we have obtained an inheritance,
having been predestined according to His purpose,
who works all things after the counsel of His will,
to the end that we should be to the praise of His glory.*

**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly places in Christ.
To Him be glory forever!**

– from Romans 11:33, 36 and Ephesians 1:3-14, 18

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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 not be greatly shaken.*

My soul, wait in silence for God alone,
for my hope is from Him.

*On God rests my salvation and my glory;
He is the rock of my strength, and my refuge.*

Trust in Him at all times, O His people.

Pour out your heart before Him, for He is our refuge.

– from Psalm 62:1-8

Almighty and merciful God,

**We confess to You and to one another
that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

[Silent confessions]

The Profession of Faith continues the theme of God's presence and sovereignty, in all things and throughout all time

Today's psalm, which reflects both rest and confession, provides the text for our time of quiet contemplation and repentance..

In Your mercy, forgive us and accomplish in us the work of Your salvation. So draw our hearts to You, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly Yours, utterly dedicated unto You. So may we show forth Your glory in the world; through Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord hear my prayer,
O Lord hear my prayer,
When I call answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer;
Come and listen to me.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

You, O LORD, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon You.

**I give thanks to You, O LORD my God,
with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your name forever.
For great is Your steadfast love toward me;
You have delivered my soul from the depths of the realm of the dead.**

– Psalm 86:12-13

Now, hear this really good news:

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
And I know that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities,
nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God,
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

– Romans 8:1, 38-39

Thanks be to God!

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Psalm 62

My soul finds rest in God alone,
My rock and my salvation;
A fortress strong against my foes,
And I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless, and hearts may curse,
And lies, like arrows, pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness;
I'll look to Him who hears me.

Chorus

O praise Him, hallelujah,
My Delight and my Reward.
Everlasting, never failing;
My Redeemer, my God.

The prayer of confession is drawn from both the simple, traditional text of the morning prayer found in the Book of Common Prayer, and the Prayer of Self-Dedication, also found in the BCP.

A useful and user-friendly resource is The (Online) Book of Common Prayer [www.bcponline.org].

A versified setting of today's psalm, most appropriate and meaningful in this service.

Find rest, my soul, in God alone
Amid the world's temptations.
When evil seeks to take a hold,
I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come, and riches go,
Don't set your heart upon them.
The fields of hope in which I sow
Are harvested in heaven.

Chorus

I'll set my gaze on God alone,
And trust in Him completely;
With ev'ry day pour out my soul,
And He will prove His mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath,
A sigh too brief to measure,
My King has crushed the curse of death,
And I am His forever.

Chorus

O praise Him, O praise Him;
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
(3 times)

Chorus

CCLI Song #5040902 ©2007 Thankyou Music. Stuart Townend, Aaron Keyes.

THE WORD

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

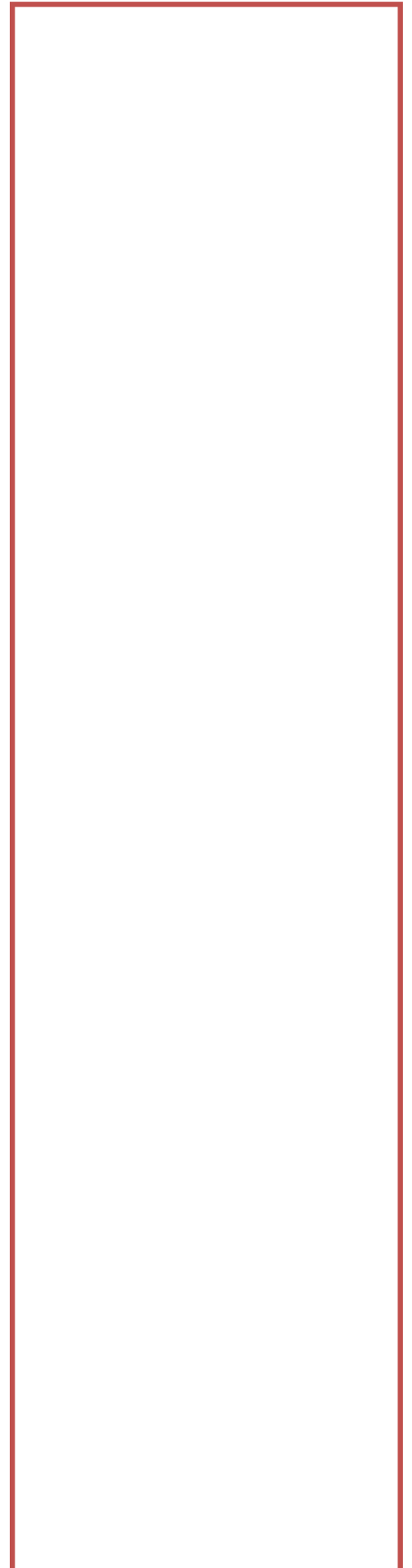
THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

Passing of the Peace

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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



The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your Name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth as in heav'n.
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.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)

Be still, my soul, the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide.
In every change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly friend,
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul, thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake.
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Chorus

In You I rest; in You I found my hope.
In You I trust; You never let me go.
I place my life within Your hands alone.
Be still, my soul.

Be still, my soul, begin the song of praise
On earth, believing, to thy Lord on high.
Acknowledge Him in all thy words and ways,
So shall He view thee with a well-pleased eye.
Be still, my soul: the sun of life diving
Through passing clouds shall but more brightly shine.

Hymn words: Katharina Amelia von Schlegel, 1752; transl. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855.
Hymn tune: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1899. Verses 1, 2, and 5.
Bridge words and music: Kari Jobe and Jason Ingram. CCLI Song #6534077
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Withholding Nothing

I surrender all to You;
Everything I give to You:
Withholding nothing;
Withholding nothing.

I give You all of me. (4 times)

CCLI Song #7037764 ©Delivery Room Publishing. William McDowell

Eric Wyse's setting of the Lord's Prayer, Our Father in Heaven, is available at Score Exchange (<http://www.scoreexchange.com/scores/19379.html>)

I Surrender All

All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him, in His presence daily live.

Chorus:

I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power, let Thy blessing fall on me.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. Copyright ©2013 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.
Words: Judson W. Van de Venter, 1896. Hymn tune: Winfield S. Weeden, 1896.

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (verse 4)

Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
Come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly, for aye we adore Him,
Gladly, for aye we adore Him!

Setting: Ellen Koehler. Copyright ©2013 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.
Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; transl. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863.
Hymn tune: LOBE DEN HERREN, 1665.

Benediction:

Now, beloved, go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord –
walking out your baptisms in trust, surrender, and faithfulness –
and remembering always that He who calls, saves and keeps you
is your steadfast Rock, mighty Fortress and eternal Salvation.

Amen!

Now to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
throughout all generations, forever and ever.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship...– “We are the disciples whom Jesus has called . . . to turn away from self-love and self-service, to abandon a life lived for self-gratification or self-glory, and to serve God as an epiphany of the self-giving service of Jesus. True spirituality longs for, seeks for, and wills this abandonment of self so that Christ may become present through our work, our lives, and our relationships, manifesting his power.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 88.)

Lectionary for next week: Deuteronomy 18:15-20 ;
Psalm 111;
1 Corinthians 8:1-13;
Mark 1:21-28

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