

St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
Story of Nicodemus

February 6, 2022

10:00 AM

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GATHERING

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GATHERING MUSIC

+GATHERING SONG

“Let Us Talents And Tongues Employ”

ELW #674

**Verse 1**

Let us talents and tongues employ,  
Reaching out with a shout of joy:  
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

**Verse 2**

Christ is able to make us one,  
At the table he sets the tone,  
Teaching people to live to bless,  
Love in word and in deed express.

**Refrain**

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

**Refrain**

**Verse 3**

Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

**Refrain**

+PRAYER OF THE DAY *{Front Center} (Mollee Erickson)*

L: Birthing God, you gave us life when we were born of water and Spirit. Help us live into that new life, refreshed and renewed for your work.

**C: Amen.**

+SHARING OF THE PEACE *{Front Center} (Mollee Erickson)*

*Please share of wave of peace with one another.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *{Front Center} (Rob)*

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WORD

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *{On Floor Pulpit Side} (Emily)*

FIRST READING *(Eric Murphy)*

1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

+THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:1-21

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

+SONG OF THE DAY

"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

ELW #325

**Verse 1**

I want Jesus to walk with me;  
I want Jesus to walk with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me, walk with me.

**Verse 2**

In my trials, Lord, walk with me; walk with me;  
In my trials, Lord, walk with me; walk with me;

**Verse 3**

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

+THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Mollie Erickson*)

*Screen*

**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.**

+THE PRAYERS (*Mollie Erickson*)

*Screen*

*After each petition:*

L: Lord in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

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## MEAL

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### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

#### + CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS {*Front Center*} (*Pastor Rob*)

L: The coming of Christ was not, and is not widely welcomed. Wherever there is epiphany there will also be darkness: the darkness of old superstitions and dogmas which refuse to fade away easily; the darkness of pride in the half truths that have masqueraded as wisdom; the darkness of entrenched evil that hates the light and tries to dispose of it; the darkness of apathy that cannot be bothered to open the shutters;

L: Most holy and loving God,

**C: please forgive the darkness and pain we have inflicted on others, and restore your light within our own souls. Trusting your grace, we humbly ask, "Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us." Through Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen!**

L: My friends, Epiphany is good news! The Light comes not to sear and blind us but to save us. Jesus came into this world to save sinners. In his name, I declare to you: Yours sins are forgiven!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

#### + WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*Pastor Rob*)

#### +THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Pastor Rob*)

**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.**

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

#### +COMMUNION SONG

"Take My Life"

ELW #583

#### **Refrain**

Take my life, that I may be  
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my moments and my days;  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

#### **Verse 1**

Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee.

#### **Refrain**

#### **Verse 2**

Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use  
Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

#### **Refrain**

#### **Verse 3**

Take my voice and let me sing  
Always, only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages from thee.

#### **Refrain**

#### **Verse 4**

Take my will and make it thine;  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
It shall be thy royal throne.

#### **Refrain**

*Please stand as you are able.*

+POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (*Pastor Rob*)

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Mollee Erickson*)

L: Lord God, we give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

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SENDING

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+BENEDICTION (*Pastor Rob*)

L: May the eternal light of God guide you in the way of the peace, through the power of Holy Spirit now and forevermore.

C: **Amen.**

+SENDING SONG

“Promises”

*Greg Anderson*

**Chorus 1 (2x)**

Do not fear  
For I am with you now  
Do not be dismayed  
For I am your God  
I will strengthen you  
I will surely help you now  
I will uphold you child  
With my right hand

All of the desires of your heart  
He'll command his angels now  
And they will lift you up  
He'll keep you safe  
If you will just believe

**Chorus 1**

**Chorus 2**

Do not fear  
For I am with you now  
Do not be dismayed  
For I am your God  
I will strengthen you  
I will surely help you now

**Verse 1**

All things work together for good  
For those who love the Lord  
And are called  
According to his purpose  
With him, there's no impossible  
No, nothing is too hard  
I'm gonna stand right up and claim  
All of his promises to me

**Ending**

I will uphold you child  
I will uphold you child  
I will uphold you child  
With my right hand

**Chorus 1**

**Verse 2**

Take delight now in the Lord  
And he will surely give you

+DISMISSAL (*Mollee Erickson*)

L: Go in peace. Be the Light of Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

REPRISE

*Flowers given by Colin Quinn in memory of Susan.*