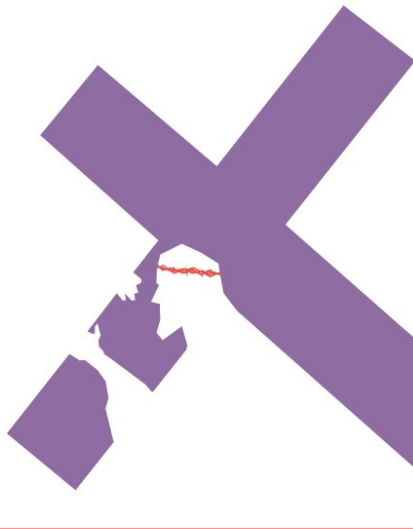




GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH • SCHOOL



**Sent to
Serve**

2021 NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 23, 2021 - 5:00 PM

JANUARY 24, 2021 - 10:45 AM

(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling” Hymn 827
(sts. 1, 2 & 4)

Hark, the voice of Jesus calling, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting— Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?

Some take up His task in morning, To their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday, Others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting, Some are sent into the fields,
There to gather in the bounty That God’s Word so richly yields.

Hearken to the Lord whose coming Marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest; Soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

***THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Leader: In the Name of the Father and the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Our theme for the academic year is *Sent to Serve*. For Jesus said:

People: The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:28)

Leader: Truthfully, we have tried to serve ourselves more than we have wanted to serve others. Graciously, the Lord invites us to come before Him and admit our wrongs. Because of Jesus, He promises that He will not only forgive our sins, but also empower us to serve others just as He serves us.

Leader: Heavenly Father,

People: I confess that I have sinned against You and hurt other people. Instead of going to serve others, I have wanted others to come serve me. My words and actions have often caused family and friends much pain. I

deserve to be punished, now and forever. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me and help me to love others, just as You love me. Amen.

Leader: Friends in Christ, I have Good News for you! Because of Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead, today is a brand new day for you! Your Heavenly Father has heard your prayer, He forgives you all your sins and He fills you with His own Spirit that you may truly live in loving service to others. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen! In God's grace, we are sent to serve!

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE** "Sing Praise to God the Highest Good" *Hymn 819*
(sts. 1 & 4)

**Sing praise to God, the highest good, The author of creation,
The God of love who understood Our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!**

**He never shall forsake His flock, His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock, Their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand, He leads His own, His chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!**

THE FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ²"Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." ³Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very important city - a visit required three days. ⁴On the first day, Jonah started into the city. He proclaimed: "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned." ⁵The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth... ¹⁰When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 15:8-13

⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs ⁹so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name." ¹⁰Again, it says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples." ¹²And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE ANTHEM

"A New Hallelujah"
(Grace Chorale)

arr. G. Rhodes

*THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:20-28, ESV

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁰Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. ²¹And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." ²²Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." ²³He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." ²⁴And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. ²⁵But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

[10:45] CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*SERMON HYMN

"Sent to Serve"

J. Burkart

(Revised text by Grace Lutheran Church, tune: "Crown Him with Many Crowns")

We have been sent to serve By Christ, our Servant King,
Who gave His life that we might live; New life to others bring.
May we, through servanthood, Proclaim Lord Jesus' love,
So all might know that God is good, And trust the LORD above.

Our Lord and Savior's grace Impels each faithful one
To hold the lost in His embrace; Each daughter, ev'ry son!
May they, by grace, be blest Through faith in Jesus Christ,
Who gave His life so all would rest In His great sacrifice.

Our ransom has been paid. For Christ, who conquered death,
Rose from the grave, came to our aid, With His life-saving breath.
He reigns as LORD of all; He shall return again.
Until His coming, heed His call That all might heaven gain.

THE SERMON

"Sent to Serve"

Matthew 20:20-28, ESV

*PROFESSION OF FAITH - Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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 BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you
peace.

People: Amen.

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** “Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go”
(sts. 1 & 3)

Hymn 920

**Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world’s true king.**

**Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
This world of time to consecrate,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ’s world in Christ to re-create.**

***DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments

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WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

The Preacher/Liturgist

The Organist

The Lector

The Usher/Greeter Team

Vicar Michael Duffy

Wynn Bonner

Mike Britt

Don & Connie March, Jennifer March

SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Preacher

The Liturgist

The Organist/Choir Director

The Sound Technician

The Elder on Duty

The Lectors

The Robing Leader

The Crucifer

The Acolytes

The Welcome Team Greeter

At the Welcome Center

The Welcome Team Ushers

Vicar Michael Duffy

The Rev. Charles T. Reich

Wynn Bonner

Rodney Steffen

Jennifer Smith

Carl Locke, Cindy Sensabaugh

Julia King

Olivia Zinsmeister

Lauren King, Steven Reimann

Sally Anderson

Cynthia Butt

Donna Enzor, Steve Griffith,

Carl Rod, Larry Walker