**2nd sunday after epiphany- january 15, 2023**

**zion, philipsburg**

**GATHERING**

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

**LAND ACKNOWLEGEMENT**

We begin by acknowledging the traditional territory upon which we gather this morning. For thousands of years, the Anishinabewaki, Mississauga’s, and Neutral peoples have sought to walk gently on this land. They aided the first European travellers to this territory and shared their knowledge for survival in what was at times a harsh climate. We remember their love of this land and seek a new relationship based in honour and deep respect.

**GATHERING SONG*Here I Am, Lord* (ELW 574)**

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" Refrain

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" Refrain

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome to worship on this 2nd Sunday of Epiphany, January 15, 2023. The weather continued to be dreary this week. We are all missing the sun.

Annual meeting will take place Feb 12, 2023. There will be a potluck lunch at 11:30 followed by the meeting at 12:30. Please plan to attend ! Zion is in need of 3 councillors. We ran council with 5 councillors this past year instead of 6. It is good to have new ideas and visions for the future. Note to committees, please have your year end reports into Susan Seyler by January 29.

**GREETING (ELW p. 184)**

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.**

**KYRIE (ELW p. 184)**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE*Now the Feast and Celebration* (ELW 167 )**

Refrain
Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united usto be one great people of God. Refrain

2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. Refrain

3 For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. Refrain

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 188)**

Let us pray.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7**

A reading from Isaiah.

*Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant’s ultimate assignment is to bring news of God’s victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.*

 1Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!
 The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother’s womb he named me.2He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.
 3And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”
 4But I said, “I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
 yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.”
 5And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
 to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,
 for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—
 6he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

 7Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up,
  princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 40:1-11**

1I waited patiently upon the Lord, who stooped to me and heard my cry. 2**The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,**
**and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**
3The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise  to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.
4**Happy are they who trust in the Lord!** **They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**
5Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.
6**Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;** **you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**
7And so I said, “Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:
8**‘I love to do your will, O my God;** **your law is deep within me.’ ”**
9I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.
10**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;**
**I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**
11You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

*Though God’s church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
 2To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
 3Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
 4I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?** **You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.** **Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL: John 1:29-42**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

29[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!30This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ 31I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” 32And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”
 35The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, 36and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” 37The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” 39He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. 40One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). 42He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON (ELW p. 189)**

*The assembly is seated.*

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY*Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult* (ELW 696)**

1 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea,
day by day his clear voice sounding,
saying, "Christian, follow me":

2 As of old Saint Andrew heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.

3 Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."

4 In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

5 Jesus calls us! By your mercy,
Savior, may we hear your call,
give our hearts to your obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Put a new song in the mouth of your church. Inspire the baptized to tell of your faithfulness, sharing the good news of your salvation throughout the earth. Bless the witness of missionaries. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The waters of baptism call us into life in the Spirit. Preserve the world’s waters: protect them from pollution, support plants and animals who depend on them, and bring rain in places of drought. Guide us in protecting our rivers, lakes and oceans. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

In Jesus you are the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Show your mercy to all nations. Direct leaders to do your will; fill governing bodies with righteousness; equip judges with discernment and compassion. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You incline your ear to all who cry to you. Draw near to individuals and communities suffering violence, injustice, illness, injury, or poverty. Hide them in the shadow of your hand and make us signs of your faithfulness to all in need. We pray especially for Sarah, Anne, Chris, John, Vivian, Stuart, Edna, Susan, Marg, Marlene, Felix, Debbie G, our members in long term care Esther, Robert, Rob, and Evelyn, and those we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts ( good pause)*.* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are glorified in the servants you have called, give us bold trust in you. Even when it feels like a sharp sword or polished arrow, give us courage to receive your call to repentance and racial justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

In every place and time, you have sanctified your people. We praise you for the testimony of those who have died in the faith. Strengthen us as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 189)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**OFFERING*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* (ELW 885)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.

Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power,

and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**DIALOGUE (ELW p. 190)**

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.**

**PREFACE (ELW p. 190)**

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 p. 190)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of pow’r and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 190)**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

 Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

**LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Come and taste the joy of God!

**COMMUNION (ELW p. 191)**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**COMMUNION SONG – Lamb of God (ELW p. 191)**

**COMMUNION Songs *Christ, Be Our Light* #715, *He Comes to Us as One Unknown* #737**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

**BLESSING**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor’s rod

☩ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG*Arise, Your Light Has Come!* (ELW 314)**

1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

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