New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



Second Sunday after Epiphany January 14th, 2024 Worship Service ELW Setting 4



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

12942 Lutheran Church Road, Lovettsville, Virginia 20180

www.njlclovettsville.org

Church Office
Pastor Phillip Carl

540-822-5576 (703) 955-6714 officenjlc@gmail.com pastor.njlc@gmail.com

OUR MISSION: Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving, and fellowship.

OUR VISION: NJLC is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone & expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, & all creation.

WELCOME TO NEW JERUSALEM

A few items of note to help you in your time here today:

MASKS — Masks are optional for worship and events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.

NEWCOMERS — Visitors are always welcome and we invite you to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a pew card from the pew rack in front of you.

COMMUNION — Welcome to the table of Christ where we believe Christ is fully present to us in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine. You are invited to participate whether a member here or come to us from any other denominational tradition. Those not ready to receive Christ in body and blood, may still come forward to receive Christ in blessing. Follow the directions of the ushers who will dismiss each pew. As you come to the top of the center aisle, the pastor will place a wafer in your hands and invite you to step to the side to take an individual cup of wine (first tray) or grape juice (second). Please receive and then discard cups in the receptacle along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front.

CHILDREN — We seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. We have a Cherub's Corner in the fellowship hall downstairs with age appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers. Should you have the need/desire to utilize our staffed Sunday Morning Nursery, it is located in the end room of the education building.

HANDICAP ACCESSABILITY — Handicap accessible restrooms are located downstairs at the back of our Fellowship Hall or across in our Education Building. Someone is available to run the lift should you need to get up and down between levels.

We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit!



The altar flowers are a beautiful and meaningful addition to the worship service each week and a joyful way to give glory to God and honor our family and friends.

To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2024 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.

Introduction

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

GATHERING

READER FOR TODAY

Bill George

PRELUDE

"Here I Am Lord" Arr. by Mark Hayes Mark A. Fletcher

We prepare our hearts and minds for worship during the prelude.

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

"Dearest Jesus at Your Word" (see music on next page)

ELW 520

GREETING

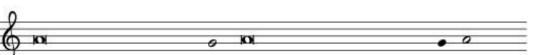
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

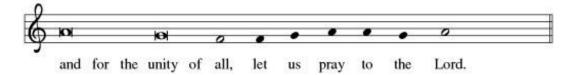


Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; Gesangbuch, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt. Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673





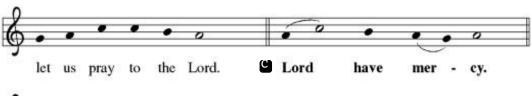
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

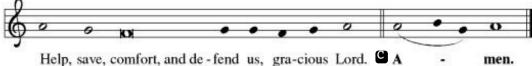






For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





Canticle of Praise

Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the

countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and

forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

Reader: The first reading for today is recorded in the book of 1 Samuel...

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. 6The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 8The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [11 Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. 14Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." ¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." 18So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him." 19As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the

ground. 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.1

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Reader:

The second reading for today is recorded in the book of 1 Corinthians ... ¹²"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. 13"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Word of God. Word of Life. Reader:

Thanks be to God. People:

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?



Text: John 6:68, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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GOSPEL READING John 1:43-51

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

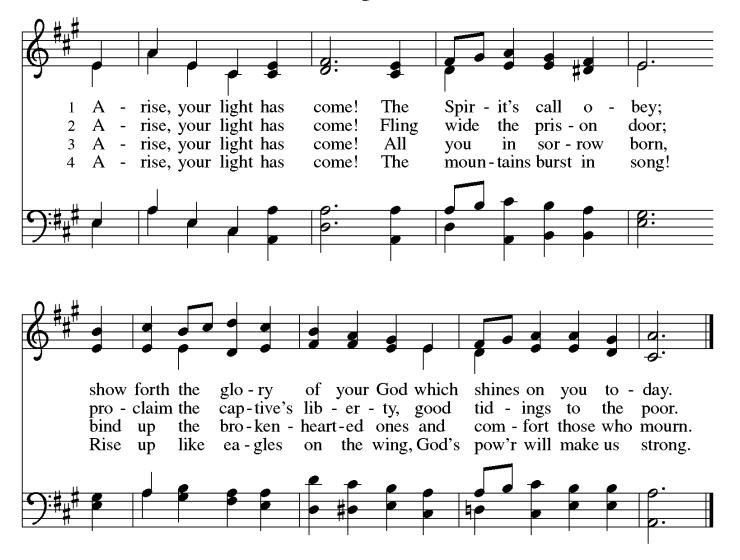
Children's Message Pastor Phil Carl

Sermon Pastor Phil Carl

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY "Arise, Your Light Has Come" ELW 314 (see music on next page)

Arise, Your Light Has Come!



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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APOSTLE'S CREED

People: 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the leaders of your church be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader; Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration, especially Mary Thompson, Wayne Dunkley, Mack Keister, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock, Evelyn Bowman, Anna Adler, Cecelia Cole. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel, so inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: As we strive to call a new pastor for this congregation, send your Spirit to guide our decisions and those of all others in that process, so the outcome reflects your will for our future. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints, especially the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. whose faithful advocacy for peace and justice continues to embolden the church. God of grace,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: 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.

People: Amen.

GREETING & PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

We invite you to turn and share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

Please be seated.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

MEAL OFFERTORY "Ancient of Days" Thomas Chesterton Mark A. Fletcher

OFFERTORY RESPONSE





Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

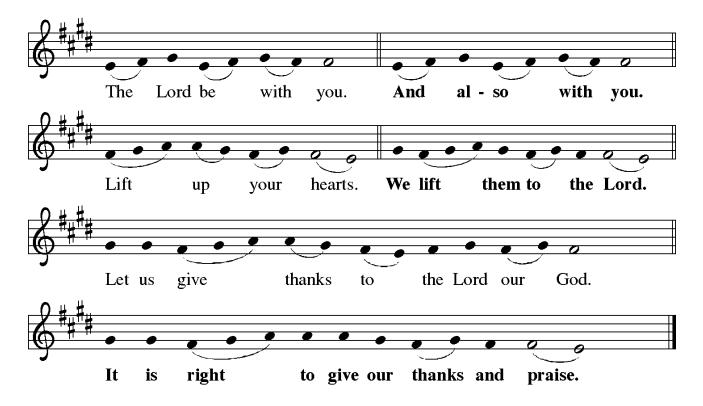
Pastor: Generous God,

People: 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.

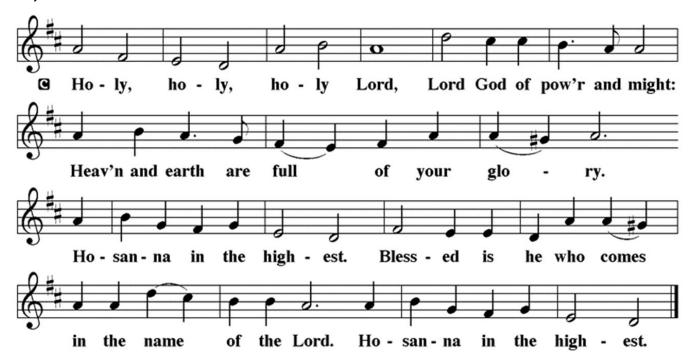
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Pastor: 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 the earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor:

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray as the Lord has taught us:

People: 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,

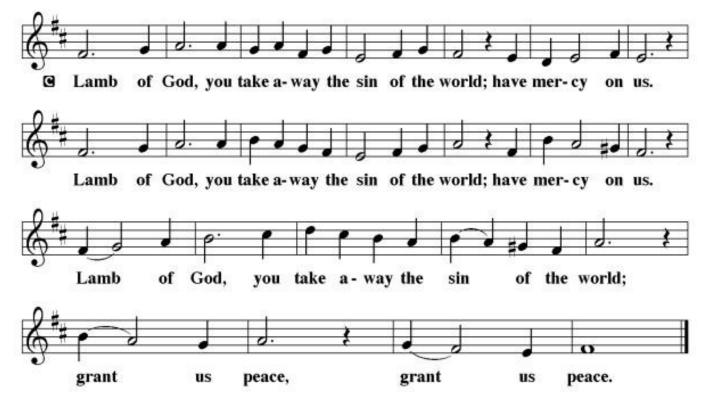
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for now all is ready.

Please be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION



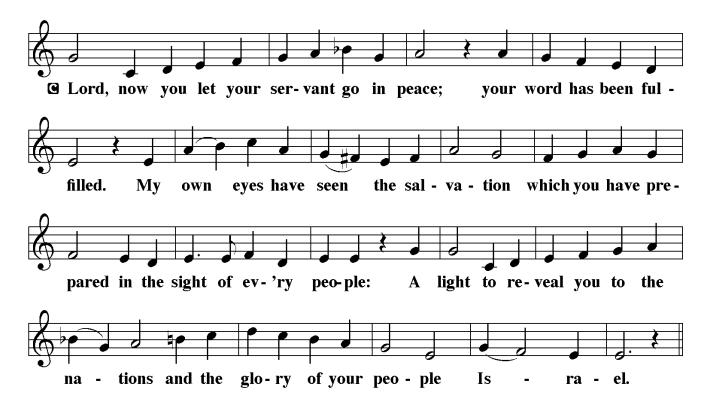
Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you

unto life eternal.

People: Amen.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: Amen.

SENDING SONG "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

ACS 984

(see music on next page)

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Now All the Vaults of Heaven Resound" Mark A. Fletcher

Arr. by James Mansfield

Renewed and strengthened by our worship together, go forth in peace to serve to the world.

Following today's Service, we invite you to find fellowship downstairs in the fellowship hall.

May the God of Hope Go with Us

Dios de la esperanza



Text: Alvin Schutmaat, 1921–1988, alt. Music: ARGENTINA, Argentine folk melody

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PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (not read during today's service)

¹LORD, you have searched me out; O LORD, you have known me. ²You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. ³You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether. ⁵You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it. ¹³For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I will thank you because I am marvelously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well. ¹⁵My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; my days were fashioned before they came to be. ¹⁷How deep I find your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them! ¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.