## Historic Scripture Lessons for \* \* \* 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany Old Testament

**Jeremiah 33:6-9 NIV** Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal My people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security. 7 I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them as they were before, 8 I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against Me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against Me. 9 Then this city will bring Me renown, joy, praise and honor before all nations on earth that hear of all the good things I do for it; and they will be in awe and will tremble at the abundant prosperity and peace I provide for it.'

### **Epistle**

**Romans 12:16-21** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eves of everybody. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is Mine to avenge; I will repay," says the LORD. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## **3-Year Gospel B** (Sermon Text)

Mark 1:14-20 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" 16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow Me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." 18 At once they left their nets and followed Him. 19 When He had gone a little farther, He saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed Him.

Historic Gospel Epiphany-3 Matthew 8:1-13 When He came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed Him. 2 A man with leprosy came and knelt before Him and said, "LORD, if You are willing, You can make me clean." 3 Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. "I am willing," He said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cured of his leprosy. 4 Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." 5 When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, asking for help. 6 " LORD," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering." 7 Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him." 8 The centurion replied, "LORD, I do not deserve to have You come under my roof. But just say the Word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard this, He was astonished and said to those following Him, "I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. 11 I say to you that many will come from the East and the West, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. 12 But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." 13 Then lesus said to the centurion. "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that very hou

#### **№ 2018 OSL Annual Voters' Meeting January 28th 11 am Proposed AGENDA:** 5. Set Mtg. Time (Limit) 1. Devotion 9. Old Business **10.** New Business

6. Elections (Officers) 2. Roll Call-Attendance 7. Financial Reports

8. (Other) Reports 4. Minutes (2017 Mtg)

3. Call for New Voters

11. Adjourn 12. (Lórd's) Praver.

Our Savior Lutheran Church ML Lakeland, FL USA Third Sunday after Epiphany *→ Jesus' Epiphany of Mercy* Missions & Outreach & January 21st, 2018 9:30 am



Historic Church Year Symbol Set for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany: Matthew 8 Spread the Gospel of (our manifested) Jesus Christ in Missions to the World.

Image courtesy of the Lutheran Synod Publishing https://lutheransynodpublishing.com

## OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH



6920 N Socrum Loop Road / (north) Lakeland, FL 33809 USA
Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.osllakeland.org
BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM
♣ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ♣ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

# January 21st, 2017 Epiphany-3 Missions, Outreach

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please wait to take Communion until you can speak with our pastor. Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. LORD's blessings to you.

## **OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP** On silver liturgy sheets or red TLH Hymnal **p.15**.

Service	TLH# (vv)	First Line
Invocation Hymn	<b>250</b> (4v)	Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
Psalm <b>98</b>	<b>98</b> "4v"	All the Ends of the Earth Have Seen Power 🗷
Hymn of the Day	<b>506</b> (6v)	Send Thou, O Lord, to Every Place
Offertory Verse	<b>509</b> (3v)	Sing v.1 There Still Is Room!(House Not Full)
Distribution Hymn	<b>498</b> (6v)	Rise, Thou Light of Gentile Nations
Closing Hymn	<b>496</b> (4v)	Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays of the 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Gen.25:19-34 Gen. 27:1-45 Gen.27:46-28:22 Gen.29:1-20 Gen.31:1-18 Gen. 32:3-32

Matt.8:14-22 Matt. 8:28-34 Matt. 9:9-17 Matt. 9:27-38 Matt.10:1-16 Matt10:17-11:1

## PROPERS for the THIRD SUNDAY after EPIPHANY \*\* JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>

**INTROIT** Worship Him, all His angels; Zion hears and is glad. The daughters of Judah rejoiced because of Your judgments, O LORD. The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice, let the multitude of the isles be glad....**Psalm 148** 

**COLLECT** Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, Who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One True God, now and forever. C: ♪ A---men.

GRADUAL C: Alleluia! Oh, praise the LORD, all you nations! Laud Him, all you people. Alleluia! For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the LORD endures forever. Alleluia! ....from Psalm 102

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: printed on the outside back page of the bulletin →

O.T. **Jeremiah 33:6-9** God will bring health and healing to *all* people.

Epi. Romans 12:16-21 Overcome evil with good.

Gos. **Mark 1:14-20** Iesus calls His first disciples: Andv. Pete. Iim. Johnny

PSALM 98	C:	, Have Seen the Power of God.
Refrain	All the ends of the earth,	have seen the power of God.

Verse 1. Sing to the Lord a new song,	for He has done wondrous deeds; _
His Right Hand has won the Vict'	ry for Him,His ho-ly Arm

♪ All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...

Verse 3. All the ends of the earth have seen, salva—tion by our God; \_\_\_\_ Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth- in song.

All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...

Verse 4. Sing to the Lord with harp and song, \_\_\_ with trumpet and with horn; \_\_\_ Sing in your joy before the King, The King-, our Lord. \_\_\_\_\_

All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends of the...

#509 1. There still is room! His House is not yet filled, Not all the guests are there.
Oh, bring them in! Their hunger shall be stilled With bread, yea bread to spare.
Go, call them from the lanes and byways, From winding roads and crowded highways.
THERE STILL IS ROOM! THERE STILL IS ROOM! A--MEN.

## PRAYER REQUESTS: Member or Relation Pray for...

Sue Smith (Bev Foster's daughter) Sue: liver & pancreas growth. Bev was ill Jim&Elma Hendricks LORD's will be done. Jim at home. Blood pressure spikes Dee Kurczewski (David) Dee was in hospital after falls. Back home, rehabbing Don Miner (Carolyn) Don had shoulder replacement Thu. Recovering at home Jon Sawyer Sr (Andrea) Jon Sr is in LRMC. Will need double bypass surgery Martha Sawyer (Jon's mom) In Miss. Moved from hospital to rehab (Jan.1,2) James Vanesky & Delores Platt Delores & Jim at home. Both doing rehab

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Barb Wolkens	Ethel & Steve Wendt
Treaters	Volunteer (Birthday Cake)	June Weyenberg

Statistics	Last week	Year to date / Avg.
<b>Sunday Attendance</b> /(LordSupper)	27 / ()	<b>24</b> / 20
<b>Bible Class Attendance</b> (Sunday)	6	6
Sunday Offering for LORD	\$.	YTD Total \$.

#### Calendar of Events

Today Sunday 21st	8:30 am	Bible Study Heb. 12 JC, Hero of Faithful
Epiphany-3 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (NO Holy Communion)
Missions, Light of 🏈	10:45 ff	Fellowship, CoffeePlease stay & talk
Thursday 1/25	10:00 am	SET-UP at church for (Friday's) FISH FRY
Friday 1/26 !FISH!	4:30-6:30	OSL Annual 2018 FISH FRY here at church
Next Sunday 1/28	8:30 am	<b>Bible Study Heb.</b> 13 JC, Whose Kin We Are
Epiphany-4 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (W/ Holy Communion)
Trust in the LORD	10:45 ff	Fellowship, CoffeePlease stay & talk
2018 Annual Mtg.	~11:00 am	OSL Annual Voters' Meeting at church

Our Savior Elders are: **Tom Temple 213-4622**; **John Weber 853-5458**; **Steve Wendt 858-3611** & **Don Wienke 815-8892**. Please contact with any concerns.

Next Sunday 1/28 Epiphany-4 (No L.S. p.5) TLH #s 383Ps.98 437 428 431 54

EPIPHANY3B Mark 1:14-20 "COME FOLLOW ME"...AND THEY DID! 01.21.18 OSL "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." 18 At once they left their nets and followed him.. (Mark 1:17&18)

INTRODUCTION John the Baptizer is arrested, handed over for criticizing Herod's unlawful marriage to his brother's estranged wife. **The lesser gives way to the Greater**. The one who prepares the way steps aside for the One who is the Way. The forerunner precedes Christ into death. Jesus goes to Galilee, the north country, the place where the prophet Isaiah said Messiah's light would dawn first. **Not Jerusalem, the religious capital, but Galilee**, the border between Israelite and Gentile. (Because) **He comes for** *All* **inclusively**.

He (Jesus that is) comes **preaching the Good News of God**. "The time is fulfilled; the Kingdom of God draws near; **repent** and **believe** in the Gospel." The reign of God is hidden, a "mystery," something not natural to us and not apparent to the eye. You must be told it. It must be revealed, preached. The **Chief Preacher is the Word Himself**, the Word become Flesh. He proclaims what no one could know on his own: The reign of God has drawn near in Jesus. Where the King is, there is the Kingdom.

The same happens here in this place, from this very pulpit. This is "Galilee for you" where God's Light shines in the darkness, where eternity and time intersect in a moment of fulfillment, where the Kingdom of God is proclaimed to you. When Jesus preached in his hometown synagogue, He said, "Today, this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." The Apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthians, said, "Now is the acceptable moment, Now is the day of your salvation." This is your day and moment, when the Word Incarnate seeks you out and proclaims God's reign to you. Everything that God has done from all eternity and everything He will do to all eternity, He delivers here in this one saving moment. God is always present tense: I AM.

The Kingdom calls for response. Repent and believe in the Gospel. Repent - literally change your mind, come to a new way of thinking about yourself and about God. The (Hebrew and) Greek word Μετανοια behind it is "Be turned around." "Return to the Lord your God, because He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." To repent is to turn from unbelief to faith, from idolatry to God, from sin to righteousness, from a death(march) to (a walk of) life.

It's not a turning we do to ourselves, it's a turning the **Word does to us**. Repent and believe are **not things we do to ourselves**. They are what the Word does to us. God said (the Word/s), "Be light" and light there was. "Be sea and dry land," and it is so. The Word does what it says. The Word says "Repent," and stubborn, stony hearts of sinners are turned in repentance. The Word says "Believe," and unbelieving hearts trust in the Good News of Jesus.

"Though **dead** in sin, God made you **alive** in Christ Jesus." The dead can't move, decide, repent, believe, turn or even twitch. "I believe that I can**not** by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to Him." Jesus comes to you, breathes His life into you, speaks His Word to you, enlivens you, turns you toward Him and places His trust in your heart. He meets

you in the darkness and deadness of your unbelief, your sin, your self-centeredness, the idolatries of self. "Repent. **Be turned** from yourself to Christ - God in the flesh - where your life is. Your sins are forgiven you. Believe it."

That's what makes this news "Good News," "Gospel." **Not** that Jesus has done God's part and now it's up to you to do yours. Work is not good news. And whether it's 5 percent or 95 percent doesn't really matter. As long as you're doing any of it, it isn't good news. Good news is that it's all finished and it's all yours. That's also why it has to be preached.

Listen to how **Dr. Luther** put it in the **Large Catechism**: "Neither you nor I could ever know anything of Christ, or believe in Him and take Him as our Lord, unless these were first offered to us and bestowed on our hearts through the preaching of the Gospel by the Holy Spirit. The work is **finished and completed**, Christ has acquired and won the treasure for us by His sufferings, death, and Resurrection. But if the work remained hidden and no one knew of it, it would have been all in vain, all lost. In order that this treasure might not be buried but put to use and enjoyed, God has caused the Word to be published and proclaimed, in which He has given the Holy Spirit to offer and apply this treasure of Salvation."

The reign of God in Christ has to be preached, and Christ Himself is the Message and "the Preacher." That's why God has a church in the world, **why this congregation exists**, why the Office of the Holy Ministry exists - that the reign of Jesus Christ might be proclaimed and that sinners might be called by His Word to repentance and faith in Him.

This is all illustrated well in what follows in our text. As Jesus is walking along the shore, He sees **Simon** and his brother **Andrew** casting their nets. He says, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." **Immediately**, Mark records, "they left their nets and followed Him." Then He does the same with the Zebedee brothers, **James** and **John**. Jesus the Great Fish reels in the fishermen for His service. He's the One Who initiates things. He chooses them, they don't choose Him. **He seeks them, they don't go looking for Him**.

He finds them **busy in their vocations**, casting and mending nets. Take note of that. Jesus finds them while they are busy in the **boring and mundane details** of their livelihoods, not meditating on a mountaintop or engaging in some "spiritual" exercises. They were at work, just as **Matthew** was at work in his tax collector's office, when Jesus said to him, "Follow me."

Those words, "follow me," like the words "repent" and "believe" are **enlivening**, **powerful words from the Son of God**. They do what they say. The fishermen immediately left their nets, their boats, their father, their lives, and they follow Him. Where are they going? He doesn't tell them. The road Jesus puts them on will lead to His death, **and their own**. They had no idea what they were getting into that day. But the words "follow me" from the Mouth of Jesus into the ears of the fishermen turned them in new directions. **They followed**.

And, **What will they be doing?** "Fishing for men," Jesus says. They knew something about fish. But men(?!) How do you catch men that don't want to be caught? Jesus would teach them and authorize them. "Make disciples of

all the nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." That's how they would catch men from the Kingdom - by casting the net of Baptism far and wide and hauling in the catch.

You know what happens to **fish caught in a net - they die**. And so it is in Baptism. You died and were buried in the death of Christ in order to be raised with Him in His resurrection. Death and resurrection to life is the way of Jesus, and of all who follow Jesus. Not a death that leads to eternal corruption, but a **death that leads to eternal life with God**.

Think of (the hobby of) **tropical fish.** When getting a new fish you keep the fish in a holding tank for a while, prior to putting them in their permanent tank. The temporary tank is plain, nothing of interest, not even a bubbling mermaid. The permanent tank is lushly planted, "**a fish paradise**." There comes a day when you have to catch the fish in a net and transfer them. To the fish, the net looks like certain death. They swim away and hide from it. They struggle against it and thrash around trying to escape. When they are out in the open air for that brief moment, it may even seem like death itself **But when you release them into their permanent home, death gives way to a life that can be had no other way than to be netted.** 

CONCLUSION You have been caught in the net of Jesus' death. You are baptized, capture by a death that atones for the sin of the world, united with Jesus in His death that conquers your sin, your death, the judgment of God's law, hell itself. You are held captive in that net by the Word of forgiveness you hear, by the Body and the Blood you receive. But this is not a death to destruction. This is not like the fishermen hauling in the catch for sushi. This net saves you, it means life for you! And God wants the same for everyone!!

What a privilege it is to be caught in that apostolic net, to be baptized and forgiven, to trust Christ instead of our selves! The world sees it as captivity, like fish held captive in a net, anything but free. Yet our freedom is precisely in our being held captive by Jesus. This temporary holding tank or puddle of a world is going to dry up one day, consumed in the fire of God's wrath. But you are safe in Jesus' net, caught for life in His death and Resurrection. - Salvation's moment is fulfilled here and now for you. What else can you do but repent and believe that gracious good news? And then go and fling the net yourself in your life circles. In your community, in your park, at your lunches, at our events—FishFry. Let's bring 'em in to share the joy we have! IJ'N, Amen. SDG

ELH 195 On Galilee's High 4. And not alone to nations - In far away retreats,
But ev'ry-where I broadcast - His Love through crowded streets.
The lives that my life touches, - However great or smallLet them through me see Jesus, - Who served and saved us all.
Our Savior Lutheran Church Lakeland, FL USA
Third Sunday after Epiphany Jesus' Epiphany of Mercy
Missions & Outreach January 21st, 2018 9:30 am

Possible Prayer of Church for \*\* \*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany January 21, 2018

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according
to their needs. (Possible Brief silence)

Heavenly Father, Your Son once called **Andrew** & **Peter**, **James** & **John** to follow Him with the promise that He would make them fishers of men. Grant Your baptized the faith to hear and heed the Savior's call, that following Christ, the Holy Spirit would draw many **into the Savior's net** and rescue them from everlasting destruction, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord**, **have mercy**.

For the Holy **Church throughout the world**, that She would rejoice in the Lord and give thanks to His Holy Name; and that she would not be ashamed of the Gospel, but confess it, preach it and cling to it as the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord**, **have mercy**.

For all the baptized, that by grace they would rejoice in Holy Baptism, recognizing that the leprosy of all their sin was washed away at the font; and that they would return to the Lord's house regularly to have their baptismal garments cleansed in the blood of the Lamb, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, h...** 

For this **Our Savior** Congregation, that we would love one another, care for the poor, comfort the ailing, serve our community, bear one another's burdens and generously support our Lord's ministry at home and abroad with our tithes and offerings, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

O Lord, You are high above all nations and Your glory is above the heavens! Look in mercy on our nation. Give to those entrusted with civil authority courage and compassion, wisdom and integrity. Raise up men and women who will speak Your warning threat of judgment to our nation just as You raised up **Jonah**, Your servant, to warn **Nineveh**. Give our nation the grace of repentance to turn from evil. We beg Your protection especially for those most vulnerable among us, particularly **those in the womb**. Free us from all willful blindness and disregard of Your **precious gift of life**, let us pray to the Lord: **L...** 

For all those who are **sick or suffering** in any way, [esp. <u>OSL Prayers</u>,]

PRAYER REQUESTS: Member or Relation Pray for...

that they would receive healing and relief according to the Lord's will, and that they would be comforted by the sure and certain knowledge that nothing can take them away from the love God has for them in Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord**, **have mercy**.

For all who come to the **Holy Supper** today, that we would come knowing we are unworthy to have our Lord come under our roof, but that, at His Word, we are **cleansed by the very Body and Blood** He gives us to eat and drink, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord**, **have mercy**.

For all the saints who have gone before us and now bask in the glory of the Lord, let us give thanks, that we would be numbered among them and kept in the faith until our time in this veil of tears comes to an end, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** *Then, the Lord's Supper...*