

HEARTS @ HOME



A Worship Service for Your Household

Sunday January 17, 2021

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

RCL: John 1:43-51

+ GATHERING +

In unity with God + blessed Creator, merciful Savior, and Breath of life. **AMEN.**

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS +

God of goodness and mercy, help us as we open our hearts and confess our sins.

Jesus asks us to follow him, yet our preoccupations and uncertainty hinder our willingness to take action; Built to be in community, we want to be found, we want to belong, but are tempted to let our skepticism speak louder than God's voice;

Sometimes we doubt our worth as the human being God created us to be;
Other times our words and actions make others doubt their own worth;

We are truly sorry and ask for your forgiveness.

Help us to do what's right in the days to come;
Surround us and renew us with your grace.

AMEN

God is good, and loves us unconditionally, at all times and in all places. By grace we have been saved. In the name of Jesus our sins are forgiven.

AMEN.

+ PRAYER +

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.**

+ SCRIPTURE +

+ **John 1:43-51**

+ **Spark Story Bible:** The Disciples (Pages 258-263)

+ **Jesus Storybook Bible:** Let's Go! (Pages 208-213)

+ **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin App:** Click the 'Bible' tab at the bottom.

+ REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD +

Option 1: Click on your congregation's sermon video or live worship link

Option 2: Use the following questions for in-home conversation or personal reflection

Option 3: Use questions for reflection + **Coloring Sheet** (page 4)

Questions:

- + What does it mean to you to "follow Jesus?" What does the action of following look and sound like in your life?
- + Jesus asked several people to "come and see"; why do you believe he chose more than one person to be a disciple?
- + How do you think the first disciples felt about their discipleship? How do you feel about doing the work of following Jesus?

+ APOSTLES' CREED +

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 +

With all the people of God, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

- + Many people throughout your nation and world are breathing sighs too deep for words, Holy God; we pray for reconciliation and healing, for patience and compassion, and for ears that are prepared to deeply listen to the most vulnerable around us. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + As Lutherans, we believe that government is a gift from God with the purpose of safeguarding and improving human life¹. In the days and weeks to come, we lift up all branches of government, we pray for our elected officials, for a peaceful transition of leadership, for rhetoric of violence and hate to cease, and for actions that create unity and justice. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + For all those who are experiencing illness or injury, for the hungry and homeless, those who are underemployed or unemployed, for the lonely and grieving, those facing addiction or war, and all others who are suffering in any way, that you might surround them with your love and comfort and move them toward healing and wholeness. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + We give our praise to you for the many blessings that fill our lives – creation, relationships, faith, nourishment, and so much more; help us to appreciate each of these gifts and find ways to share them with our neighbors. Lord in your mercy, **AMEN.**
- + *Add your own prayers here...*

Loving God, we give all these prayers to you, trusting in your mercy and grace. **AMEN.**

+ OFFERING +

As people of faith we are called to continue strengthening the ministry of the church, even when we are physically distant. We invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to your congregation or the synod – as the body of Christ we work together to serve our neighbors.

+ LORD'S PRAYER +

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth, as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
Now and forever. **AMEN.**

+ BLESSING EACH OTHER +

Using your pointer finger, dip it in the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or the back of their hand saying, **"You are a beloved child of God."**
Take turns until all in the household have been blessed.

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1. https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Government_and_Civic_Engagement_Social_Message.pdf?_ga=2.231987167.1139085783.1610400970-902308899.1609345206

