

# TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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**Third Sunday After Epiphany**

**January 23, 2022**

Again, Epiphany reminds us of how Jesus came into this world to be the "Light of World," that is, the light of salvation for all people (**John 8:12**) living in the darkness of sin. Sadly, some still do since they don't believe in Jesus as the Son of God or the only Savior of the world (**Acts 4:12**). Yet, the Messianic thread of prophecy runs throughout the Old Testament that God would send the Savior for the fallen human race. In the New Testament, we witness the fulfilment of that prophecy in Jesus.

Our readings today—especially the Old Testament and Gospel lessons—tie together the thread of that truth. Our Epistle lesson stresses how the Church, built because of and on Christ as Savior, works together to carry out Jesus' Great Commission...all done in gratitude for God's gift of salvation. As we remember that Christ is the "Light of the World," Jesus says of us also and instructs us accordingly, "You are the light of the world...People do not light a lamp and put it under a basket... let your light shine in people's presence, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (**Matthew 5:14, 16**).

Order of Worship: ELH Page 60, The Divine Service "Rite Two."

Hymns: 170 (1-4), 171, 194, 170 (5)

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

*First Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-6.* Isaiah prophesies about the coming of the Messiah or Savior, Jesus. The prophet describes our Lord's work and pictures the glory of His New Testament church.

*Psalms of the Day: Psalm 2.* The powers and authorities in this world plot and plan to rule over everything with ultimate power. Nevertheless, God has placed Jesus, His Anointed One, ultimate ruler over all things (*Supplement*).

*Second Lesson: Acts 4:23-31.* The Lord's apostles, Peter and John, imprisoned by enemies of the Savior they proclaimed, when freed from prison resume boldly speaking about the world's Savior from sin.

*Verse of the Day: Alleluia.* Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease. Alleluia. (Matthew 4:23, EHV)

*Gospel: Luke 4:14-21.* Luke presents a glorious revelation of Jesus as the Messiah prophesied in the Old Testament. Jesus reads from Isaiah's prophecy and applies the promise of the coming Savior to Himself.

*Sermon Text: Luke 4:14-21*

*Theme - "Jesus Fulfills Prophecy In Our Hearing"*

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Points to ponder from the day's Scripture readings:

- Old Testament: In this section Isaiah prophesies about the coming Savior. What are some of the blessings the Savior brings to His Church/believers?
- Old Testament: Obviously, the LORD builds His Church upon Jesus (Matthew 16:13-18) and upon the teachings of the Prophets and Apostles that pointed to Christ (Ephesians 2:19-22). According to verse 3, how is that truth referenced by describing believers as "oaks of righteousness?"
- Epistle: Through the Holy Spirit, Paul compares the Christian Church to the body of Christ. What does Paul urge Christians to do as members of the body of Christ?
- Epistle: According to verse 18, who is responsible for assigning these different gifts/parts to the Church?
- Gospel: When Jesus quoted from this morning's Old Testament lesson, what point was He making to the people in the synagogue?
- Gospel: How did the people react to Jesus' comment in verse 21? (See verse 20)

## Announcements:

+ Please join us for Bible class on Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. We are studying the Book of Psalms.

+ Confirmation class: 3:15-5:00 p.m. at the church on Friday.

+ Sunday school on Sunday mornings from 8-8:30 a.m.

**Isaiah 61:1-6** – The Spirit of the LORD God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the afflicted. He sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release for those who are bound, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance for our God, to comfort all who mourn, to provide for those who mourn in Zion, to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, a cloak of praise instead of a faint spirit, so that they will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD to display his beauty. Then they will rebuild ancient ruins. They will raise up what was formerly devastated, and they will renew ruined cities, which have been devastated for generations. Strangers will stand and shepherd your flock, and foreigners will be your farmers and vinedressers. You will be called the LORD's priests. You will be named ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, and you will boast about their riches. (EHV™)

**Acts 4:23-31** – After Peter and John were released, they went to their own friends and reported everything the high priests and the elders had said. When they heard this, with one mind they raised their voices to God and said, "Master, you are the God who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and

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everything in them. By the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David, your servant, you said: Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand, and the rulers are gathered together against the Lord and against his Anointed One. “For certainly, in this city both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and people of Israel, were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did whatever your hand and your plan had decided beforehand should happen. “Now Lord, look at their threats and give to your servants the ability to keep on speaking your word with all boldness as you stretch out your hand to heal and as signs and wonders take place through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” After they prayed, the place where they were gathered was shaken. Also, everyone was filled with the Holy Spirit, and they continued to speak the word of God with boldness. (EHV™)

**Luke 4:14-21** – Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through all the surrounding area. He was teaching in their synagogues and being honored by everyone. He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. As was his custom, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor. He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began to tell them, “Today, this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing. (EHV™)