

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
22 JANUARY 2023

**GATHERING**

God is here  
**The Spirit is with us!**

How great is this place,  
for it is the touching-place of God.  
In Christ, we are gathered from the edges  
and woven into the dream.  
Here we feel the hint of heaven,  
where justice, love and mercy meet.  
Here we celebrate  
the blessedness of unity in God.  
We, who were once far off,  
are brought near.  
And so we pray,  
God, creator of all,  
in your love, you have made each one of us  
in your grace, you gather us together in your  
image  
in your mercy, you make us restless until we find  
our rest in you.  
Disturb us in our contentment,  
distract us from our comforts  
deter us from our conflicts  
until your kingdom comes and your will is done

God is here  
**The Spirit is with us!**

**SONG**

**Come to the song, come to the dance.  
Bring all you are, bring all you be.  
Come with your voice, come with your heart.  
Come and journey with me – come and  
journey with me.**

**Come let the sun, fill up your eyes.  
Take the time, to look around.  
And love, just love, and walk with each other.  
Come and journey with me – come and  
journey with me.**

(Two musical verses)

**Come and see, come and be.  
Be all you are, and all you can be.  
And leave all behind and calm your mind.  
Come and journey with me – come and  
journey with me.**

**PRAYER**

*Come to be filled, come to be loved.  
Come to be whole, body and soul.  
You're never alone, I'm the Lord who is love.  
Come and journey with me.*

**INTRODUCTION TO THE READING**

***ENCOUNTERING THE LIVING WORD***

Matthew 4:18-22

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

18 As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. 23 Jesus[c] went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

May your Word live in us  
***And bear much fruit to your glory.***

**SONG (Tune TiS 679)**

**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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## REFLECTION

### **RESPONDING WITH OUR LIVES**

## PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Hear us as we pray:  
Fill us with life. Lead us to love.

*(You will be invited to light a candle as a symbol of your prayer.)*

In love you summon,  
in love I follow,  
living today for your tomorrow.  
Christ to release me,  
Christ to enfold me,  
Christ to restrain me,  
Christ to uphold me.

### Disciples' 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

## SONG TiS 589

Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea,  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,  
saying, ""Christian, follow me.""

Long ago Saint Andrew heard it  
by the Galilean Lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for his dear sake.

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.""

In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
""That we love him more than these.""

Jesus calls us; by thy mercies,  
Saviour, may we hear your call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience,  
serve and love you best of all.

### *Parting Words*

May you know Jesus' presence in your  
heart and in your life –  
whenever you gather here,  
**whenever you leave here,**  
**wherever you go,**  
whatever you do,  
whoever you meet.

**May you know God's presence in your  
heart and in your life,  
now and always. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

