

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Worship with Holy Communion

January 23, 2022

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

St. Matthew's wishes you a New Year filled with joy, blessings, and purpose! At the turn of the year we meditate on endings and beginnings, knowing that all the world's time begins and ends in God. We watch and keep vigil for the coming of God's justice.

PRELUDE

Cathy Miller, piano

Turn Your Eyes Softly Upon Jesus/Softly and Tenderly

W., Thompson and H Lemmend

WORDS OF WELCOME

GATHERING MEDITATION

You are invited to take a minute of silence to ground yourself in God's loving presence and ponder this question: What needs God's promise of liberation in your life? In the world?

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.
Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.**

P: Rejoice in this good news. In † Christ Jesus, our sins are forgiven. We are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Let us live as freed and forgiven children of God.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

ELW 523

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

Refrain / Estribillo



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
 Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
 feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.
 wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.




1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
 1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
 2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
 3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la
 mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
 ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
 peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

Refrain / Estribillo



cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
 walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
 hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
 geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW 843, vs. 1

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light;
praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel,
healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.

²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

L: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

L: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 535

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

Refrain

Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness. *Repeat*

GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the 4th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was

written: ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

P: The gospel of Jesus Christ.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Stephanie Jaeger

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 710, vs. 1+2

Let Streams of Living Justice

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance; pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer concludes with:

A: God in your mercy.

C: Receive our prayer.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Cathy Miller, piano

I want Jesus to Walk with Me

arr. by Mark Hayes

OFFERING HYMN

ELW 583, vs.2

Take My Life That I May Be

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.

C: Amen

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your

beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power, God of might:
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: 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.

C: Amen.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Jesus, Lamb of God'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;'. The first system includes a fermata over the final note of the vocal line. The second system is a shorter version of the same music, ending with a double bar line.

One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of

bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y

through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
 3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,

Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: May the God, who leads us in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over us, and who calls us by name, † bless us going out and coming in, today and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

This Little Light of Mine

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

DISMISSAL

A: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Cathy Miller, piano

Jazz suite #2

by G Austin

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Worship Assistants:

Piano/Organ: Cathy Miller

Assisting Minister & Song Leader: Melanie

Ronning

Lector: Travis Ramirez

Sacristan: Clayton Larson

Usher: Clayton, Vols.

Acolyte: Juan Serna

Greeter: Mike C.

Technical Crew

Spencer Sowell

Levon Solakian

PowerPoint

Peter & Denice

PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR ST. MATT'S IN 2022. Please submit your pledges for the new year's ministries either online at stmatthewsnoho.org/pledge2022, or use forms available in the narthex. You are encouraged to set up an online monthly donation at stmatthewsnoho.org/donatenow.

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JAN. 30 IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP

Mark your calendars! We will be holding our annual congregational meeting Sunday, January 30, immediately following worship. **Ministry Leaders and Staff: please submit your reports for the annual report to the church office in an email to: leon@stmatthewsnoho.org.** Very last day to submit: TODAY!

SING TO THE LORD A SONG

There are many wonderful voices and musical talents in our congregation! You are ALL urged to share your musical gifts in two ways. JOIN IN WITH THE CHOIR or PROVIDE SPECIAL MUSIC. Contact our amazing choir director/pianist/organist Cathy Miller: cathy@stmatthewsnoho.org

CAN YOU HELP WITH BREAKING BREAD?

We are currently offering hospitality in the narthex before and after worship. Could you help? We need volunteers willing to sign up to do the following: purchase and bring a treat (i.e., muffins, a selection of cookies, danishes etc.), arrive early around 9:30am to set up table, coffee, water and pre-plate the treats; greet people who come to breaking bread; and clean up the hospitality around 12:15pm. Please text or email leon@stmatthewsnoho.org and tell him what day you are willing to serve. Thank you!

BE PART OF OUR WORSHIP TEAM!

In order to lead and live-stream our worship services we need volunteer song leaders, assistants and technical support to join Pr. Stephanie in leading worship, Cathy in providing musical offerings, and Leon and Clay Steely-Boehlke in coordinating the tech side of broadcasting. Sign up in the narthex or contact Pr. Stephanie by cell/text at 310.968.7038 or by email at stephanie@stmatthewsnoho.org, and let her know what role(s) you might be willing to play: assisting minister, singer/musician, reader, run slides on screen, assist with videotaping and sound.

HAVE SOME TIME TO HELP WITH OUR DROP-IN PROGRAMS? VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please consider helping out at our amazing drop-in programs for people experiencing homelessness. We could especially use some extra help on Fridays to help with our clothing distribution and meal service. Wondering what it is like? You can ask members like Erwin David, Don Rosenkjar, Lillian Parker, Art Figueroa and Melanie Ronning about how meaningful the work is. Contact Pr. Stephanie for info or to sign up: stephanie@stmatthewsnoho.org 310.968.7038.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ ST. MATTHEW'S--NOHO

ALL-CONGREGATION CHOIR SUNDAY: Transfiguration / Mardi Gras (Feb. 27)

Calling anyone who can hold a tune (and even those who can't but still sing)! Get ready for our first "all-congregation choir Sunday" where all are invited to "join the choir" for a Sunday (a few

rehearsals!). Mark your calendars! We will hold fun-and-fellowship-filled rehearsals on Wednesday, Feb. 16 and Feb. 23. A light supper/snacks will start at 7pm; rehearsal will run from 7:30pm to 9pm. And we will rehearse Sunday mornings at 9:15am on Feb. 20 and Feb. 27. So warm up your vocal chords, join in the joy of harmonizing, and be “choir” for a day! Please sign up at church or email: leon@stmatthewsnoho.org that you are joining in.

BREAKING BREAD

Breaking Bread is on pause for the first weeks of January due to the Covid surge.

Next Potluck! (if the pandemic allows)

MARDI GRAS BRUNCH POTLUCK—Sun., Feb. 27

Let's feast together before Lent begins! Bring a festive breakfast or brunch food to share as we celebrate Mardi Gras a couple days early. Sign up at church or email:

leon@stmatthewsnoho.org.

ADULT FORUM STUDIES EPHEBUS—IN THE BIBLE AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT. Meet in the library or on Zoom at 12 Noon. We will be using the Bible and “The City of Ephesus: A Short History.” To participate on-line, find the Zoom link at stmatthewsnoho.org/adultforum

BAG LUNCH MAKING NOW 3rd Saturday, February 19, 2022, 9-10:30am (Barring Covid Restrictions)

Our long-standing and fun ministry of making PBJ sandwiches and bag lunches that we distribute during our programs, open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Following our program is our monthly "NoHo Free Market" If you are looking for more opportunities to volunteer, please see the announcement below. Please contact Leon for additional information or with any questions: leon@stmatthewsnoho.org

NOHO FREE MARKET is Saturday, February 19, 2022, 11am-1pm!

Free fresh fruits and vegetables every third Saturday, 11am-1pm on our terrace. Volunteers needed 9:30am-1pm. Email Pr. Stephanie: stephanie@stmatthewsnoho.org