

+ Second Sunday after Epiphany January 17, 2021

> St. Andrew Lutheran Church 304 Morewood Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 <u>St_andrewELCA@verizon.net</u> www.standrewpittsburgh.org

The season after Epiphany focuses on the image of God's Light coming into the world through Jesus Christ and revealed to the nations (as represented by the Magi) by the shining of a star. As we celebrate the gift of God's redemption to people around the world, St. Andrew's worship customarily features music from various places and cultures. In an effort to honor the people from which our hymns come, we will seek to provide background and context to one hymn each week throughout this season. This week's featured hymn is "Thuma mina, Nkosi yam / Send Me, Jesus." Please see the paragraph accompanying the text to learn more about this hymn.

+ Second Sunday after Epiphany Order for Worship

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from is not important; it is to where—or rather to whom—we come. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen.28: 7). Jesus says he is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

Prelude

Welcome

Introduction to This Week's Featured Hymn

Thanksgiving for Baptism

People of the congregation are invited to gather near a source of water, or to bring a receptacle filled with water along with them to worship, as we remember and give thanks for God's gift of Holy Baptism.

P: God who sent the Light into our world, who shone in the Bethlehem manger, whose Spirit spreads the Light to all nations, be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

P: This past week, the church celebrated the Baptism of our Lord ...

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? C: I renounce them.

P: Let us give thanks for the gift of Baptism.

P: As we gather at the font, O God, creator of oceans and rivers, rain and snow, we thank you for the water you provide us each day.We praise your Spirit, hovering over the waters.We bless you for this cleansing water of rebirth, this flood of endless mercy, this fount of blessing and hope.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life, in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **C: Amen.**



Gathering Hymn

''I, the Lord of sea and sky,
 I have heard my people cry.
 All who dwell in dark and sin
 my hand will save.
 I, who made the stars of night,
 I will make their darkness bright.
 Who will bear my light to them?
 Whom shall I send?''

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

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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.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, you showed your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son. As he brought healing and gladness to your people, grant us these same gifts, and lead us to know him and faithfully follow him, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Reading – 1 Samuel 3: 1-10

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18

¹LORD, you have | searched me out; O LORD, you | have known me.
²You know my sitting down and my | rising up; you discern my thoughts | from afar.
³You trace my journeys and my | resting-places and are acquainted with | all my ways.
⁴Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it | altogether.
⁵You encompass me, behind | and before, and lay your | hand upon me.
⁶Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me; it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it. ¹³For you yourself created my | inmost parts;

you knit me together in my | mother's womb.

¹⁴I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;

your works are wonderful, and I | know it well.

¹⁵My body was not hid- | den from you,

while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the earth.

¹⁶Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written | in your book;

my days were fashioned before they | came to be.

¹⁷How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!

How great is the | sum of them!

¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours.

Gospel – John 1: 43-51

P: The holy Gospel according to St. John. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."
⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Humanity."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Word

Children's Song

Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

Refrain

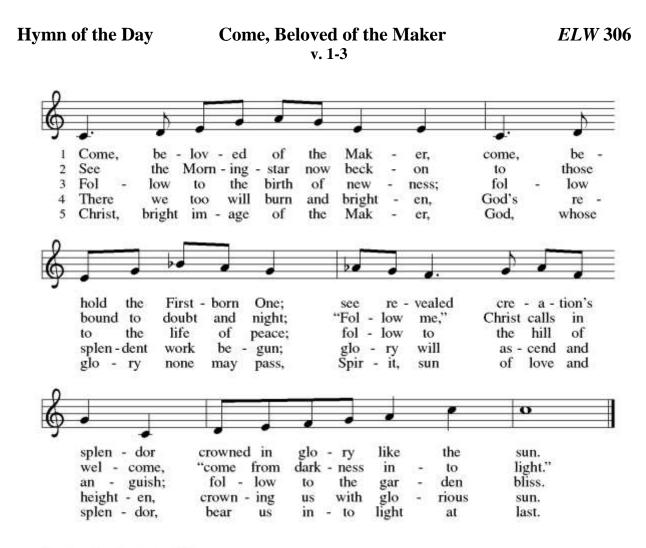
Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! **1** While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. R

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.

Sermon



Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: JILL, David Cherwien, b. 1957 Text © 2001 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayers of the People

P: Guided by the Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

After each petition P: God of mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ our Savior. **C: Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
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.

Benediction

P: God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved accompany you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace. **C: Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. C: Thanks be to God!

Sending Hymn Thuma mina, Nkosi yam / Send Me, Jesus ELW 549

The text and music of "Thuma mina, Nkosi yam" comes from South Africa, with origins in the Zulu, Xhosa, and Ndebele languages. It is translated as "Send Me, Jesus." Some versions of the song may be as old as the earliest Christian churches in southern Africa, and it remains popular to the present day. There are many versions of the song across denominations and in various indigenous languages. While the song contains phrasing similar to today's reading from First Samuel, its text comes more directly from Isaiah 6: 8, which says, "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!" Thuma mina reflects a common African aural-oral approach to hymnody, with simple harmonies and verses that can be learned quickly, allowing for freedom in delivery and improvisation.



Send me, Je - sus.

Text: South African Music: THUMA MINA, NKOSI YAM, South African

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding MinisterL: LectorA: Assisting MinisterC: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Prelude Welcome Hymnody Cantor Children's Song Director of Faith Formation Presiding Minister Asplin Family Pastor Martin and Solveig Rafanan C.E. Pino and Miranda Pino Laura Reynolds Joseph Paetz Christopher Atwood Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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