

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Reception Uncovered:
*Rejection Is Not the Exception,
But the Rule*

January 23, 2022



4651 Kernan Blvd S,
Jacksonville, Florida
32224

904-642-8900

Worship at 8am and
10:30am

Bible Class and Youth
Sunday School at 9:15am

victorylutheran.org



*Find us on Facebook,
Instagram, and YouTube*



*Victory is affiliated with the
Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran
Synod*

Welcome to Victory!

- Thank you for choosing to worship the Triune God with us. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as we join together in worship.
- We prepare for worship by quietly meditating on the theme for the day and respectfully listening to the music chosen and prepared by our musicians.
- If you are looking for a church home, we would be thrilled to serve your spiritual needs. Our name comes from 1 Corinthians 15:57: **"Thanks be to God! He gives us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ!"**
- Our mission as a Christian congregation is to: **"Win souls for Christ and coach Christians for life."**
- Please sign the Connection Card inside the newsletter to give us a record of your visit, and so we can properly thank you for joining us!
- Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right as you enter the front doors. Changing tables are available in both the women's and men's restrooms.
- A Quiet Room for children who need a quiet minute with mom or dad is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

TODAY'S WORSHIP:

When one proclaims God's Word, typically the intentions are good. We want others to know the joy of salvation and the love of Christ. Therefore, it can be surprising to us when God's Word is met with apathy or rejection by those who hear it. It's easy to conclude that when the Word of God offends human minds and hearts (including our own), that something has gone wrong. Or maybe that there's something wrong with the Word! The truth that is uncovered this week is that rejection of Jesus' words is not the exception, but the rule. Jesus' words will always offend. However, we will see that God can use even the rejection of his Word for good.

The Season of Epiphany

We are in the season of the Church year called Epiphany, a Greek word which means "to appear." Salvation has appeared in the person of Jesus Christ. In Epiphany, the Church explores everything that Christ makes apparent about God. You see, we need God to appear to us and make himself known to us. For not only is God beyond our understanding, his works and his ways are contrary to mankind's natural assumptions about him. In other words, the truth about God cannot possibly be discovered by us. Rather, it needs to be uncovered for us. That's what the Spirit is doing for us during this season of Epiphany. Week after week, surprising truths about Jesus our King, and life in his kingdom will be uncovered.

Jan. 23	Reception Uncovered
Jan. 30	Agenda Uncovered
Feb. 6	<i>A God-Lived Life: A Life of Being a Disciple</i>
Feb. 13	Definitions Uncovered
Feb. 20	Reactions Uncovered

DIVINE SERVICE I

OPENING HYMN

Arise, Your Light Is Come

Christian Worship 387

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis

The musical score is written on six staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Glo - ry to God in the'. The second staff contains 'high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.'. The third staff contains 'Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and'. The fourth staff contains 'Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we'. The fifth staff contains 'praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the'. The sixth staff contains 'high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.'.

Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Continued on next page

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us.

You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -

ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-6

Good news for the poor and brokenhearted

¹The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. ⁴They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. ⁵Strangers will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. ⁶And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 146— I Will Praise the LORD All My Life

Christian Worship 146

SECOND LESSON: Acts 4:23-31

Boldness in the face of rejection

²³On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

" 'Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
²⁶The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together
against the Lord
and against his anointed one.'

²⁷Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed.

²⁸They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

³¹After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

M: Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is on me,

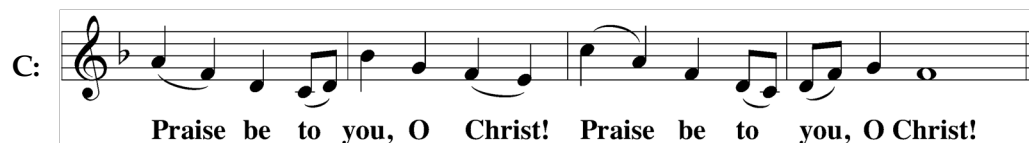
C: Because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. Alleluia!

(Luke 4:18)

GOSPEL: Luke 4:16-30

Jesus rejected at Nazareth

M: The Gospel, according to St. Luke, chapter 4.



¹⁶[Jesus] went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰Then 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. ²¹He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

²³Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’ ”

²⁴“Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed — only Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.



CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children are invited to join Pastor Troy at the front of the sanctuary for a message based on today's sermon, specifically designed for them! If children would feel more comfortable, an adult is welcome to come up with them.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (10:30am Service)

Children ages 3-5 can be dismissed to the 3K/Kitchen classroom for Children's Church. Children will return from Children's Church to the sanctuary after the conclusion of the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Christian Worship 384

SERMON.....Pastor Troy Schreiner

Text: Acts 4:23-31

Facing the Fear of Rejection

SERMON RESPONSE

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre - ate in me a
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -
in me. Do not cast me a - way from your
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY

To help prevent the spread of germs, we won't be passing the offering plates to collect our thank offerings to God. Please place your offering in one of the offering plates located on the table in the back of the sanctuary as you exit this morning. Victory can also receive offerings electronically on our secure website: **victorylutheran.org**. Click on the "Give" tab in the upper right corner, or you can access that site by scanning the box to the right with the camera of your smartphone. We'd also ask that you would fill out the Connection Card, found inside your newsletter, and drop it into the basket on the table as you exit this morning.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: Almighty God, pour out the Holy Spirit on your Church, as you poured him out on the early Christian church. Give to us the wisdom and courage that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely and boldly proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

By Faith

Christian Worship 868

Pastor will sing through the refrain once, then the congregation will repeat the refrain and continue into singing verse 1. Please note that some of the verses are followed by the refrain, while others continue with the next verse.

Organist.....**Mrs. Rachel Cochran**

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Parents' Preview for January 30

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service next week!

Oh, Taste and See

from Service of the Word

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

*For this week's and next week's "Serving at Victory" information,
please see your newsletter!*



A God-Lived Life Stewardship Challenge

Stewardship is about more than just our money. *It's about our whole lives!* Jesus lived his life and gave his life for us. Our loving response is to imitate that.

Over the next four months, God's Word will be challenging us, and we'll be challenging one another to live a God-lived life. And that encompasses everything! We will be talking about a life of *being a disciple*, a life *lived for others*, a life of *hospitality*, and a life *lived shrewdly*.

Beginning on Sunday, February 6th, we will begin each month through May with a kickoff worship service, focusing on a specific area of stewardship. At that service, we will be introduced to a challenge that we then prayerfully commit to carrying out the rest of the month. This is intended to help us grow in an area of the Christian stewardship of our whole lives! As individual members, we will fill out a different challenge card each month. Each month's card will offer a menu of ways you can challenge yourself to do the things a disciple does. You'll be asked to commit for that month (and hopefully beyond!) to at least one of those challenges. The goal is to take the things we all want to do, and know we should be doing, and make them a little more doable; to help us continue in the good spiritual habits of a God-lived life that we've begun to form! We'll help you keep that focus on your challenges with resources and encouragement each week for the rest of that month. May God bless us as we grow in his Word and in our lives of living it over the course of the next four months, and beyond!

February — A Life of Being a Disciple

March — A Life Lived for Others

April — A Life of Hospitality

May — A Life Lived Shrewdly

Camp South (July 25-29)

All youth entering 4th - 9th grades in Fall of 2022 are invited to a fantastic week of so much fun and growing in God's Word! Hosted at the Georgia FFA camp in Covington, GA, we're inviting youth to take part in engaging worship & Bible studies, great activities, and opportunities to meet new friends. Talk to Pastor Troy for more information, or to register!



- Cost- \$295/youth (Victory will subsidize a TBD amount of the cost per attendee)
- For more information, visit southatlanticyouth.com

2022 WELS International Youth Rally



- Where— University of Tennessee (Knoxville, TN)
- Cost— \$375/youth if registered before April 30 (Victory will subsidize a TBD amount of the cost per attendee)
- Who— Youth in grades 9-12
- For more info, or to register, speak with Pastor Troy, or check out: wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/discipleship/youth-rally/



MY WORSHIP NOTES



For children to use during worship.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

What is the name of the church season or special day today? _____

What is the color of the church today? Circle one:

Blue White Purple Red Green

The Sermon Text Was: _____

This is in the: ☐ Old Testament ☐ New Testament



What was the sermon about? _____



My favorite song today was:



Did we have a Sacrament today?



Baptism?

☐ Yes
☐ No



Communion?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What did you learn about God today?

Sermon Notes

VICTORY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

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**Victory is a member congregation of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS),
headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin.**

