



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

As the Light in the Darkness

January 22, 2023





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 your worship folder 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:

The prophet Isaiah vividly described humanity as “people walking in darkness.” We are completely enveloped by sin, suffering, and death. Worse, when we honestly assess the content of our minds and hearts, we find darkness there too. However, the prophet also foretold that within this deep darkness, a light would shine. The light would be so brilliant that it would be impossible to miss. As Jesus began his teaching and preaching ministry, that prophecy was fulfilled. Today Jesus continues to shine his light by preaching repentance and the good news of the nearing kingdom. He invites us to live a life that is illuminated by him. He calls us to walk in the light of love for God and for the brothers and sisters around us. Our Savior is the Light of the world, and so we shine his reflected light onto everyone around us.

Worship Series: Jesus Appears

The Gospels tell only a little about Jesus’ life as an infant. Then, St. Luke briefly discusses the desire of the boy Jesus to be in the temple. Then, Scripture falls silent, telling us nothing about almost two decades of Jesus’ life. For most of Jesus’ adult life, he lived quietly in Galilee, practicing the carpentry he had learned from his adoptive father, Joseph. Jesus had no followers. He was not famous. But at the exact time God the Father had appointed, Jesus left that obscurity behind. The word epiphany means “appearance.” In the Season of Epiphany, we watch Jesus begin his public ministry. Jesus makes his first appearances. And in those appearances, it quickly becomes clear that this is more than a random carpenter’s son. As Jesus appears, we see exactly who he is and what he came to do.

New Sermon Series Starting Next Sunday!



January 29	Trust in God's Strength
February 5	You Are...So Be
February 12	Live a Holy Life
February 19	Transfiguration: The Glory of the Lord

SERVICE OF MORNING PRAISE

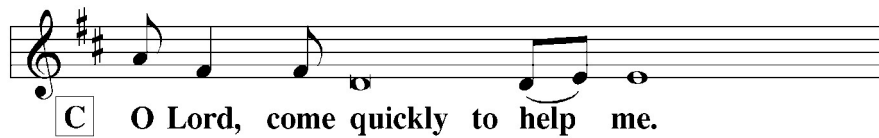
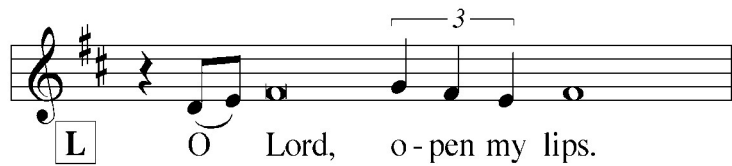
OPENING HYMN

Arise, Your Light Is Come

Christian Worship 387

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

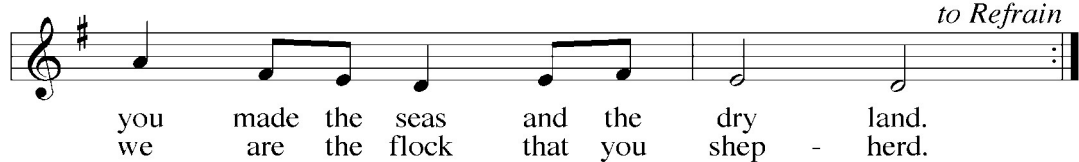
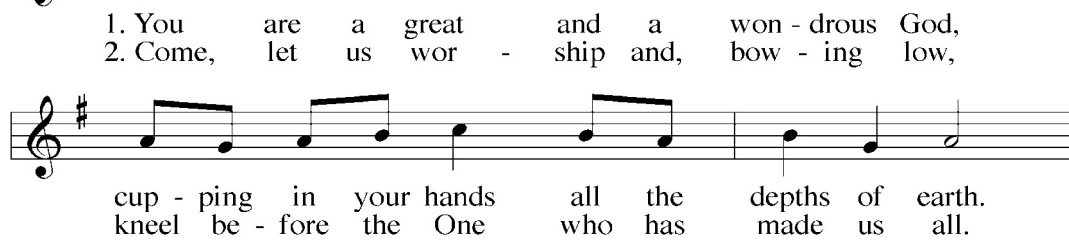
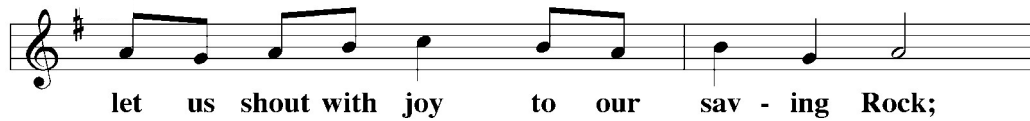
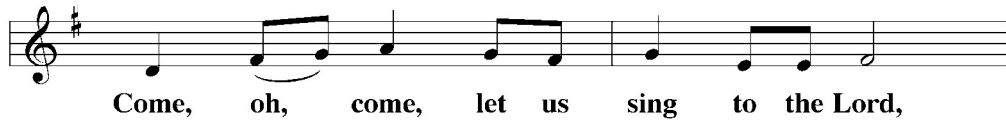
C: Amen.



COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

Venite

The congregation sings the whole song



M: In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden, we confess our sins.

C: I confess that I am by nature sinful. I am guilty of my sins. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me. For all this I am sorry. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

M: Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe.

M: By the authority of Christ, the Light who shines into our darkness, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. You are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Rejoicing in the forgiveness of sins that allows us to approach God like children coming to their dear father, 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 READING: Isaiah 8:19-9:4

A light dawns in the darkness

¹⁹When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. ²¹Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. ²²Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.

¹Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

²The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

³You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice
when dividing the plunder.

⁴For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM OF THE DAY

O LORD, You Are My Light

Christian Worship Psalter 27B



1 O LORD, you are my light and my sal - va - tion near;
2 My one re - quest has been and still this prayer I raise;
3 When trou - bles round me swell, when fears and dan - gers throng,
4 Up - lift - ed on a rock a - bove my foes a - round,



then who will cause me fright or fill my heart with fear?
that I may live with - in God's house for all my days.
se - cure - ly I will dwell in his pa - vil - ion strong.
a - mid the bat - tle shock my song shall still re - sound.



While God my strength, my life sus - tains, se - cure from fear my
God's glo - rious beau - ty to ad - mire, and in his tem - ple
With - in the shel - ter of God's tent he hides me till the
Then joy - ful of - f'ings I will bring; the LORD God's praise my



soul re - mains, se - cure from fear my soul re - mains.
to in - quire, and in his tem - ple to in - quire.
storm is spent, he hides me till the storm is spent.
heart shall sing, the LORD God's praise my heart shall sing.

Text (st. 1): Psalter, 1887, alt.; (sts. 2–4): Psalter, 1912, alt.

Tune: John D. Edwards

Text and tune: Public domain

SECOND READING: 1 John 2:3-11

Love comes from the Light

³We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. ⁴Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. ⁵But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

⁷Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. ⁸Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

⁹Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. ¹⁰Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. ¹¹But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

The Light appears

¹²When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee.

¹³Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— ¹⁴to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵"Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people living in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned."

¹⁷From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”

²⁰At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²²and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Christian Worship 904

SERMON.....Retired Pastor Philip Hoyer

Text: Matthew 4:12-23

Catch of the Day

- 1. Light**
- 2. Imagination**

YOU ARE GOD; WE PRAISE YOU *Te Deum*

The congregation will sing the whole song.

Refrain



You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa - ther ho - ly, all cre - a - tion of - fers praise.

Verses



1. With the an - gels in heav - en,
2. Cre - a - tor of all things, We praise you, we
3. O Christ, King of glo - ry,



praise you! With the cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
O Je - sus Christ, the Son of God, We
You be - came a man to set us free;



praise you, we praise you! With a - pos - tles and proph - ets,
O Spir - it, most ho - ly, We
You have ris - en to free us;



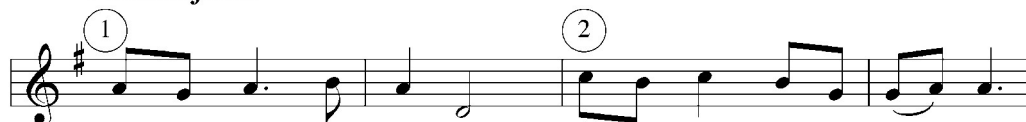
praise you, we praise you! With the mar - tyrs and your
To the Trin - i - ty most
And with all your saints in

Continued on next page



ho - ly Church,
bless - ed, We sing in end - less praise! *to Refrain*
glo - ry, *to Refrain*
to Final Refrain

Final Refrain



You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we ac - claim you.



To you, O Fa-ther ho - ly, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise,



all cre - a-tion of - fers praise, all cre - a-tion of - fers praise.

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OFFERING

Guests: This is the moment in our worship when members and friends of Victory Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support his saving work in the Jacksonville community and beyond. If you are our guest today, you are welcome to participate in this offering, but don't feel forced to! You can also give an online thank offering by using the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code.

Please also fill out the Connection Card found inside your worship folder, and drop it in the offering plate, or in the basket on the back table.



LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

L In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you;
be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.

C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

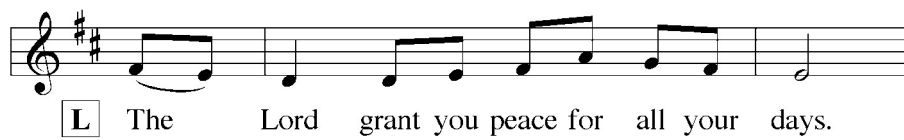
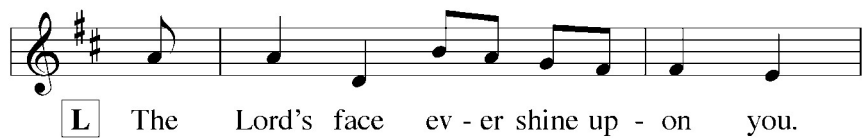
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

L Let us praise the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



CLOSING HYMN

The People Who in Darkness Walked

Christian Worship 381

Acknowledgments

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Organist.....Mrs. Esther Huebner

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FINANICAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for that struggle to end—starting when you take a *Financial Peace University* class.

In just nine lessons, you'll learn biblical and commonsense ways of handling money. Class starts on **Thursday, January 26, 2023**, and you can sign up at fpu.com/1157818! With any questions, contact Mr. Brian Nordin (636-373-3396), who will be coordinating the study!



CONGREGATIONAL LISTENING SUNDAY

Ever since the COVID pandemic sidelined many events and fellowship opportunities at Victory, there has been an expressed desire to have more fellowship events and chances for our church family to spend time together. We've begun scheduling and coordinating more of these events recently, but we want the congregation's feedback on what kinds of fellowship opportunities they'd like to see, as well as days/times when they'd be best attended. With that in mind, we will be holding a Congregational Listening Sunday this morning **after the conclusion of the 10:30am worship service**. Please plan on attending and letting your voice be heard!

CALL MEETING – NEXT SUNDAY!

Mr. Mark Heckendorf has returned our call to serve as staff minister at Victory, and will continue in his ministry at Winnebago Lutheran Academy in Fond du Lac, WI. Next Sunday, **January 29th** after the second service, beginning **around 11:45am**, we will be holding another call meeting to extend a call to fill our Staff Minister position. The staff minister will serve both in our preschool and church ministries. Please plan to join us for this important meeting! If you can't make it in person, you can join via Zoom. Go to the **Bible Studies** tab on our website, **victorylutheran.org** and use the Zoom link at the top of the page.

IN HIS IMAGE: SMALL GROUP STUDY

You are invited to join in the small group Bible Study that will be taking place on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 PM at the home of George & Vicki Johnston. The group will begin on February 7th and will use the video-based study **In His Image**. Each study will begin with a brief fellowship time, then move into the Bible Study. Participants will watch a video segment and then have some follow-up discussion questions. Suggested ages for this study is 13+. If you have any questions or would like to be part of this study, please contact George or Vicki Johnston.

George – (904) 923-4551; stinkypete_32259@yahoo.com

Vicki – (904) 502-7329; vicgeojohnston@yahoo.com



VICTORY LUTHERAN'S 1ST

Daddy/Daughter Dance

SUNDAY, FEB. 12TH

4:00-6:00 PM

\$5.00/TICKET



BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



WHO? Girls ages 2+ and their male caregiver

WHEN? Sunday, February 12th from 4-6 PM (You'll still be home in time for the Superbowl!)

WHERE? Victory Lutheran Church
4651 Kernan Blvd S, Jax, FL 32224

WHAT? A fun evening of dancing (to family-friendly music), snacks, crafts, and more!

REGISTER & BUY YOUR TICKETS:

tinyurl.com/yerfw8dj

Contact Kelly Schreiner
(920-840-7685) with questions
OR TO VOLUNTEER for the event!

Ushers

SERVING AT VICTORY

This Week (1/22): (8:00) C. Sheehan

(10:30) Rev. J. Huebner & P. Schultz

Next Week (1/29): (8:00) G. Johnston

(10:30) Rev. P. Hoyer & R. Bublitz

Sunday School

This Week (1/22): E. Wallander (4K-2nd & Ch. Church)

B. Nordin (3rd-6th)

Next Week (1/29): H. Krull(4K-2nd & Ch. Church)

L. Makouske (3rd-6th)

Counters

Next Week (1/22): A. Dose & R. or L. Makouske

Next Week (1/29): R. Cochran & E. Wallander

Sunday Fellowship Snacks:

Next Week (1/22): *Volunteer needed!*

Next Week (1/29): Fritsch

Media Booth

Next Week (1/22): *2 volunteers needed!*

Next Week (1/29): *2 volunteers needed!*



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.

