

# WORSHIP SERVICE – SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY

## Third Sunday After Epiphany

### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### OPENING RESPONSES – Psalm 19

The heavens keep telling  
the wonders of God,  
**and the skies declare  
what he has done.**

Each day informs  
the following day;  
**each night announces  
to the next.**

The Law of the LORD is perfect;  
**it gives us new life.**

His teachings last forever,  
**and they give wisdom  
to ordinary people.**

The LORD's instruction is right;  
**it makes our hearts glad.**

His commands shine brightly,  
**and they give us light.**

Don't let me do wrong  
on purpose, Lord,  
**or let sin have control  
over my life.**

Then I will be innocent,  
**and not guilty  
of some terrible fault.**

Let my words and my thoughts  
be pleasing to you, LORD,  
**because you are my mighty rock  
and my protector.**

***Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forevermore. Amen.***

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Heavenly Father, as your children we come to you to confess our sins and to ask for your forgiveness.

***We confess, that although we have been created in your image, we do not always live as the people you have created us to be. For the sin we are born with, the wrong things we do, and the right things we fail to do, we are sorry, Lord God.***

***For not forgiving others as you forgive us, for our selfishness, for failing to always see and respond to the needs around us, we pray for your forgiveness.***

***Lord God, you have created us as who we are, so that we can all be together as members of your body. By the blood of Jesus, forgive us our sins and set us free, so that we can together worship and serve you in all we do. Amen.***

Because of His love for us, God sent Jesus to die and rise again so that our sins can be forgiven. Through your baptism you are now joined to this forgiveness and new life which is ours in Jesus. Go in peace, knowing His love and forgiveness in your life. Amen.

## **PRAYER**

Let us pray that we live by God's word.

***Life-giving God, we thank you that your Son brought good news and set us free from captivity.***

***Fill us with your Spirit, so that, as we are made holy, we live as your holy people.***

***We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.***

***Amen.***

**BIBLE READINGS** – *use from the separate file sent out or look up yourself:*

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

*After each reading*

This is the Word of the Lord  
***Thanks be to God.***

### **Mini Message**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Odpi0R2IHh8>

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH – Apostles’ Creed**

*Or, use the song, ‘I Believe’* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRzI\\_FbWTkg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRzI_FbWTkg)

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

***And 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, dead, and buried.***

***He descended into hell.***

***The third day he rose again from the dead.***

***He ascended into heaven,***

***and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,  
from thence 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.***

**ADDRESS** – *read this week’s address, or you can watch it on our  
YouTube channel:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SsTHYQnd9A>

*Or listen to the audio from our website.*

<http://www.standrewslutherangoldcoast.com/sermon-audios.html>

*Then go through and reflect on or discuss the questions at the end  
of the address.*

**SONG** – *if you wish to, use one of the songs suggested in the email/on the website, or find and use your own choices.*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

***Saving God, thank you for setting us free from darkness, captivity, and oppression, and making us part of Christ's body. Help us to live harmoniously, serving and helping one another, and being your instruments to bring good news, healing, and liberty to others. Amen.***

### **PRAYERS**

*You may wish to use the prayers which have been sent out, or to come up with your own.*

*After each prayer, you may wish to use the response:*

Lord, in your mercy,

***Hear our prayer.***

### **LORD'S 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.***

***Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.***

***For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.***

### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and give us His peace.

***Amen.***