

FOLLOW ME



and I will make you fish for people

MARK 1:17

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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Church Office 717-843-8155

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www.stpaulsyork.org

www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 184 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex. Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms.

Thank you for your faithfulness in sending your offering through the mail, by using online options from your financial institution, or through the “Donate” now from the church website **stpaulsyork.org**. Your gifts are keeping us current with the commitments associated with St. Paul’s and our ministry partners.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Entering and Leaving the Church:

Face masks are required inside,

Kindly sign in at the door through which you entered. This will help if we need to be in contact.

Please take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.

Offerings:

Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave prior to the service or immediately following the service. You may also donate via our website at

www.stpaulsyork.org

While in the Nave:

Please wear your mask. Please sit in designated pews only. You may sit together as a family. We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew.

Communion Procedure:

- *Ushers will direct you. The pulpit side (left) of the nave communes first followed by the font side (right).*
- *Wearing your face mask, come to the chancel step taking your place at one of the five positions marked on the chancel floor with a green cross.*
- *Your entire household may gather at a position marked by the green cross.*
- *Extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host.*
- *Please do not reach out to take the Host from the minister.*
- *Once the minister has moved to the next group, then remove your mask, receive the host, replace your mask and return to your pew by the closest side aisle. There is no need to hurry.*
- *We are receiving communion in one kind only (bread/host).*

Our COVID-19 task force is assisting us as we remain open at St. Paul’s. Please thank Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Norma Shue, Deacon Harold Sargeant, and Dr. Martha Thomas for their dedication and service.

Sunday, January 24, 2021
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Communion 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM

PRELUDE

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

Frederick Frahm

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

GREETING

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

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to 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. **Amen.**

Sit

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10(back page)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 62:5-12

Congregation sings refrain where noted.

Martin Luther
Arr. Hal H. Hopson

REFRAIN



A might - y for - tress is our God, A
bul - wark nev - er fail - ing.

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- ⁵ They bless | with their lips,*
but in their | hearts they curse.
- ⁶ For God alone my soul in | silence waits,*
truly, my hope | is in him.
- ⁷ He alone is my rock and | my salvation,*
my stronghold, so that I shall | not be shaken.
- ⁸ In God is my safety | and my honor;*
God is my strong rock | and my refuge. **REFRAIN**
- ⁹ Put your trust in him al- | ways, O people,*
pour out your hearts before him, for God | is our refuge.
- ¹⁰ Those of high degree are but a | fleeting breath,*
even those of low estate can- | not be trusted.
- ¹¹ On the scales they are lighter | than a breath,*
all of | them together.
- ¹² Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;*
though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it. **REFRAIN**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (back page)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 1:14-20 (back page)

The Holy Gospel according to **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Stan Reep

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the church throughout the world, for pastors and teachers, for deacons and deaconesses, and for musicians and servers, that all proclaim the good news of God's reconciling love, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy,

For skies and seas, for birds and fish, for favorable weather and clean water, and for the well-being of creation, that advocates and scientists will be raised up to guide our care for all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy,

For those who provide leadership in our cities and around the world, for nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, for planning commissions and homeless advocates, that all people will be inspired in the just use of wealth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy,

For those who are sick, distressed, or grieving; for the outcast and all who await relief (*especially*), that in the midst of suffering peace and mercy surround them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy,

For our congregation and community, for families large and small, that steadfast love serves as a model for all relationships, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy,

In thanksgiving for our ancestors in the faith whose lives serve as an example of gospel living, that they point us to salvation through Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy,

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

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and 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.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.
We give thanks to you
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

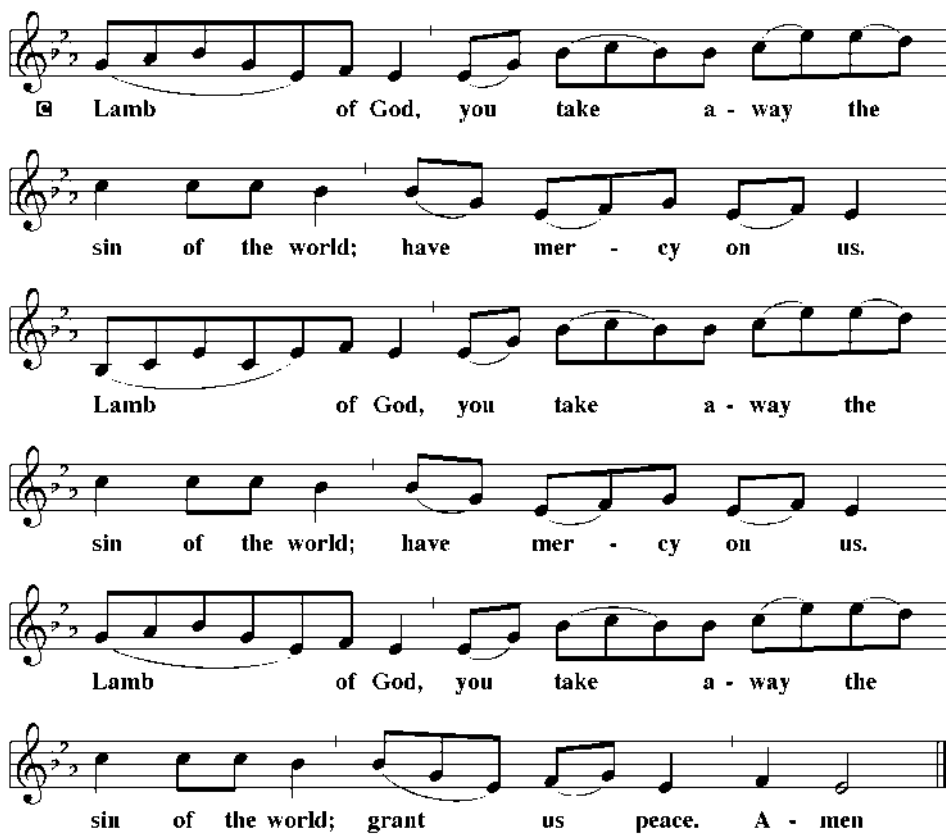
LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

FRACTION RITE *A brief silence is kept.*

AGNUS DEI *Sung by Cantor*

Sit The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.



The musical score for the Agnus Dei is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and pastoral, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across measures. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Instructions for receiving the sacrament are on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord God, grant that all who have been fed with Bread from heaven may be renewed in the covenant of their Holy Baptism and, following your Son in true faith and obedience, may become your children in name and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen

HYMN

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (LBW 487) stanzas 1 & 4



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de-ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, since you are our head,



On - ward in his foot-steps tread - ing, pil - grims here, our home a - bove,
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Fa - ther's bid - ding.
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
Je - sus, if I faith - ful be, life e - ter - nal grant to me.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thy Strong Word

Aaron David Miller

2021 Flower Chart—The 2021 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury vestibule bulletin board. The cost of the flowers is \$30 per vase. You are welcome to sign up to provide one or both vases. After you have signed up, simply make a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark it altar flowers. This is a great way to honor someone, celebrate a milestone in life, or remember a loved one. The flowers may be taken home with you at the conclusion of the 10:30 AM liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, shut it, or hospitalized. If you wish, you can contact the office to reserve a date, and to provide us with all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. In advance, thank you.

In our prayers we remember...

Sue Kopp, Judy Himmelwright, Jannette Guetersloh, Erin and Jack Mangan, Denise Appel, The David Snyder Family, Oonagh Newman, Jenny Zimmerman, Rick & Candy Hutton, Connie Reed, Deborah Fulton, Reid Weinbrom, Darrell Kopp, Shawn Sunday, Mike Johnston, Betty Mehring, Drew Herdson, David List, Jessica Ericson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey.

Food Pantry—January

Items needed: Jelly, peanut butter, mashed potato mix, stuffing mix, canned beans. Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.

2021 Offering booklets are available in the lobby on Springettsbury Ave.. Remember to pick yours up. Feel free to deliver booklets to those who are staying at home.

The 2021 January, February, March Devotional Booklet, “Christ in Our Home” has arrived. Copies are available in the Narthex and the Good Shephard Room.



Today's altar flowers:

In memory of Monte & Barbara Smith by their family.

STAFF

Pastor
Youth Director
Organist, Choir Director
Bookkeeper
Secretary
Sexton
Preschool Director

Reverend Stanley Reep	prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
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Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

CREATE

Beginning January 19, 2021 CREATE will be held on Tuesday evenings via Zoom. Ages 2 through grade 1 will be held 6:00pm till 6:30pm. Grades 2 through Grade 6 will be 6:45pm through 7:15pm.

Each participant will receive a group of packets, each containing all the supplies that are needed for the designated weekly lesson.

The Zoom sessions will include Bible Stories, Church Seasons, Holidays, Crafts and Art Projects. You can also do these sessions on your own with your children. . Please let me know if you are interested in being part of CREATE Zoom. Miss Kelly



2021 Calendar

Make sure you get your copies of the 2021 calendar! They feature the watercolor paintings of Pastor Reep. The images highlight the beautiful cottages from the grounds of the Chautauqua Institute, Chautauqua NY (painted during summer 2019) and fruits and flowers still life arrangements (painted during 2020). Please take copies to give away to friends. Thank you. People may make a donation through the church website stpaulsnyork.org.



Adult Faith Formation

What Can We Learn from Dietrich Bonhoeffer About Living With the Word?

Join Bishop Carol Hendrix, retired, in conversations on Dietrich Bonhoeffer. We will be looking briefly at Bonhoeffer's writings about daily meditating on the Word, the Psalms as our prayerbook, and the Sermon on the Mount as direction from the Word made Flesh for a life of discipleship. Classes will be on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 PM on January 27, February 3 and 10. No prereading required. Contact Patty Snyder 717-578-2253 or the church office 717-843-8155 to register and receive the Zoom link.



Epiphany 3 B, 2021 Pastor's Sermon Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Corinthians 7:29-3 Mark 1:14-20

At the inauguration ceremony on Capitol Hill, the young woman wearing a Canary yellow coat, Amanda Gorman, stood up, stepped up, and spoke up. Her use of vocabulary, poetic image, cadence, rhyme got me caught up in a moment where I sat up sensing that her words would build up people, who like me, were a bit fed up and needed something to pick up their spirits. After she delivered her inaugural poem I wondered what books her mother read to her as a child. I wondered what stories peaked her curiosity then and now. I wondered if words were always a thing for her, like paint is to me, wanting to mix up combinations that perk up your ears. Word combinations with more than one meaning:

build up	caught up	checkup	cleaned up	fed up	follow up	get up
hang up	hurry up	lay-up	let up	look up	mix up	
open up	pick up	put up	shut up	sit up	slip up	
speed up	step up	stop up	wind up			

These word combinations have more than one meaning. I gained my insight through the work of Lemony Snicket, author of “A Series of Unfortunate Events.” In those stories the author interjects words and phrases and explains that such a word or phrase can have more than one meaning. It teaches young readers, and older readers like me, the rich use of language and how words and phrases used in a particular way, occasion, or sequence, open up new understanding for the reader, the hearer. The young woman wearing a Canary yellow coat certainly had that effect on me on Wednesday. She made me want to step up.

For example “cleaned up” may indeed be a response given to a parent inquiring of the condition of a child’s bed room. “Yes mom my room is cleaned up.”

“Cleaned up” may also be the response given by your spouse when she or he returns from poker night. “I really cleaned up tonight!”

“Hang up” is what people of a particular age once did to end a telephone call.

In modern culture “hang up” may be used indicating particular peculiarities causing angst.

“Shut up” is often something we are not supposed to say. But “shut up” in modern times is used as an expression of exuberance “Did you hear that Sally won the Power Ball Drawing last night?” to which Francine responded “shut up.”

“Shut up” is what happened in the days of Elijah the prophet to the heavens. There would be no rain because the Lord God “shut up” the heavens.

This morning I am most interested in “caught up” which can indicate that one has moved from a place behind, lagging, to where he or she needs to be with work, or a race, or household chores. “Caught up” has the powerful thrust of being “overcome;” “taken over,” as in “she is caught up in the Kingdom of God.” That is where we find Peter, Andrew, James and John in the gospel reading; caught up in the Kingdom of God; The Kingdom for which they will step up and follow up and build up.

Imagine this morning that we could state whole heartedly that we are “caught up in the

Kingdom of God!” That pushes the imagery from fishing and fishing net into a new or perhaps different realm for us. Caught, caught in the Kingdom of God.

What implications would that entail?

What response would we give?

How would we live?

What would guide our decision making?

How would complete strangers experience us if we were exhibiting signs of being caught up in the Kingdom of God?

For years I thought about the Kingdom of God as; place, realm, location, heaven. It took some thinking, pondering, theological reading to entertain the notion that the Kingdom of God lies in following Jesus, his call for us and to us to; step up, follow up, build up. Not so much place as action.

This morning we hear again, the third time in less than two months through the lectionary readings, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news.” The kingdom of God is at hand because Jesus is here! The long promised one takes on flesh and blood and lives and moves and encounters humanity in a new way. Through the cross and resurrection the pouring out of the Spirit at Pentecost the Risen Christ gives himself for us anew. In Baptism God’s Spirit is bestowed on you and me and we are called to follow. Jesus calls to Peter, Andrew, James and John: “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And just how will they fish for people? They are caught up in following Jesus. They are stepping up, following up, and building up because they are caught up!

The invitation to follow Jesus is a call to personal commitment. Personal commitment is what is required for the Christian life. It is required as a follower of Jesus, and it is required for kingdom life. Without it, few are caught up. They simply hang out in the net for a while and then swim their own way once they see an opening.

In the gospel of Mark, chapter 8:34, a key verse is written in first person singular. It is extending a personal invitation to come after Jesus just as it was for Peter, Andrew, James and John that day by the Galilean Lake. “Jesus called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: If anyone would come after me, (That is the literal translation of “follow me”) he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.” This is just as easily read: “If anyone would come after me, she must deny herself and take up her cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save her life will lose it, but whoever loses her life for me and for the gospel will save it.” This text is not corporate in nature. Most of the time I am stressing the plurality, the corporate nature of Biblical texts but this invitation to follow Jesus is a call to personal commitment which leads to personal knowledge and moves one to be **caught up** in the kingdom. And that is where authentic and fruitful ministry abounds. In the passion of our Lord who is caught up in love for you and me and all of humanity. Christ Jesus calls us to follow, to come after, to get caught up in what really matters, life now loving God and neighbor and for eternity in Christ.

On Wednesday the woman in the Canary yellow coat called me to step up. Today it is Christ Jesus calling you to be caught up in kingdom life. Once you are caught up in kingdom life in Christ Jesus you are bound to: build up, hurry up, look up, open up, sit up, stand up, step up, and speak up inviting others to get up and follow! Amen.

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Psalms 62:5-12**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though

they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.