

# Martin Luther



Epiphany 3 • January 21-22, 2017

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*On Saturday, we worship according to Evening Prayer, p. 54 in the hymnal. On Sunday, we worship according to Morning Praise, p. 45 in the hymnal.*

*Saturday:* Liturgy and Evening Hymn, pp. 54-56

*Sunday:* Morning Hymn and Liturgy, pp. 45-47

Psalm of the Day—Psalm 27 (p. 75)

First Lesson—Isaiah 8:19—9:2

When men tell 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? To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. Distressed 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. Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.

Nevertheless, 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 Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan—

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

Second Lesson—1 John 2:3-11

We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

Dear 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. Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks

around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

## Seasonal Response

We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Hymn—85, “O God from God, O Light from Light”

## Gospel—Matthew 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he returned to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

“Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,  
the way to the sea, along the Jordan,  
Galilee of the Gentiles—  
the people living in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of the shadow of death  
a light has dawned.”

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

As 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. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him.

Going 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, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

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

Sermon—Jesus Brings Us from Darkness to Light (Matthew 4:12-23)

1. Enter the light, repenting of sin
2. Continue in the light, following Jesus

Hymn—84, “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun”

Offering

*Saturday:* Liturgy, pp. 59-61

*Sunday:* Liturgy, pp. 50-51

Hymn—90, “The People that in Darkness Sat”