



*Reception Uncovered: Rejection Is Not
The Exception But The Rule*

UNCOVERED

Epiphany 3

January 22 and 23, 2022

Theme of the Day: *Reception Uncovered: Rejection is not the exception but the rule.* 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), something has gone wrong. 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.

Guest pastor: Pastor Colin Rieke, Palos Lutheran Church (*Palos Heights, IL*)

Series Theme: UNCOVERED

We are in the season of the Church called Epiphany, a Greek word that 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.

January 15/16
January 22/23
January 29/30

Delight Uncovered: God delivers more than we ask, not less
Reception Uncovered: Rejection is not the exception but the rule
Agenda Uncovered: What must be said, not what others want to hear

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church

525 63rd Street, Downers Grove

630-852-1519

www.gsdg.org

It is the mission of



Good Shepherd

to

Seek the Lost
Feed the Flock and
Serve our Savior



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a worldwide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.

We Come into the Presence of God

K-Grade 2 (Sunday 10:30am): "We Are the Light"

Accompanist: Casey Kippes

Refrain:

We are the light of the world; We are the salt of the earth.

We are to spread the light; We are to do what's right.

We are the light of the world.

Loving, caring, sharing from the Father;

His love, His life, share with one another.

Refrain

He knows your heart; He is ever faithful.

His love, His life make me ever grateful.

Refrain

We are the light of the world.

By Tom McLain. ©1990 Lillenas Publishing Co. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A717189. All rights reserved.

Invocation

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Confession and Absolution

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

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

Opening Hymn: #340, verses 1-3 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My great
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As - sist
3 The name of Je - sus calms our fears And bids

Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
our sor - rows cease. 'Tis mu - sic in the

God and King, The tri - umphs of his grace!
earth a - broad, The hon - ors of your name.
sin - ner's ears; 'Tis life and health and peace.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, abr., alt.
Tune: BEATTITUDO (CM) John B. Dykes, 1823-76.

We Listen

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-6

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.

Psalm 146 (*Sung by all.*)

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.

Psalm tone



Praise the LORD, O my soul.*

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,*

in mortal men, who cannot save.

Blessed is he whose hope is in the LORD his God,*

the maker of heaven and earth.

Refrain

The LORD gives food to the hungry,*

the LORD sets prisoners free.

The LORD gives sight to the blind,*

the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.

The LORD watches over the outcast*

and sustains the fatherless and the widow.

The LORD remains faithful forever.*

He upholds the cause of the oppressed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,*

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Second Reading: Acts 4:23-31

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.

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.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:16-30

¹⁴Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶He 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.

Hymn of the Day: #93, verses 1,2,4 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”



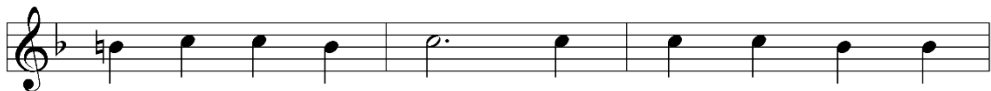
1 Hail to the Lord’s A - noint - ed, Great Da - vid’s great - er
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer
 4 O’er ev - ’ry foe vic - to - rious, He on his throne shall



Son! Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on
 wrong, To help the poor and need - y And bid the
 rest, From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing



earth be - gun! He comes to break op - pres - sion, To
 weak be strong, To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their
 and all - blest. The tide of time shall nev - er His



set the cap - tive free, To take a - way trans -
 dark - ness turn to light Whose souls, con - demned and
 cov - e - nant re - move; His name shall stand for -



gres - sion, And rule in eq - ui - ty.
 dy - ing, Are pre - cious in his sight.
 ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, abr., alt.
 Tune: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN CHRISTEN (76 76 D) Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601.

Sermon: “God’s Favor Doesn’t Play Favorites” (Luke 4:16-30)

We Respond

Offering *(In an effort to maintain a safe social distance, please place your offerings in the provided plate when exiting the sanctuary.)*

If you are a guest in our church, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. We do not want you to think that God or our congregation is soliciting funds from you. You enrich us simply by being here.)

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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: #340, verses 4-6 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

**He breaks the pow’r of canceled sin;
He sets the pris’ner free.
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood avails for me.**

**See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His life was once an offering made
That you might live again.**

**Glory to God and praise and love
Be ever, ever giv’n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav’n.**

Serving in Worship

Guest Pastor: Colin Rieke
Organist: Joan Richmond
Cantors (Saturday): Casey Kippes and
Valerie Adegunleye
Ushers: Erik Guldberg, Paul Kippes,
and Dale Graefnitz
AV Team: Bob Reichert, Joe Garetto,
Kristen Reynolds, and
Greg Busse

Contact Information

Pastor Jon Bergemann
Office: 630.852.1519
Email: pastor.bergemann@gsdg.org

Church Secretary Jennifer Reynolds
Church office: 630.852.1519
School office: 630.852.5081
Cell phone: 630.399.3648
Office Email: office@gsdg.org



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN ACADEMY

To know, to grow, and to show.



Everyone is welcome to join us for BLAST (Believe, Learn and Seek Truth), our Sunday morning Children's Ministry. We begin each Sunday at 9:15a in the library at the end of the school hallway. Email BLAST@gsdg.org

Acknowledgements

Christian Worship and Christian Worship Supplement hymns, liturgies, and Psalms reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A717189 and/or CCLI #11281297. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations are from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION.® NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.