



January 22, 2023

EPIPHANY 3

## The Service

**Hymn**      *The People Who in Darkness Walked* | **Christian Worship: Hymnal 381:1,5**

**Call on the Lord**      *Invocation*

*cf. Matthew 28:19*

We worship - as we live - in our baptismal grace:  
in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### Confession

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: the maker of heaven and earth.**

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

**C: Almighty God, merciful Father,**

**I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.**

**In what I have done and left undone,**

**I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.**

**I have not loved others as you command.**

**For this I deserve your punishment now and forever.**

**I am sorry for my sins.**

**I repent of them.**

**I beg for your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.*

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn**

*Christ Is the World's Light* | **CWH 515:1**

*Be seated*

# The Word

The Lord *of light and life* be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## First Reading

**Isaiah 8:19—9:4** NIV

<sup>19</sup> When 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?

<sup>20</sup> Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.

**9** 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 nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

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

<sup>3</sup> You 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.

<sup>4</sup> For 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.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

1 John 2:3-11 NIV

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

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>Yet 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.

<sup>9</sup>Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness.

<sup>10</sup>Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. <sup>11</sup>But 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.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Stand to welcome the Good News of Jesus*

## The Gospel Acclamation

*Thy Strong Word | CWH 630:2 | cf. Isaiah 9:2*

## The Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23 NIV

<sup>12</sup>When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— <sup>14</sup>to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

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

<sup>16</sup>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."

<sup>17</sup>From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

<sup>20</sup>At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>21</sup>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, <sup>22</sup>and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

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

The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

*O Christ, Our True and Only Light* | **CWH 904**

**Sermon**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

**Let's Shine Some Light on the Wise Men**

*Stand*

**Confession of Faith**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

*Biblical truths taught by the Twelve*

**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.**

**Hymn**

*Thy Strong Word* | **CWH 630:6**

*Be seated*

**Prayer of the Church—EPIPHANY**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

**C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

**C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the Good News of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who live without faith or hope:

**C: Inspire us and our missionaries to flood the world with your Gospel light.**

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation.

**C: Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silence is kept for prayer.*

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

**C: Amen.**

## Offering

***Please fill out a Connection Card while the offering is brought forward to the altar; please place the card in the plate on the table just to the right as you leave church.***

*Members of Living Savior support the ministry of sharing the good news of Jesus through their offerings. Guests may choose to give back to the Lord at Living Savior, through their own congregation, or in other ways that reflect a thankful heart. We are glad to share our joy and hope with you.*

## Prayer

Almighty Father, you gave your only Son to take on our humanity and to dwell among us. Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children in Baptism, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit and guided by our Shepherd, Jesus Christ, to walk in the light of life forevermore.

**C: Amen.**

## Discipleship

cf. Isaiah 61:1

*Brothers and sisters—*

Bring Good News to the afflicted.  
Bind up the brokenhearted.  
Proclaim liberty to the captives.

**C: We will follow the LORD and let our light shine!**

## The Blessing *Benediction*

Numbers 6:24-26

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Please remain standing for the final hymn -*

## The Closing Hymn

**Christ the Eternal Lord | CW 521:1,4**

*Be seated*

# Welcome to Living Savior

Welcome! We are glad that you have joined us to worship the Savior at Living Savior.

- Restrooms are located down the second hallway on your right as you leave the church. More restrooms are available in the NW corner of the fellowship hall.
- Please help us be a friendly church by filling out the Connection Card during the service and placing it in the offering plate on the table just outside the sanctuary.
- Would you like to know more about Jesus, the basic teachings of what it means to be a Christian, or the Bible? Please mark the box on the Connection Card or email Pastor Persons for more information: persons@1791.com.
- If you would like to know more about the ministry of Living Savior, please visit our website, [livingsaviormissoula.org](http://livingsaviormissoula.org).

## Living Savior Contact Information

Church Office:	(406) 543-8222	<a href="mailto:pastor@livingsaviormissoula.com">pastor@livingsaviormissoula.com</a>
Vacancy Pastor Steve Persons:	(507) 340-6710	<a href="mailto:persons@1791.com">persons@1791.com</a>
Preschool Director April Best:	(406) 240-0625	<a href="mailto:aprilbest85@yahoo.com">aprilbest85@yahoo.com</a>

4616 Gharrett Street, Missoula, MT 59803

[Livingsaviormissoula.org](http://Livingsaviormissoula.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY AFTER WORSHIP:** Family Bible Hour – Bible Study in Galatians  
4:00pm – Worship with Holy Communion, Kalispell

**TUESDAY:** 9:00am, Lizzie Confirmation class, Alberton

**WEDNESDAY:** 10:30am, Preschool Devotion  
4:30pm, David Confirmation class  
6:30pm, Bible Study – God, Marriage and the State

**FRIDAY:** 12:30pm, Women’s Bible Study, Bernthal Home

**NEXT SUNDAY:** David Wiseley will confirm his faith! Pray for his faith to continue to grow through Word and Sacraments!

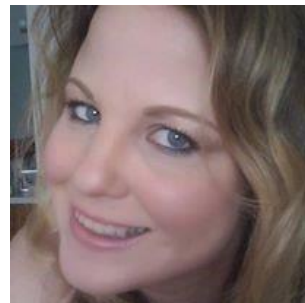
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*Meet the Pastor who Living Savior called to serve Missoula.  
Pray for him!*

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Elianna Pastor Allen  
Kirschbaum



Karrie

*Currently serving:* Spirit of Life, Caledonia, MI since 2015  
*Phone:* 616-295-0021 *Email:* [pastor@spiritoflifecal.org](mailto:pastor@spiritoflifecal.org)  
Pastor Kirschbaum is 34 and daughter, Elianna, is 9.

*Please see the information posted above the bulletin table.*