

January 22, 2023  
Third Sunday of Epiphany



Gogh, Vincent van, 1853–1890. *Fishing Boats on the Beach at Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer*, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

**To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

(if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter **839 2872 7469#**. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

**Music will be displayed on the screen during the service.**

**Prelude**

## **Welcome**

If you're new to First Church, we'd love to get to know you better. You can sign up to receive our email communications on the home page of our website, [www.firstchurchmn.org](http://www.firstchurchmn.org) (scroll down to the heading "stay connected" on the right side of the page). You find us on Facebook by searching for "First Congregational Church of MN, UCC." You're also welcome to introduce yourself in the chat or comments.

**Introit:** "Nzamuranza," Mozambiquen melody, arr. Patrick Matsikenyiri

## **Gathering Words**

**Hymn:** "Listening People"

**Scripture:** Psalm 27:1, 4–9; Matthew 4:12–23

## **Sermon**

**Hymn 173:** *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* (sung in English)

## **Prayers of the People**

Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

## **Lord's Prayer**

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

**Our God, 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.**

## **Vocational Moment: Bill Lindberg**

## **Offering**

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. January's Special Offering is given to ISAIAH, a multi-racial, statewide, nonpartisan coalition of faith communities and other community-based constituencies fighting for racial and economic justice in Minnesota. You can give electronically by going to our website: [www.firstchurchmn.org](http://www.firstchurchmn.org) and clicking on the "Support Us" link. You can also give by texting 612-255-

4109: “\$(amount) Special” (for the monthly offering) or “\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with “ISAIAH” in the memo line.

**Offertory:** “Night Mantra,” by Renee and Jeremy

**Offertory Response:** “Mayenziwe,” sung in Xhosa and then in English.

**Prayer of Dedication**

**All:** O Christ, we will follow you, giving our lives in loyalty to your ways of justice and love. Amen.

**Announcements**

**Hymn 584:** *I Am the Light of the World*

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction:** “O Jesus, As I Am Baptized in You,” by Sally Ann Morris

**Postlude:** “The Fifth Street Waltz,” by Jeffrey Leonard Stone

**Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:**

**Coffee Hour:** Linda Lincoln

**Flowers:** Sandy Johnson

**Reader:** Xan Laurence

**Ushers:** Marilyn Burns, Sandy Johnson

**Tech Support:** Gabe Magby, Hikaru Peterson

**Valet:** Tom Lincoln

**Coming up this week**

**Sunday, Jan. 22**

9:30a: Coffee Hour (in person)

10a: Worship: (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11a: Coffee Hour

11:30a: Faith Formation Team

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82579587370?pwd=aURmUHRaSU55aFlXK241NVNvTWVMZz09>

5p: University Area Sanctuary dinner @UBC

**Monday, Jan. 23**

9:30a: SE Playgroup

**Tuesday, Jan. 24**

12:30: Building Committee

1p: Book Study

**Wednesday, Jan. 25**

7p: Choir rehearsal

**Thursday, Jan. 26**

9:30a: SE Playgroup

**Sunday, Jan. 22**

9:30a: Coffee Hour (in person)

10a: Worship: (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11a: Lexington Commons lunch

## **Announcements**

**Sanctuary Network Dinner tonight!** The families and congregations involved in the University Area Sanctuary Coalition will be gathering for regular meals together in the new year. You are invited to join the next gathering tonight at 5p at University Baptist Church, 1219 University Ave. SE. We will be celebrating community and a 13th birthday! Please bring a dish to share that is from your heritage. RSVP to Jane: [jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org](mailto:jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org).

**Celebrating Lexington Commons.** On Sunday, January 29, we will formally bring to a close our ministry at Lexington Commons. In worship and a special meal, we will celebrate and give thanks for more than ten years of ministry with the residents there.

**We are invited to Night Songs,** Feb. 10 at 7:30 at University Lutheran Church of Hope (601 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE) This beautiful concert features music presented by our First Church choir and other University area church choirs, as well as other metro area musicians, paired with poetry and images of space and our planet curated by James Flaten. Masks are recommended. Want to sing at "Night Songs?" Join the mass choir! Rehearsals will be Sat., Jan. 21 and Sat., Feb. 4 from 11a–12:30p, and we will sing two terrific, but straightforward pieces: "Earth Song" by Frank Ticheli,



and “It Takes a Village” by Joan Szymko. Anyone in high school or older is welcome to participate. Contact Byron Almén if you are interested.

**Lobby for the Future: Climate Day at the Capitol.** Join ISAIAH and grassroots leaders across Minnesota on January 25 in leveraging this historic opportunity for 100% clean electricity and more at the capitol to win a bold and equitable clean energy transition here in Minnesota. Participants will receive a brief and intentional training on how to lobby their legislators in support of the 100% Bill HF 7 in the House and its companion bill in the Senate SF 4. Participants will then be organized into teams with fellow constituents to lead their lobby meetings with legislators. *Meet at Christ Lutheran Church, 105 University Ave W, St Paul, MN 55103, and then walk to the capitol for Lobby visits.* Sign up at <https://bit.ly/ISAIAH2023Launches>

**Second Covenant Day February 4.** All are invited to our second Covenant Day hosted by Robbinsdale Parkway UCC in Minneapolis. This is a time to gather together and be the church! Covenant Days are filled with workshops, worship, food, and fellowship—a time for members, lay leaders, and clergy of local congregations to connect with one another and Conference staff. This is an opportunity to meet others who are being church in this time and to discuss what it means to be people of faith in a pandemic-informed world. All are welcome; we look forward to seeing you! February 4, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Register by Feb. 1 at <https://www.uccmn.org/event/covenant-days-robbinsdale-parkway-ucc/>.

**Updating the directory.** Do you have a new address, phone number, family member you would like to include in the directory? If you’re not currently in the directory, would you like to be? Sarah Tittle is working on an update now. Please let her know of any changes/additions! [office@firstchurchmn.org](mailto:office@firstchurchmn.org). Thank you!

**First Church is co-sponsoring two screenings of “Oyate”** a film about Standing Rock. The screenings will be on Feb. 18 in the evening and Feb. 19 in the afternoon. Locations and exact times will be available soon.