

## The Third Sunday after the Epiphany: January 30, 2022

**Collect:** God governs all things on heaven and earth. We pray earnestly that God will grant us his peace in our time. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson

**Jeremiah 1:4-10**

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

### Psalm 71:1-6

- <sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
- <sup>2</sup> In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.
- <sup>3</sup> Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
- <sup>4</sup> Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
- <sup>5</sup> For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.
- <sup>6</sup> Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb.  
My praise is continually of you.

### The Second Lesson

**1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

### The Gospel

**Luke 4:21-30**

Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the

heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

### **Prayers of the People:**

My fellow pilgrims, the Lord is our strong rock, a castle to keep us safe. In confidence, let us pray, “In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge,” let us never be ashamed.

Increase our love, O God, Deliver your church from boastfulness and arrogance. Fill us instead with patience and kindness. We pray for your Church, especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Jennifer, our Bishop; Mauricio, Bishop of Brasilia; for Debbie our priest, for the Executive Council of the Diocese of Indianapolis, The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean, for the clergy and people of St. Paul’s, Columbus, and for St. Andre’s in Mithon.

In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge, ***Let us never be ashamed.***

Increase our love, O God. Be present with the faith community of St. Alban’s. Guide our leaders to make good decisions for our future, to create a place of ministry that is broader than we can imagine, with community partners who will impact the neighborhood around us in ways we cannot do alone.

In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge, ***Let us never be ashamed.***

Increase our love, O God. Deliver this nation from pride and fear. Give us eyes to see your hand at work in all nations and peoples. We pray for Joseph, our President, Kamala, our Vice President, Representatives, members of Congress, the Courts, Eric our Governor, and our mayors, and all those in positions of authority who have been charged to serve all the people. God, bless the world.

In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge, ***Let us never be ashamed.***

Increase our love, O God. Let it not be limited only to other human beings but spread to all that you have made.

In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge, ***Let us never be ashamed.***

Increase our love, O God. May we seek and serve Christ in our neighbors, in family, friends, and strangers.

In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge, ***Let us never be ashamed.***

Increase our love, O God. By the power of your great love, heal those who are ill; strengthen those who are struggling to endure great pain. We pray that, as we lift our brothers and sisters to you in prayer, the will, even now, feel our love.

In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge, ***Let us never be ashamed.***

Increase our trust in your love, O God. May those who have died find in your presence everlasting and overwhelming love.

In you, O Lord, we have taken refuge, ***Let us never be ashamed.***