

About the Second Sunday after the Epiphany  
Theme: The Call to Discipleship  
– *highlighting the Scriptures for the week* –

**T**o a worn and weary Israel the LORD promises His Messiah. In vivid first person language He speaks of His divine commission: to gather the scattered flock of Israel back to the LORD's own pasture. (Isaiah) Not only so, but all the Gentiles, too, will see His light and salvation. What was once long promised has now been fulfilled. In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son to fulfill all His promises. Now all those gathered together in Christ's Church are made holy by His saving work among them (1 Corinthians). No spiritual gift is lacking in their midst: forgiveness, life, and full salvation already now and more to come: abiding faithful, they will be found blameless on the day of Christ's return! Such is the abundant blessing of the Lamb of God, who takes our sin upon Himself and takes it all away (John). Receiving a full measure of God's Spirit, He pours it out upon all the baptized, inviting them to come and follow. Having heard His saving Word, we follow after, passing His Gospel invitation to others, bringing them to Jesus to receive the gifts we ourselves have received in His Name.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

Use the schedule below in your personal devotion. The first three readings are the lessons read today; the last three will be read next Sunday. The Wednesday reading is the psalmody for the week. Each day you may want to pray that psalm or the prayer printed in our service folder today, followed by the suggested reading and your personal requests and thanksgivings to our heavenly Father.

<b>Sunday</b>	Isaiah 49:1-7 When did the LORD call His chosen Servant? What was His mission? Why was His mouth the special weapon of the LORD? How was He received (v. 4)? What was His reward? What is His mission to the Gentiles? How are all these prophecies fulfilled in the life and ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ? How does His work continue among and through us today?
<b>Monday</b>	1 Corinthians 1:1-9 How is the church sanctified? Where does grace and peace come from? How is the church enriched in speaking and knowledge? Why, therefore must Christians be always learning? What glorious outcome is the goal of the church? What alone is the source of our confidence in light of that ultimate goal? What does this mean?
<b>Tuesday</b>	John 1:29-42a Who is the Lamb of God? What is His saving work? On whom did the Spirit remain? How, therefore, does He continue to distribute the Spirit and His gifts? Who were Jesus' first disciples? What did Andrew do? How is his example the continuing pattern for the growth of the church? Whom may you bring to meet Jesus? Where will they meet Him? What does this mean?
<b>Wednesday</b>	Psalms 92:1-5 What is the function of the church's song? What is the content of the church's song? What is the source of the believers' gladness and joy? Why, therefore, do you come to worship? What does this mean?
<b>Thursday</b>	Isaiah 9:1-4 Why is there no longer any gloom for those who were in distress? What is the 'light' that has been seen? What is meant by 'the day of Midian's defeat'? How does this imagery support the prophet's message? What does this mean?
<b>Friday</b>	1 Corinthians 1:10-18 What was the problem in the congregation in Corinth? How does this same issue raise its ugly head among Christians today? What was the apostolic answer to this problem? What remains the solution to this issue today? What proclamation is at the center of the church's life and mission?
<b>Saturday</b>	Matthew 4:12-25 Where did Jesus begin His public ministry? Why was this location of particular importance to Gentiles? What was the content of His preaching? What did He promise His first disciples? How does He still do this today? What did Jesus do to abolish the power of the devil in His ministry in Galilee? How does He do this among us still? What does this mean?