

**Stewardship 2025
United in Christ**



**Yesterday,
Today and
Tomorrow**

Psalm 46:7 "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold."

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 26, 2025
9:15 AM Worship Express

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz

Lector: Kelly Harrington

Acolytes: Ben Foltz and Slayton Hoverson

Ushers: Hoverson Family

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. We hear the WORD spoken and we see and hear Jesus speaking to us. He is so real we can almost reach out and touch him. So as our Gospel Song says and we sing, "Lord, help us to listen. We want to see Jesus."

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Drawn to the Light"

Words to meditate on...

*People who walk in darkness have sought
a light in the heat of the darkest night.
Just when we thought all would be lost,
we were drawn to the light of God.
Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night!
Drawn to the light and the morning.
Glorious and bright, O what a sight
to be drawn to the light of God.*

CONFESSION

P: Blessed be God our Creator, Jesus our Protector and the Holy Spirit who gives us life.

C: Amen.

P: Merciful God,

Right Side: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the times we are judgmental, cruel, or simply do not care.

Left Side: *Forgive us for the times we ignore the needs of our neighbors and do not respond to your call to fight injustice.*

Right Side: Forgive us for the times we are afraid there will not be enough for me, let alone anyone else...

Left Side: *and assume the worst about one another.*

All: Forgive us for our faults and release us from their grip. Show us your loving kindness. Mend our hearts that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

FORGIVENESS

P: God shouts these words of assurance so all can hear: "Do not fear! I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." Jesus forgives us. The Spirit frees us. God is full of grace. Let us live as God's beloved children.

C: Amen.

Stand

GATHERING SONG: "Let Us Walk as a Child of the Light"

**vs. 1: Let Us Walk in the light of the Lord,
Let us sing of God's love to all the earth.**

**We are still on our way, we are going home together;
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

**vs. 2: Let us live ev'ry day as our last
Fill each one with our laughter and our tears.**

**We are still on our way, we are going home together;
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

**vs. 5: May we learn to be children again,
May each day bring us new dreams we can share.
We are still on our way, we are going home together;
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

Welcoming God's People

P: God gathers God's People together to encourage them with the WORD and strengthen them with the bread and wine of Holy Communion.

All: Amen!

LITANY

P: In the beginning was the Word,

C: and the WORD was with God and the WORD was God.

P: In the WORD was life,

C: and the life was the light of all people.

P: The WORD became flesh and lived among us,

C: and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

SONG OF PRAISE: "Alleluia"

Alleluia, Alleluia. I am the light of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia. I am the light of the world.

Those who follow me will not walk in darkness.

Those who follow me will have the light of life.

Alleluia, Alleluia. I am the light of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia. I am the light of the world.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

All: O Lord, we thank you for the holy scriptures. We read them and we can see you once again walking the roads of Galilee, teaching the people and working your miracles. You come alive. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Stand

GOSPEL SONG: "Open My Eyes"

Open my eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,

To reach out and touch Him and say that we love Him.

Open our eyes, Lord, help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Lector: The Good News according to Luke the 4th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOOD NEWS READING: Luke 4:14-21

Lector: Jesus returned to Galilee powerful in the Spirit. News that he was back spread through the countryside. He taught in their meeting places to everyone's acclaim and pleasure. He came to Nazareth where he had been raised. As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place. When he stood to read, he was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah.

Lector: Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written...

Jesus (All): **God's Spirit is upon me; he's chosen me to preach the Message of the good news to the poor, sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind. To set the burdened and battered free, to announce, "This is God's time to shine!"**

Lector: He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the place was on him, intent. Then he started in...

Jesus (All): **You've just heard Scripture make history. It came true just now in this place.**

Lector: The Good News of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sit

CHILDREN'S WORD/THE WORD

Stand

SONG OF THE DAY: "Thy Word"

Refrain: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path. *(repeat)*

vs 1: When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end. ***Refrain***

vs 2: I will not forget your love for me,
and yet, my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,
and I will love you to the end. ***Refrain***

Sit

HOLY BAPTISM ELW #227

APOSTLES CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus, God's Son?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God's Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Stand

GOD'S PEOPLE SHARE THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all!

All: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERING SONG: "Lord, be Glorified"

vs 1: In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be gloried today.

vs. 2: In my song...

vs. 3: In my church...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BENEDICTION

**P: May God our Creator, Jesus our Provider and the Life Giving Spirit ✝ bless you
with joy, anoint you with compassion and send you out to live.**

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Live in hope!

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE