A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
The Third Sunday After Epiphany
January 22, 2023
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.
Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING...

The Prelude

He Leadeth Me
Kevin McChesney, arr.

The Jubilate Ringers;
Tina Christie, bass flute

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit
I Danced in the Morning

Psalm 27 and Isaiah 9

The Call To Worship

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
The yoke of burden, the bar across the shoulders, the rod of the oppressor,
God has broken.

Prayer of Adoration

God of light, Giver of perfect freedom, we praise you for redeeming our lives; for bringing us up when we were brought low. Waiting in unbearable night, you came bringing morning's brightness. We offer our prayers of thanksgiving, our proclamations of praise. We cannot know the way unless you lead us. We cannot enter into true freedom except by your law of love. Guide our steps and give us courage, for we are your glad and grateful people. Amen.

*The Hymn 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above; thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small. In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.

Thou reignest in glory, thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; oh, help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

*Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, we come before you in confession, seeking grace. We hide our thoughts and deeds before others, but we cannot hide from you. Forgive us for judging others and ignoring our own faults. Forgive us for making casual commitments that then fade from our minds. Call us to yourself again and give us a second chance, a third, a fourth...for we would be your faithful followers. We want to give ourselves to that which is urgent and eternal. Help us to begin anew in following you. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

For God so loved the world that God sent the Son into the world...

...Not to condemn us, but that we might be saved through him. God is for us, not against. Thanks be to God.

*The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen
*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Read this to everyone in the church. For those worshiping at home, please share Christ's peace with someone outside your home this week.)

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD. . .**

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 9:1-4

The Psalter Lesson: Psalm 27:1,4-9

The Anthem

**Dear Lord and Father of Mankind**

Whittier/Pottle

O Sabbath rest by Galilee! O calm of hills above!

Where Jesus knelt to share with thee the silence of eternity, interpreted by love.

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways. Reclothe us in our rightful mind,

In purer love thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise. Drop thy still dew of quietness till all our strivings cease;

Take from our souls the strain and stress, and

let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm;

Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire,

Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord,

Let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee, rise up and follow thee.

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

p. 201 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

Presentation of Bibles (11 am service only)

*I Love to Tell the Story*

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

REFRAIN: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat, what seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

REFRAIN

I love to tell story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.

And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

REFRAIN

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 4:12-23

p. 4 in the pew Bible

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

The Sermon

**Choosing**

Kim Clayton

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD. . .**

*I The Apostles’ Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by

the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day

he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the

Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the
Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 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, forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME . . .

The Hymn 463

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith, in God's excellent Word! What more can be said than to you God hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake"

*The Charge & Benediction

The Postlude

Rejouissance, from Suite in a minor

Georg Philipp Telemann

Please be seated in personal reflection until the Postlude ends.

The children receiving bibles today are: Julie Chewning, Robbie Gloyd, Caroline Raska, Drew Rexrode, Alex Yealy, and Emerson Bothel.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Kim Clayton
Liturgists: Steve Davis, Eric Snader
Choir Masters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey
Organist: Amy Shirk