



Our Mission...

to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.

We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
January 31st, 2021

Bold print indicates a congregational response.

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

WELCOME and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

In Christian teaching and tradition, each Sunday is believed to be a little Easter, a weekly celebration of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we light this candle, affirming that Christ is indeed the light of the world, our hope and our salvation. There is no other in whom we place our trust.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to worship God in our need,

bringing with us the needs of the world.

We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus,

and who knows by experience what human life is like.

We come with our faith and with our doubts,

we come with our hopes and with our fears.

We come as we are because it is God who invites us to come,

and God has promised never to turn us away.

PRELUDE: #679 VU – “Let There Be Light”

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~words by Frances Wheeler Davis

~Rev. Tanis Kolisnyk

- 1 Let there be light,
let there be understanding,
let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face;**
- 2 open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,**

**open the door of concord
opening into grace;**

- 3 perish the sword,
perish the angry judgement,
perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gain;**
- 4 hallow our love,
hallow the deaths of martyrs,
hallow their holy freedom,
hallowed be your name;**
- 5 your kingdom come,
your spirit turn to language,
your people speak together,
your spirit never fade;**
- 6 let there be light;
open our hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of compassion,
you have shown us in Christ
that your love is never-ending.
Enable us to love you with all our hearts
and to love one another as Christ loved us.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen**

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS: *Sylvia Banfield*

Hebrew Scripture

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the LORD replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who

presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.'

The Psalm

Psalm 111

Praise the LORD!

*I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.*

*Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.*

*Full of honour and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures for ever.*

*He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.*

*He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.*

*He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.*

*The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.*

*They are established for ever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.*

*He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant for ever.*

Holy and awesome is his name.

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.*

His praise endures for ever.

RESPONSE: *This is the word of God.*

Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Mark 1: 21-28

~Rev. Don Johnson

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

GOSPEL RESPONSE:

The Gospel of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

"As One with Authority"

~Rev. Don Johnson (see the attached sermon)

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(The Methodist Church, England)

We believe in God the Father, who made the world.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, who redeemed humankind.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God.

PRAYERS & 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 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,
the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

A PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION

**Gracious and compassionate God,
you have promised strength for the weak,
rest for the weary, light for the way,
grace for the trials, help from above,
unfailing sympathy, undying love.**

**Gracious and compassionate God,
help us to trust in your promise. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

*The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.*

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

- 1 When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun: R**
- 2 To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above! R**
- 3 To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
to see God's children everywhere! R**
- 4 To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth! R**