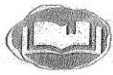


Third Sunday After The Epiphany

January 26th 2025 9:30am



Share

Read

Talk

Pray

Bless

Preparation For Worship: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork. *Psalm 19:1*

Opening Song

No Higher Calling

Down at Your feet oh Lord
Is the most high place
In Your presence Lord
I seek Your face - I seek Your face

There is no higher calling
No greater honor
Than to bow and kneel
Before Your throne
I'm amazed at Your glory
Embraced by Your mercy
Oh Lord I live to worship You

Down at Your feet oh Lord
Is the most high place
In Your presence Lord
We seek Your face - We seek Your face

There is no higher calling
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Invocation

Pastor: We gather today in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: God the Father loved us so much that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever would believe in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

People: **The promised Messiah came! We celebrate the Epiphany of His coming. Emmanuel is God with us, and Christ will come again! He is the Prince of Peace, and Lord of all! God is good!**

Pastor: All the time!

People: **All the time!**

Pastor: God is good!

People: **Let us come to Him then with an honest heart to worship Him in spirit and truth.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: We confess our need of forgiveness, and that God's forgiveness is the gift that leads to newness of life. Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, born in a manger, died on a cross, and risen from the grave: All to redeem us from sin, death, the devil, and our sinful self. As Paul wrote in Romans 3 "This was to show God's righteousness, because in God's divine forbearance God had passed over former sins; it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and that God justifies the one who has faith in Jesus." Acknowledging the promise and call of God to confess, repent and receive forgiveness, we join in the Apostle John's words:

People: **If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned we make God a liar, and His Word is not in us.**

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Forgive me of my sins, I pray. (*Reflection for confession*)

Pastor: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called servant of Jesus our Christ, and by His authority, I announce God's grace to you, and the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. To all who believe on His name He gave power to become the children of God, and gave His Holy Spirit. Those who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this O Lord, unto us all.

People: **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Daily Text

A bruised reed He will not break, and a dimly burning wick He will not quench.

Isaiah 42:3

Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones.

Matthew 18:10

Let us pray:

People: **Tender and merciful Lord, your gentle love comforts me. I am grateful that, with your help, I will not break or fizzle out. Today I seek Your mercy and healing for the frayed pieces of my life. Thank You for those You have called to minister to little ones. Bestow on them special blessings of energy, compassion, and kindness. Amen.**

Scripture Lessons *Read*

First Lesson

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹ And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. ² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶ And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸ They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

The Psalm

Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. ² Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. ³ There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. ⁴ Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, ⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. ⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat. ⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; ⁸ the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; ⁹ the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. ¹⁰ More to be

desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. ¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. ¹² Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. ¹³ Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

Reader: Please rise for the reading of the Gospel. God has given us Good News.

People: **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. You have the words of eternal life.**

Psalm 119:105, John 6:68

Gospel Lesson

Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴ And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. ¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and

recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

People: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Song

I Raise A Hallelujah

**I raise a hallelujah
In the presence of my enemies
I raise a hallelujah
Louder than the unbelief
I raise a hallelujah
My weapon is a melody
I raise a hallelujah
Heaven comes to fight for me**

**I'm gonna sing
In the middle of the storm
Louder and louder
Your gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated the King is alive**

I raise a hallelujah
With everything inside of me
I raise a hallelujah
I will watch the darkness flee
I raise a hallelujah
In the middle of the mystery
I raise a hallelujah
Fear you lost your hold on me

I'm gonna sing
In the middle of the storm
Louder and louder
Your gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated the King is alive

Sing a little louder - sing a little louder
Sing a little louder - sing a little louder
Sing a little louder - sing a little louder
Sing a little louder - sing a little louder

Sing a little louder - in the presence of my enemies
Sing a little louder - louder than the unbelief
Sing a little louder - my weapon is a melody
Sing a little louder - Heaven comes to fight for me
Sing a little louder

I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated, the King is alive

I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated, the King is alive

I raise a hallelujah
I raise a hallelujah
I raise a hallelujah
I raise a hallelujah

Sermon/Watchword

Talk --- New, Knew, Next

Pr Knoll

Let The Words Of My Mouth And The Meditation Of My Heart Be Acceptable To You,
O Lord, My Rock And My Redeemer

Offering Song

Breathe

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your Holy presence living in me
This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very Word spoken to me

And I – I'm desperate for You
And I – I'm lost without You

And I – I'm desperate for You
And I – I'm lost without You

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your Holy presence living in me
This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very Word spoken to me

And I – I'm desperate for You
And I – I'm lost without You

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe

Prayers of the Church *Pray*

The congregation is invited to join in prayers that include whole Church, the nation, those in need, the parish, additional petitions and special concerns.

Pastor: Let's join together to pray with Jesus for all that He loves right here, and to the ends of the earth. Father, our Father in heaven, You are the present active, Creator, and Redeemer of our heart, soul, mind and body.

People: **Thank You Lord, that in You we are made a part of Your great salvation of all that You have created. You have made us Your redeemed children. We join today with all those throughout the world who follow You, and pray that Your kingdom would come, and Your will would be done among us as it is in heaven.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with these words...

Pastor: You are our God, and we are Your people... Thank You that You hear our prayers, and work in all things for the good of those who love You. To You be all glory, honor, and praise.

People: **Amen.**

Preface, Proper Preface and Sanctus

Pastor: The Lord be with You.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

People^(sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Words Of Institution

Pastor: In the night in which He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take and eat, this is My body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." Again after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of Me."

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remembering Your love and Your life we pray as You taught us to pray:

People: 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

Distribution Of Holy Communion

All who sincerely believe in the real presence of Christ in the Holy Communion – that the cup of blessing is the Communion of the blood of Christ and the bread is the Communion of the body of Christ, and sincerely believing that in receiving Him we have the forgiveness of our sins, salvation, and strength for the Christian life, come – partake of the Lord's Supper.

Communion Song

Still

**Hide me now
Under Your wings
Cover me
Within Your mighty hand**

continued on next page

**When the oceans rise
And thunders roar
I will soar with You
Above the storm
Father You are King
Over the flood
I will be still and know
You are God**

**Find rest my soul
In Christ alone
Know His power
In quietness and trust**

**When the oceans rise
And thunders roar
I will soar with You
Above the storm
Father You are King
Over the flood
I will be still and know
You are God**

**When the oceans rise
And thunders roar
I will soar with You
Above the storm**

**Father You are King
Over the flood
I will be still and know
You are God**

**I will be still and know
You are God**

Nunc Dimittis

Pastor: Now Lord, let your servants depart in peace, according to your Word. For our eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and will be, world without end. Amen.

Benediction *Bless*

Pastor: Now, may the Lord bless you and keep you.
May He make His face shine on you, and be gracious unto you.
May the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you His peace.

People:(Sung)**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Blessing: Child of God, remember our Lord is our Rock and our Redeemer.

Pastor: Our worship continues,

People: **our service begins!**

Closing Song

Whom Shall I Fear

You hear me when I call, You are my morning song
Though darkness fills the night, it cannot hide the light - Whom shall I fear?
You crush the enemy underneath my feet, You are my sword and shield
Though troubles linger still, whom shall I fear

I know Who goes before me I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by my side
The One who reigns forever He is a friend of mine
The God of angel armies is always by my side

My strength is in Your name for You alone can save
You will deliver me - Yours is the victory
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

I know Who goes before me I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by my side
The One who reigns forever He is a friend of mine
The God of angel armies is always by my side

And nothing formed against me shall stand,
You hold the whole world in Your hands - I'm holding on to Your promises
You are faithful - You are faithful

And nothing formed against me shall stand,
You hold the whole world in Your hands - I'm holding on to Your promises
You are faithful - You are faithful - You are faithful

I know Who goes before me I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by my side
The One who reigns forever He is a friend of mine
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SHARING OF PEACE AS WE GO IN GOD'S PEACE

Welcome To Worship At Zion. We are pleased to have you join us. *If you are a visitor* please check the shelf outside the office for our newsletter and brochure.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God remembering the joy and beauty of the life of Dr. Tim McGinnis from Cindy McGinnis.

The 2025 Altar Flower Chart is up in the hallway. You may sign up for one or two vases. The cost per vase is \$22.50 per vase or \$45.00 for both vases. Please indicate whether it is in honor or memory of an individual or special event.

The Mission of the Month for January is our Mitten Tree – holding mittens, gloves, hats and scarves which will be distributed to those who need them by our Jericho Road Ministries food program. Use the Mission of the Month envelopes to support this mission.

Bible Studies/Small Groups

Monday	1:00pm	Bible Study
Wednesday	6:00pm	G.I.F.T.

Worship at Zion

Wednesday	7:00pm	Worship
Saturday	5:00pm	Chapel
Sunday	8:00am	Worship
	9:30am	G.I.F.T. Worship
		11:30am Swahili-English Worship

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