



4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024

10:00 am

*please rise as you are able, in body or spirit.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP* (*adapted from Psalm 111*)

Come! Let us give thanks to the Lord with whole hearts.

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

The Lord feeds the righteous with truth.

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Let us worship God.

HYMN*

“Be Thou My Vision”

450

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

Holy God, who commands all spirits, comforts those in distress, and casts out destructive forces, we confess that we are unable to do your will. We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown. We forget that you are always with us, and that with you all things are possible. Forgive us, lead us, make us new. Remove our desire to heed false prophets, and show us your way.

{silence}

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / PASSING OF THE PEACE*

RESPONSE TO PARDON

Sweetly echo the gospel call, Wonderful words of life.

Offer pardon and peace to all, Wonderful words of life.

Jesus, only Savior, Sanctify forever:

Beautiful words, wonderful words,

Wonderful words of life.

Beautiful words, wonderful words,

Wonderful words of life.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

OLD TESTAMENT – Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Charles Bostian

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Adult Choir

“Ponder Anew”

GOSPEL* – Mark 1:21-28

SERMON

Dr. Linda Dickerson

“Who Is This Jesus? Go Tell!”

SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE

Jesus Christ overthrew evil powers that enslaved and degraded people, yet he made no use of power to protect himself. He healed the sick, yet he did not avoid pain and suffering for himself. He taught with authority, challenging many time-honored customs and ideas, yet he submitted to humiliation and death without a word on his behalf. We recognize the work of God in Jesus’ power and authority and in his lowliness.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN*

“Cast Out, O Christ”

(tune of “House of the Rising Sun”)

**Cast out, O Christ, cast far away
the demons that destroy:
The haunting dreads that choke our souls,
the hates that stifle joy.**

**Our raging griefs, our jealous fears
are Legion in their name.
Our shackled hearts implore your grace
to loose our binding shame.**

**Once long ago, from Galilee,
you sailed to storm-tossed shores.
And still, in power, you brave new paths
to breach our bolted doors.**

**Your Word breathes life and health and hope
that break through evil's thrall.
You send us, strengthened, home in peace
to live your gospel call.**

**So come, O Christ, and cast away
the demons that destroy.
Transform our lives to sense your love
and spread abroad your joy.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE*

673

**Jesus, light of joy, surround us;
let your splendid glory shine:
source of every earthly blessing,
heaven's everlasting sign.
Alleluia, alleluia, we adore you, light divine.**

FELLOWSHIP TIME – All are Welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES