

Order of Service–February 23, 2025

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting **please rise as you are able and comfortable and welcome one another into worship**

Invocation **please remain standing**

“Holy Water”

“Won’t He Do It” **please be seated**

Reading From 1 Corinthians 15:40-49

There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. [41] There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

[42] So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. [43] It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. [44] It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. [45] Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. [46] But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. [47] The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. [48] As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. [49] Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another....

Congregation: Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Congregation: **Amen**

“How Great” **please rise as you are comfortable and able**

Nicene Creed

Congregation: **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Holy Communion *please be seated until it is time for you to come forward, rows come forward front to back, left to right*

Please read the explanation of our Communion practice below.

COMMUNION is a time for us to come in union to receive Jesus' body and blood. On the night before Jesus died on the cross, He shared a "last supper" with His disciples. The experience that happened so many years ago compels us to this day to celebrate the "Lord's Supper" (or Holy Communion as it is called). Jesus invited us to share this gift until He returns so that we may have forgiveness of sins, strengthening of faith and the power to live God-pleasing lives. God's word tells us that when we receive the Lord's Supper we are not merely receiving bread and wine, but the true, real body and blood of Jesus Christ. We claim the promise of Christ's real presence as we hear him say "This is my body...this is my blood." Baptized adult Christians who know they need God's daily forgiveness, who are sorry for their sins, who seek God's forgiveness, and who believe the body and blood of Jesus Christ are truly present in this meal are invited to share this great gift of God.

*We encourage those who are unsure of their beliefs or who don't yet agree with our beliefs to use the time of communion to reflect, pray, and sing. We encourage those who are in agreement with us in our beliefs to receive the body and blood of Jesus, given and shed for our forgiveness. **Those that wish non-alcoholic wine for communion will find those cups located in the center trays. Those who would like gluten-free wafers can take them from the bowl containing the wafers.***

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

"Give Me Jesus"

"No Longer Slaves"

Reading from Luke 6:37-38 *please be seated*

Context: Much is made of this verse by those who wish to silence Christians who live and speak the truth about the 10 Commandments. In fact this statement of Jesus refers to just the opposite. Jesus is condemning those who use any human standard of judgement against others. God alone judges according to His completely revealed law. Christians speak not human judgments, but only the revealed judgements of God.

"Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; [38] give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured

back to you."

Children's Message & Offering

Message: "Judge Not"

Responsive Prayer and Reflection *please rise as you are comfortable and able*

(Pastor Speaks the light print, the congregation responds with the dark print)

P: Because of our sinfulness, .

C: We often judge others by our own standards.

P: O Lord, You have judged violations of your Holy Law

C: and laid them on you Son Jesus who has paid in full for our sins

P: We are declared righteous before you.

C: We heed the words of Jesus, "Go and sin no more." Amen

Blessing

"The River"

Go in Peace + Serve the Lord