SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 18, 2026
11:00 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Steven Phillips

PRELUDE *Holy Manna* William Moore

CALL TO WORSHIP Susan McDonald

God calls us here together — each of us,
all of us, our whole selves.
We bring our questions, our longings,
our hopes, our dreams and our fears.
Jesus invites us to come and see where God is at work.
Across the street and across the globe,
Jesus is present.
Within these walls and within our hearts,
God is here.
Let us worship the God
who reaches out in love
and invites us to come and see!

***HYMN 35** *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Dr. McConnell

Saving God,
we confess that we often have not waited patiently for you.
We have preferred to sing our own song
and to go our own way rather than trusting you.
Forgive us.
Abide in us until your new song of hope
and redemption pours from our lips,
and your love is shared in our words and deeds.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

***SONG OF JOY 804** (v. 1) *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* MARION

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *There is a Balm in Gilead* Traditional Spiritual/
(The Chancel Choir) arr. Helvey

Refrain
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain)

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all." (Refrain)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

page 1047 **SCRIPTURE READING** 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *The Lure of Love* Dr. McConnell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Susan McDonald

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *Though I May Speak* English Tune/arr. Phillips

***DOXOLOGY 607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

from *A Declaration of Faith*, 1977

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Susan McDonald

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.
But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories
over evil that are possible now in the world,
the church, and our individual lives.
Hope gives us courage and energy
to contend against all opposition,
however invincible it may seem,
for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.

Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 223** *When I Survey the Wonderous Cross* HAMBURG

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood. *(continued next page)*

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Dr. McConnell

POSTLUDE *Fanfare* John Cook

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

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