FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 28, 2024
11:00 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND INVITATION Rev. Timothy T. Boggess

PRELUDE *Winter Solstice* arr. Glenn Priest

Psalm 113

CALL TO WORSHIP Mary Willis

Praise, O servants of the Lord;
praise the name of the Lord.
Blessed be the name of the Lord
from this time on and forevermore.
From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of the Lord is to be praised.
Praise the Lord!

***HYMN 307** *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Healing God,
we confess that we need your help.
We are tired of carrying old wounds into new relationships.
We are tired of letting our old hurts hurt others.
Nothing we have tried has given us the peace that we seek.
We wish to be healed. We long to be made well.
By your grace, touch us and set us free from our dis-ease,
so that we might experience the new life offered to us
through your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***SONG OF JOY 623** (vv. 1 & 2) *I've Got Peace Like a River* PEACE LIKE A RIVER

I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul. (twice)

I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul. (twice)

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Ain't Got Time to Die* Hall Johnson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Page 914
Page 1030

SCRIPTURE READINGS Mark 5:21-43
Romans 8:35,37-39

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Nothing Can Separate Us* Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 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 *Arioso* J.S. Bach

***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**

The Study Catechism (1989)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Mary Willis

What do we mean when we pray, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil"?

We ask God to protect us from our own worst impulses
and from all external powers of destruction in the world.
We ask that we might not yield to despair
in the face of seemingly hopeless circumstances.
We pray for the grace to remember and believe,
despite our unbelief,
that no matter how bleak the world may sometimes seem,
there is nonetheless a depth of love which is deeper than our despair,
and that this love — which delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt
and raised our Lord Jesus from the dead —
will finally swallow up forever
all that would now seem to defeat it.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 815** *Give to the Winds Thy Fears* FESTAL SONG

Give to the winds thy fears;
hope, and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;
God shall lift up thy head.

Through waves and clouds and storms
God gently clears the way.
Wait patiently; so shall this night
soon end in joyous day.

Leave to God's sovereign sway
to choose and to command.
So shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,
how wise, how strong God's hand!

Let us in life, in death,
thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our final breath
thy love and guardian care.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Boggess

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune* David German

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

Our guest organist today is **Glenn Priest**. He received his Bachelor and Master degrees in Applied Piano from Boston University and completed his seminary work in theology at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. Glenn has held worship leading roles at churches in Massachusetts, Tennessee, and North Carolina, and has recently retired from Fairhaven Church, Ohio, where he was the Team Leader of Ministry Arts.

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