FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Second Sunday After Epiphany
Traditional Service
January 15, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Adagio in A — Roger Nyquist

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God;
People: your righteousness is like the mighty mountains.
Leader: All people may feast upon the abundance of your house;
People: you give them drink from the river of your delights.
Leader: for with you, Lord, is the fountain of life;
People: in your light we see light. So come, let us worship God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN — #356
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing — NETTLETON

1 Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

*Please stand if you are able.

3 O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, it is so easy for us to fall into the trap of scarcity. We focus our attention on what we do not have; we strive for what others have that we want, and we overlook those who do not have enough. Forgive us, and help us to recognize the overflowing abundance of grace that you give to us. Give us the faith to share what we have with others, and to trust in your never-failing grace and love.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12 Phil Fair
Leader: The word of the Lord;
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Eureka – Finding Another Way"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN #405
What Does the Lord Require SHARPTHORNE
Verse 1 – Choir only; Verses 2 and 3 - All

(Choir only)

1 What does the Lord require
for praise and offering?
What sacrifice, desire
or tribute did you bring?
Do justly, love mercy,
walk humbly with your God.

(All)

2 Rulers of earth, give ear!
Should you not justice know?
Will God your pleading hear
while crime and cruelty grow?
Do justly, love mercy,
walk humbly with your God.

(All)

3 How shall our life fulfill
God's law so hard and high?
Let Christ endue our will
with grace to fortify.
Then justly, in mercy,
we'll humbly walk with God.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory O God of Light Richard Fitzgerald

Chancel Choir

O God of light, Your Word, a lamp unfailing,
Shines through the shadows of our earthbound way
O'er fear and doubt, o'er bleak despair prevailing,
Guiding our footsteps to thine eternal day.

From days of old, through swiftly rolling ages,
Thou has revealed a truth past mortal ken,
Speaking to saints, apostles, prophets, sages,
Who wrote the message with immortal pen.

Undimmed by time, those words are still revealing
To sinful souls thy justice and thy grace;
And questing hearts that long for peace and healing,
See thy compassion in the Savior's face.

Through all the world the message thou art sending,
Where countless hearts in thankful songs combine;
And myriad tongues, in one great anthem blending,
Acclaim with joy thy wondrous gift divine.

*Doxology #592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN #413

All Who Love and Serve Your City CHARLESTOWN

1 All who love and serve your city,
all who bear its daily stress,
all who cry for peace and justice,
all who curse and all who bless:

2 In your day of wealth and plenty,
wasted work and wasted play,
call to mind the word of Jesus,
"You must work while it is day."

3 For all days are days of judgment,
and the Lord is waiting still,
drawing near a world that spurns him,
offering peace from Calvary's hill.

4 Risen Lord, shall yet the city
be the city of despair?
Come today, our judge, our glory.
Be its name "The Lord is there!"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Send Forth Your Spirit" from Symphony for Organ Christopher Tambling