FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
Combined Worship Service
January 29, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE New Doxology arr. Dan Galbraith

Contemporary Ensemble

"Simple Song" from *Mass* Leonard Bernstein

Dan Swank, Tenor

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things!
People: God has remembered God's steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
People: **Break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**
All: Come, let us worship God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN #388

Come All You People (From *Glory to God* - See insert) UYAI MOSE

*Please stand if you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, you call us together as your people and walk with us as our God. You promise that even if we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we may fear no evil, for you are with us. Yet we do still fear, Lord; we fear loss; we fear uncertainty; we fear what lies ahead and are tempted to go back to where we've been, even when that did not give us life. Strengthen our hearts with your Spirit, Lord, that we may not simply endure the journey, but thrive in the midst of it; that we may not simply keep moving, but stride into your future with our hearts filled with faith, purpose, and hope.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Numbers 13 & 14, selected verses — Cynthia Simmons

Leader: The word of the Lord;
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON — The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Eureka – Finding Great Opportunity"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN — #429

Lord, You Give the Great Commission (Verses 1, 2, 4, and 5) — ABBOT'S LEIGH

1 Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
And the gospel go unheard,
Help us witness to your purpose
With renewed integrity;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us
For the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
Life abundant meant for each,
Give us all new fervor, draw us
Closer in community;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us
For the work of ministry.

4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
All that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
To a just society:
With the Spirit's gifts empower us
For the work of ministry.

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity:
With the Spirit's gifts empower us
For the work of ministry.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the *Book of Order*, Presbyterian Church (USA))

The church is called to be Christ's faithful evangelist: going into the world, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all he has commanded; demonstrating by the love of its members for one another and by the quality of its common life the new reality in Christ; sharing in worship, fellowship, and nurture, and practicing a deepened life of prayer and service under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is called and sent to participate in God's activity in the world through its life for others by healing and reconciling and binding up wounds; ministering to the needs of the poor, the sick, the lonely, and the powerless; engaging in the struggle to free people from sin, fear, oppression, hunger and injustice; and giving itself and its substance to the service of those who suffer, sharing with Christ in the establishing of his just, peaceable, and loving rule in the world. The Church is called to undertake this mission even at the risk of losing its life, trusting in God alone as the author and giver of life, sharing the gospel, and doing those deeds in the world that point beyond themselves to the new reality in Christ.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Carol Freebairn, Karla Hare, Ginny May, Doreen Sheppard

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 Thy Perfect Love — John Rutter

Chancel Choir

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest
Thy perfect love close in my breast
That I thee love and never rest
And make me love thee of all things best
And wounde my heart in thy love free
That I may reign in joy evermore with thee

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest
Thy perfect love close in my breast
That I thee love and never rest
And make me love thee of all things best
And wounde my heart in thy love free
That I may reign in joy evermore with thee

*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 #416

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation — WESTMINSTER ABBEY

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And our confidence alone.

2 To this temple, where we call You,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With Your wonted lovingkindness
Hear Your people as they pray,
And Your fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.

3 Here bestow on all Your servants
What they ask of You to gain,
What they gain from You forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Your glory
Evermore with You to reign.

4 Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory
While unending ages run.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Amazing — Brian Platt

GATHERING

388 Come All You People

Uyai mose




ya - i mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
all you peo - ple, come and praise your Mak - er;
mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
peo - ple, come and praise your Mak - er;
Ahom

Repeat
Final
u - ya - i mo - se zvi - no. Ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri, no.
come now and wor - ship the Lord. Come and praise your Mak - er, Lord.
u - ya - i mo - se zvi - no. no.
come now and wor - ship the Lord. Lord.
Ahom Ahom Ahom Ahom