



Service for the Lord's Day
Third Sunday of Epiphany

January 21, 2024

Eleven O'clock

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Robert Montgomery

CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 62

For God alone my soul waits, for my hope is from him.
God alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us. Let us worship God with open hearts!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O God of grace and hope,

Hear our prayers, and grant us your mercy.

We trust you to forgive us, even of the sins to which we are blind.

We pray for faith to know that your love is greater than all our sins.

Telling you the truth frees us, rather than condemning us.

O Jesus Christ, just as you sought your disciples and called them one by one to follow you, so now renew your call and direction in our lives.

You know our weaknesses and how small our faith can be.

So, let your faithfulness be our confidence and your words our daily guide.

Help us to follow, to go or to stay, wherever you call us to be,

and let your will be done in us and through us, now and forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE READING:

Jonah 3: 1-10

New Revised Standard Version

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Humans and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish."

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Mark 1: 14-20

New Revised Standard Version

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Apostles Creed (Traditional)

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER, CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD’S PRAYER IN UNISON

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.

THE DOXOLOGY

*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.*

BENEDICTION

On Our Hearts and in Our Prayers

Family of Jimmy Moss • Gary North • Fern Greenbank • George London • Skyler Price • Sue Hill • Verna Frey • Doris Looney • Eddie Abernathy (Marsha’s brother) • Jim Goodman • Helen Goodman • Carolana Callaway • Dora Higdon • Lois Purcell • Deborah Hunter • Joe Henegar • Ann Floyd • Nadia (Ukraine) • Ron Hardy • Joey Wakham • Karleen Dixon • Emily McDaniel • Fred Haley • Lueshell Taylor • Ricky Sharp • Melissa McClure

January Birthdays: Denise Foster-3 • Chelsea Coble-10 • Bobby Beech-12 • Salina Moorehead-18 • Don McLain-18 • Tyler Moorehead-20 • Gail Beech-21 • Helen Goodman-25 • Currey Stewart-28 • Caitlin Crowder-29 • Lily Smith-31

January Anniversaries: Nathan & Nancy Johnson-14 • Cameron & Lee Anne Coble-23 • Jayce & Nicole Pickle – 26

Announcements and Reminders

Wednesday PM Classes Have Resumed (Again)! Kids classes begin at 5 PM, and the adult class will meet at 6 PM.

New Sign-Up Lists for 2024: There are sign-up lists for 2024 on the front pews:

- Wed PM Kids Meals
- Sanctuary Flowers for Sundays

A Committee of Your Choice: There is a place for you!

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| Building and Grounds | Finance |
| Christian Education | Outreach |
| Congregational Care | Worship |

Join a Lunch/Dinner/Dessert Group! The session members will be organizing some small group times over the next few weeks to help us all get to know each other better and to spend a little time thinking about the future of our congregation. Each group will plan its own time to get together (with the session’s help), whether for a lunch, or a dinner, or a dessert or whatever will allow everyone to be there. See one of the session members (names on the back of this bulletin) to sign up!

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 13 The men of the church will be providing a pancake and sausage supper on February 13, the traditional day before the start of Lent. Everyone is invited, and if you would like to join the cooking team, see Hugh Moorehead or Ken Crowder.

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Information to Join Our Services from Home

- **Zoom Option 1:** *Join to listen by phone (audio only)*
Dial: **1 312 626 6799**
Meeting ID Number: **819 8291 3549** When it asks for a Password: **372**
- **Zoom Option 2:** *Listen and watch via the internet by computer or smart-phone:*
Go to **www.Zoom.com**
Click "**Join a Meeting**" near the top of the screen
Meeting ID Number: **819 8291 3549** Password/Passcode: **372**

You can also join via Facebook Live through our website: www.FstPreslewisburg.org