

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023
2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Gathering Music

I will call upon the Lord

I will call upon the Lord (I will call upon the Lord)
Who is worthy to be praised (Who is worthy to be praised)
So shall I be saved from my enemies (So shall I be saved from my enemies)
I will call upon the Lord (Repeat)
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,
And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

Welcome

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Call To Worship

Liturgist

L: O God, you called us by name to come,

C: In joyful obedience, we come to worship You.

Hymn

Praise, My Soul the God of Heaven

GTG #619

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven who, like me, should sing God's
praise?

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!

Praise God for the grace and favor shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing our Maker's faithfulness!

Like a loving parent caring, God knows well our feeble frame;
gladly all our burdens bearing, still to countless years the same.
Alleluia! Alleluia! All within me, praise God's name!

Angels, teach us adoration, you behold God face to face;
sun and moon and all creation, dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Confession

Liturgist

In this new year, in the shelter of God's love, let us be truthful about our lives, about our living, and about our limits. Let us offer to God, and each other, that truth as we pray together.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, Author of life and Source of all hope, Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier: hear our prayer. We know that the blank slate of a new year seems so promising – We haven't done anything too awful, not yet. And we know that the blank slate of a new year is also an illusion; Time continues, and our lives flow from one day to the next, from one year to the next. In this time, we know we are sometimes remarkable and generous, bearing light to the shadows, and we know we are sometimes full of despair and selfishness, hoarding light and goodness for ourselves. We invite you on our journeys, O God. We seek your presence with us in the darkness and in the light, in our remarkable moments and our awful ones. We seek your presence, and bask in your love, through Christ. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.

Reading from Psalm 40:1-11

Liturgist

I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him. Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods. Many, Lord, my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare. Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—but my ears you have opened — burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require. Then I said, “Here I am, I have come—it is written about me in the scroll. I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart.” I proclaim Your saving acts in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, Lord, as you know. I do not hide Your righteousness in my heart; I speak of Your faithfulness and Your saving help. I do not conceal Your love and Your faithfulness from the great assembly. Do not withhold your mercy from me, Lord; may Your love and faithfulness always protect me.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Reading from John 1:29-42

Rev. Barbara Macfie

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.” Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit

come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ I have seen and I testify that this is God’s Chosen One.” The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!” When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?” “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).

HYMN

Break Thou the Bread of Life

GTG #460

1. *Break thou the bread of life,
dear Lord, to me,
as thou didst break the loaves
beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page
I seek thee, Lord.
My spirit pants for thee,
O living Word!*

2. Bless thou the truth, dear Lord,
now unto me,
as thou didst bless the bread
by Galilee.
Then shall all bondage cease,
all fetters fall.

And I shall find my peace,
my all in all.

Sermon

Rev. Barbara Macfie

"Each Of Us Has A Unique Story To Tell"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Installation of Elders and Deacons

Affirmation of Faith:

Rev. Barbara Macfie

We believe in God, sovereign in grace and love, maker of all things. We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal Word of God, the firstborn of a new creation. We believe in God's eternal Spirit, pledge and foretaste of the future, given that we may not lose the way, who has endowed us with a diversity of gifts. We are a pilgrim people on the way to the promised goal. On this way, we are called to live and work within the faith and unity of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church. In this unity, we offer our worship, witness and service and receive one another in love and joy. We are being led to the free obedience of the children of God, and so we look with yearning and hope to the final reconciliation of humanity with God, and the renewal of all creation. Alleluia. Amen.

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**Prayers of the People and
The Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Invitation To The Offertory

Liturgist

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community, to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

Invitation To The Offertory

Liturgist

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Offertory

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Offertory Prayer

Liturgist

Good and generous God, we bring our gifts to you this day and pray you might dedicate them to your work. We confess that we have too often missed being the church you wanted and needed, and we have placed the blame on “not having enough” money, members, talent, time, or power. We needed to be reminded that we have all that we need, whatever our circumstances. Renew us, loving God, and give us a new day and another chance. In Christ’s holy name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story

GTG #462

*1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know ‘tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.*

Refrain:

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

Benediction

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Postlude

Steve Johnson