

**Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 22, 2023**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship *(Time for Silent Preparation)*



Call to Worship *(Responsively)*

Barb Finch

Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.



Invocation *(Responsively)*

Barb Finch

Holy and loving God,
we come to you,
with hopes and fears,
with convictions and doubts,
with pain and joy.
By your Spirit,
help us to see all things
in the light of your Word,
our Lord Jesus Christ.
By your Spirit,
help us to pray honestly,
to listen attentively,
to encourage one another warmly.
By your Spirit,
help us grow in the grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns forever.
All glory to you, both now and forever! Amen.



Hymn 76

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Barb Finch

We know that nothing is able to separate us
from the love of God in Jesus Christ.
Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

Prayer of Confession *(Responsively)*

Barb Finch

Lord, you showed us true humility by becoming one of us,
yet too often we practice pride.
You cried alongside your friends and for the city of Jerusalem,
yet too often we rush past the pain of others and are careless about our cities.
You loved those who were weak, despised, or cast out,
yet too often we love those who are strong, respected, or popular.
You freely forgave and healed,
yet too often we hold grudges and cause pain.
You lived a perfectly holy life,
yet too often we do not yearn for righteousness.
You prayed that we who believe in you should be united with each other and you,
yet too often we focus on the differences that separate us from other believers.
You were mocked, whipped, and even killed for us,
yet too often we deny you.
You call us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world,
yet too often we blend into or hide from our culture.
Forgive us, Lord, so that we will shine with your glory. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Barb Finch

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!



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.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God— this is your true and proper worship.

Offering

Offertory *"Even If" by Mercy Me* *Greg Maurer*

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men*

Prayer of Dedication

Merciful Father, we offer
with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
ourselves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your
gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered
himself for us—Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 2

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon *Jesus Makes a Sick Man Walk* *Dennis Leshner*

Scripture Reading *Mark 2:1-12*

2 When he entered Capernaum again after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² So many people gathered together that there was no more room, not even in the doorway, and he was speaking the word to them. ³ They came to him bringing a paralytic, carried by four of them. ⁴ Since they were not able to bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after digging through it, they lowered the mat on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵ Seeing their faith, Jesus told the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶ But some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts: ⁷ "Why does he speak like this? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸ Right away Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were thinking like this within themselves and said to them, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat, and walk'? ¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he told the paralytic— ¹¹ "I tell you: get up, take your mat, and go home."

¹² Immediately he got up, took the mat, and went out in front of everyone. As a result, they were all astounded and gave glory to God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Sermon

"Jesus Forgives and Heals"
Rev. Tim Latham

Responding
We respond to God's Word



Praise Song

His Mercy is More

*What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.*

*Chorus
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.
Our sins, they are many;
His mercy is more. Praise the mercy is more.*

*What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.
Chorus*

*What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins they are many: His mercy is more.
Chorus
Chorus*



Profession of Faith (*Nicene Creed*)

**We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Hymn 20

All People that on Earth Do Dwell



Benediction & Blessing

*This morning's Prayer Partners are
Barb Finch, Dan Obenschain*



Postlude

***Note:** As an added safety measure during worship, the downstairs entrance doors will be locked after the first hymn (approx. 10:40). Please plan your arrival time accordingly.