

Rochester Christian Reformed Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP
January 4, 2026 – 10:00 AM
Epiphany Sunday

Prelude *Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie* Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Preparing to Worship God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.
1 John 1:5

* Call to Worship

* Hymn "Jesus the Light of the World" #100

* Welcome and Greeting from God, affirmed by congregational **"Amen"**

Call to Confession

Leader: The Psalmist says:

"Let a righteous man strike me—that is a kindness; let him rebuke me—that is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it."

But we have trouble receiving even a constructive reproof.

ALL: Help us to say with the Psalmist:

"Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."

Silent Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Apostle Paul writes:

"We brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."

We, in contrast, are often greedy and selfish, thinking of what we possess and what we control as our own, forgetting that all things, and even our very lives, belong to God. Forgive us, Lord, and remind us to be generous as you are generous.

ALL: Help us to say with the Psalmist:

"Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever."

Silent Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Apostle James writes:

“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

The writer of Proverbs adds:

“An angry person stirs up conflict, and a hot-tempered person commits many sins.”

We confess, Lord, that we have too often been quick to speak and quick to become angry. What is worse, we have rationalized our behavior, feeling no remorse.

ALL: Help us to say with the Psalmist:

“Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.”

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends in Christ, the good news is that, in spite of our sins, God freely forgives us, reconciling us to himself and to each other.

As the Apostle John writes:

“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”

* Hymn

"Lord, My Petition Heed," (verses 1, 2, 5, and 6)

#889

* The Peace

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: *Acts 1: 1-11*

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation

Prayer of Application

* Hymn "In Christ There Is No East or West" (all verses in English) #268

The Lord's Supper

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: Holy and right it is and our joyful duty...

Minister: With your whole church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Affirmation of Faith

Minister: Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

ALL: Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Communion Hymn "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" #824

All'elevazione

Domenico Zipoli (1688-1726)

The Apostles' Creed #783A

Congregational Prayer

Offertory

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” *Matthew 6: 22-23*

* Hymn "Arise, Your Light Is Come" (all verses) #102

* God's Blessing, affirmed by congregational **"Amen"**

Postlude *Noel X* Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

Leading Us in Worship Today:

Minister: Bethany Miller

Organist: Ryan Chan

Liturgist: Julie Vande Brake

Congregational Song Leader: Jeff Harp

Children's Message: Sarah Smith

Offertory Deacon: Charlene DeLallo

Congregational Prayer: Beth Tschorke

Resources for Worship:

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