**Liturgy for Corporate Worship** 

Epiphany Sunday March 2, 2025

Prelude Chris Holmberg

Welcome & Announcements

Introit Choir

How Great Thou Art

Call to Worship Philippians 2:9-11

Hymn 374

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Corporate Prayer of Confession & Silent Confession

O great and everlasting God, who dwells in unapproachable light, Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature--prone to evil and slothful in good--and all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. O Lord, have mercy upon us as we are ashamed and sorry for everything in which we have displeased you. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins, for the sake of your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, help us, we beseech you to live in your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 5:17

The Gloria Patri

572

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.

**Prayer of Dedication** 

Elder Bob Daily

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. 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.

Anthem Choir

Joyful, We Adore Thee

Unison Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Hymn 520 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Sermon Rev. Pete Scribner

Ephesians 3:1-13

851

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Hymn (Hymns of Grace) 184

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Benediction Hebrews 13:20-21

Parting Hymn

God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

Our Prayer of Confession was adapted from the Book of Common Worship.

#### Featured Element of Worship: The Benediction

The word "benediction" finds its roots in the Latin words bene ("well") and dicere ("to speak"), and is rightly understood not so much as a closing prayer to God, but rather as a blessing from God to the Church. That's why our words of benediction come straight from Scripture: so that we might be certain these are God's words spoken to us! That is why in some Christian traditions, members "receive" the benediction with hands open and outstretched, their physical posture serving as a living reminder of the great gift that God is giving them.

It has been said that much as a mother might kiss her child before that child leaves for school, in a proper benediction, God is essentially saying to his children as they leave worship, "I love you and will be with you as you go!" May we all remember this truth and take it with us!



- 5. Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all; to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.
- 6. O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall; we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all; we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

St. 1–5, Edward Perronet, 1779; alt.

St. 6, John Rippon, 1787

CCLI# 594962

CORONATION C.M.rep.
Oliver Holden, 1793

ord of all.

CORONATION C.M.rep.

## Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Op'ning to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays, Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ, our Brother All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began; Father love is reigning o'er us, Brother love ginds man to man. Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife, Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

Ludvig van Beethoven, Henry van Dyke, alt. Based on theme from *Ninth symphony* Arr. Fred Bock ©1997 Fred Bock Music Co. CCLI# 594962

#### **Unison Scripture Reading....1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.



## **Sermon Text...Ephesians 3:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup> assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. <sup>13</sup> So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

## **Sermon Notes**

• A prisoner of Christ Jesus

• A recipient of Christ's mystery

• A minister of Christ's gospel

• A product of Christ's purpose

# Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery 184



Words and Music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell and Michael Bleecker

© 2013 McKinney Music, Inc. (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Love Your Enemies Publishing, The Village Church. All rights reserved.

#### **Communion at Calvary**

If you are our guest in worship today, we welcome you both to Calvary and to the Lord's Table. Our celebration of the Lord's Supper is open to all who have trusted in Christ as Savior and follow Him as Lord, that in partaking they might experience spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

Mindful not only of Scripture's promises, but also of its cautions regarding the Lord's Supper, we generally discourage <u>children</u> from partaking of the sacrament. Regardless of age, it should be shared only by those people who understand and give ascent to the historical and personal significance of the cross of Jesus Christ.

When the bread is passed to us by the Elders, each person wishing to participate is asked to remove a piece from the tray and hold it while others are being served. Then, as a symbol of our common union with Christ as one body, we shall all partake together.

When the cups are distributed, each person wishing to participate is asked to remove a cup from the tray and, as a symbol of our individual trust in Christ, to drink on our own.

We encourage worshippers to use the time during which others are being served for the thoughtful reading of Scriptures or quiet meditation and prayer.

May God nourish our spirits as we worship Him through partaking of these elements in faith, as a sign and a seal of the covenant of grace. The Flowers adorning our worship this week were provided by Laurie Goff, in celebration of Lil Goff's 80th birthday this past Wednesday, by Joe and Esma Walker, in celebration of of their son John's birthday on March 7th, and by Vivian Hall, in honor of Ruth Dunn, whose birthday would have been tomorrow.

The Flower Chart for 2025 is now posted in the Fellowship Hall on the bulletin board. Each week, the flowers on the Communion Table are sponsored by individuals who wish to celebrate an occasion or honor someone's memory. There are two vases, and you may sponsor one or both for \$15 each. After the worship service, sponsors are free to either take their flowers with them, or leave them for the deacons to deliver to someone who is homebound or in the hospital. Make sure to reserve your special days soon!

<u>Tuesdays at Two</u>: Join us each Tuesday afternoon for a time of study, prayer, and discipleship. We are currently working our way through a study of John Bunyan's classic work, *Pilgrim's Progress*, with a short Ligonier video each week by Derek Thomas, followed by discussion and application. If you need a copy of the book, please see Rev. Scribner, because we do have extras that you can use, and even if you haven't read the book or have never been to Tuesdays at Two, you are welcome to join us.

<u>Wednesday Evening Gathering</u>: Join us on Wednesday, March 5 for dinner and fellowship followed by prayer and worship. Dinner begins at 6pm, with our service following directly after at 7pm. Hope you can make it!

Offerings are received each week in the wooden donation box in the Narthex. We have placed it there as a convenience for our members and friends. If you are visiting us this Sunday, please feel no pressure to make any donation. We are glad to have you simply be our guest today, and invite you to join us for a donut and coffee in the Fellowship Hall after worship!

#### **ALERT**

In recent months, there have been multiple occasions on which people have had items stolen from their car during worship service. It appears to have been a coordinated effort, and in each case, their cars were unlocked. We are looking into heightened security strategies, but please be sure to lock your car doors during worship.

<u>Free Resources</u> - At our free resources table (under the television in the narthex) we make various items available that might be a benefit to your Christian growth. Most importantly, if you need a Bible, please take one home with you! Tabletalk and Our Daily Bread (two devotional guides) can also be found there, as can CDs of our worship services, made available shortly following each service. Please take one or request one from a past week, either for yourself or to share it with someone.

<u>Prayer Chain</u>: If you have prayer requests or would like to be involved with praying for your church family, please do not hesitate to reach out to Rev. Scribner at 618-795-4319.

<u>Prayers</u>: Be sure to remember the following members and friends of Calvary who have recently been in the hospital:

Recovering at Home:

Pat Fournier
Barb Milloy
Mary Winegarden

Wellbridge—Grand Blanc
Roberta Eisinger

## **Meditation for the Week**

See Christ's heart towards you! He came to this world for you, He laid down His life for you. And after all this, He even humbles himself to plead with you! "We are ambassadors," says Paul, "on Christ's behalf, as though God were beseeching you through us" (2 Corinthians 5:20).

"And who is so crazy," someone objects, "as not to love his own Master?" I agree, and I know that none of us would disagree in words or intent. But one who is loved wishes the love to be shown, not just in words but in life. To claim that we love someone, and not to behave as those who love, is ludicrous, not just in the sight of God, but even in the sight of other people.

To acknowledge Christ in words alone, therefore, while in our works we defy him, is both pointless and destructive. Consequently, I plead with you: let us acknowledge Christ in our deeds! Then he will also acknowledge us on the last day, when — in the presence of his Father — he will acknowledge those who are praiseworthy in Christ Jesus our Lord, through whom and with whom be glory to the Father and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

John Chrysostom (c. 347-407)

This Week at Ca	alvary
-----------------	--------

		Inis week at Calvary
Today		Worship Service with Communion followed by coffee, donuts & fellowship
	11:30	Sunday School
Tuesday	2:00	Tuesdays at Two
Wednesday		Fellowship Dinner Prayer Service
Thursday	6:30	Choir Rehearsal
Friday		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday		SET YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR
Next Sunday	9:40 10:00	Prayer in Office Conference Room (All Welcome) Worship Service followed by coffee, donuts & fellowship

Next week's sermon text is Ephesians 3:14-21. In addition to our Meditation for the Week (printed on the previous page), spend time with this text throughout the week as you prepare your heart for corporate worship next Sunday. And the February issue of Ligonier's Tabletalk is now available on the free literature table. Pick one up today as a helpful complement to your daily devotional practices.

#### **Church Staff**

Pastor	Pete Scribner
Director of Music	Susan Lechota
Music Minister	Chris Holmberg
Custodian	Vicky Haughey



Easter Boxes: The Martha-Mary Circle is once again leading a food drive for Easter. Please drop off food items in the vestibule at the church's front entrance. There are lists there of the items that are most needed. Money donated will be used to purchase meat, fresh fruit, potatoes, and other items on sale the week boxes are made. If you know someone in need this Easter, sign-up for them to receive a box of food. You will find sign-up forms on the desk in the church office. Be sure to have them filled out and returned no later than April 4th. Contact Wanda Knight with any questions.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast is next Saturday at 9am! All boys and men are welcome, and feel free to bring a friend or family member too. So that we can be sure to have enough food though, please let us know if you are planning to attend, either by calling the office or by signing up (there is a signup sheet outside the office).





<u>Daylight Saving Time</u>: Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour next Saturday night (March 8th) so that you arrive on time for corporate worship next Sunday!

# Calvary Presbyterian Church

March 2, 2025



Our Mission - We exist to know, worship, serve, and enjoy the one true God.

Our Vision - We seek to love God completely, love others selflessly, and everywhere proclaim Christ: crucified, risen, and reigning forever.

6100 Richfield Rd. Flint, MI 48506

www.CalvaryFlint.com 810-736-4100