

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Second Sunday after the Epiphany – January 18, 2026

Land Acknowledgement

I want to acknowledge I am leading worship from Treaty 4 Territory
the traditional homeland of the Cree, Ojibwe, Saukteaux (SOTO),
Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and the Métis Nations

Responsive Call to Worship

O Lord, open our lips,

And our mouths shall declare your praise.

O Lord, open our eyes,

So that we may behold your presence.

O Lord, open our ears,

So that we may hear your call to follow.

O Lord, open our hearts,

So that we may offer you worship in love and joy.

Hymn 767 Lord, speak to me

**1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children lost and lone.**

**2. Oh lead me, Lord, that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet;
oh feed me, Lord, that I may feed
your hungering ones with manna sweet.**

**3. Oh teach me, Lord, that I may teach
the precious truths that you impart,
and wing my words, that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.**

**4. Oh fill me with your fullness, Lord,
until my heart shall overflow
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, your praise to show.**

**5. Oh use me, Lord, use even me
just as you will, and when, and where,
until at last your face I see,**

your rest, your joy, your glory share.

Prayer of Praise (*minister*)

Hymn 677 My faith looks up to thee

**1. My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Saviour divine:
now hear me when I pray;
take all my guilt away;
oh let me from this day
be wholly thine.**

**2. May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart;
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
oh may my love to thee
pure, warm and changeless be,
a living fire.**

**3. While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness tum to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.**

**4. When ends life's transient dream,
when death's cold sullen stream
shall o'er me roll,
blest Saviour, then, in love,
fear and distrust remove;
oh bear me safe above,
a ransomed soul.**

Prayer of Confession (*congregation*)

Faithful God, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost yet it's hard to recognize we have lost our way. We seek the next new thing instead of your gift of new life. We follow the trends of our culture rather than Jesus' example. Wash over us with your cleansing Spirit and renew our

commitment to follow your purposes revealed in Christ Jesus.

- silent confession –

The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

**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, the power, and the glory. For
ever and ever. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (minister)

Hymn 569 O Jesus, I have promised

**1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Saviour and my friend:
I shall not fear the struggle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.**

**2. Oh let me feel thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
around me and within,
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.**

**3. Oh let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
oh speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;**

**oh speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.**

**4. O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be,
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
oh give me grace to follow
my Saviour and my friend.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 40:1-11 p. 490 NT & Psalms

¹I waited patiently for the Lord to help me,
and he turned to me and heard my cry.

**²He lifted me out of the pit of despair,
out of the mud and the mire.
He set my feet on solid ground
and steadied me as I walked along.**

³He has given me a new song to sing,
a hymn of praise to our God.

Many will see what he has done and be amazed.
They will put their trust in the Lord.

**⁴Oh, the joys of those who trust the Lord,
who have no confidence in the proud
or in those who worship idols.**

⁵O Lord my God, you have performed many wonders for us.
Your plans for us are too numerous to list.
You have no equal.

If I tried to recite all your wonderful deeds,
I would never come to the end of them.

**⁶You take no delight in sacrifices or offerings.
Now that you have made me listen, I finally understand—
you don't require burnt offerings or sin offerings.**

⁷Then I said, "Look, I have come.
As is written about me in the Scriptures:

**⁸I take joy in doing your will, my God,
for your instructions are written on my heart."**

⁹I have told all your people about your justice.
I have not been afraid to speak out,

as you, O Lord, well know.

¹⁰I have not kept the good news of your justice hidden in my heart;

**I have talked about your faithfulness and saving power.
I have told everyone in the great assembly
of your unfailing love and faithfulness.**

¹¹Lord, don't hold back your tender mercies from me.

Let your unfailing love and faithfulness always protect me.

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 49:1-7	p. 596 pew Bible
1 Corinthians 1:1-9	p. 283 NT & Psalms
John 1:29-42	p. 159 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Who should we follow?

Prayers of the People (*minister*)

Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)

**Gracious God, we offer you our gifts with humble hearts.
Each gift seems small on its own, so bless each one and those
of your people throughout the Church. Through the work of
your Holy Spirit, surprise us with all that our gifts can
accomplish, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn 760 Where cross the crowded ways of life

**1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.**

**2. In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds, dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.**

**3. From tender childhood's helplessness,
from woman's grief, man's burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,
your heart has never known recoil.**

**4. The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the sweet compassion of your face.**

**5. O Saviour, from the mountain side,
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide,
oh tread the city's streets again;**

**6. Till human hearts shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heaven above,
shall come the city of our God.**

Choral Blessing

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will be with you each hour of every day.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Benediction

Three-fold Amen

Piano Postlude