

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Third Sunday after the Epiphany – January 25, 2026

Land Acknowledgement

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

Responsive Call to Worship

The Lord is our light and salvation.

We will not be afraid.

Behold the beauty of the Lord!

**God will shelter us on any day of trouble and set us high
upon a rock.**

Let God's people shout for joy!

**For Christ calls us and claims us as his own. Come and
worship in unity and love; let us rejoice together!**

Hymn 15 The Lord's my light

**1. The Lord's my light and saving health;
who shall make me dismayed?
God is the stronghold of my life:
who shall make me afraid?**

**2. Though wars arise and armies camp
against me, I'll not fear;
I will stand firm and confident:
I know that God is near.**

**3. One thing I asked of God the Lord,
and will seek to obtain,
that all days of my life I may
within God's house remain;**

**4. that I the beauty of the Lord
may worship and admire,
that I in God's most holy place
may reverently enquire.**

**5. In evil, troubled days, my God
will hide and shelter me,
and raise me high upon a rock**

above my enemy.

6. Now I will offer sacrifice
for all God's saving grace,
with melody unto the Lord
and joyful shouts of praise!

Prayer of Praise (*minister*)

Hymn 672 Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult

1. Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
of our life's wild restless sea;
day by day his voice still calls us
saying, "Christian, follow me."
2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and work and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.
3. Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."
4. In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
Jesus calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."
5. Jesus calls us: by your mercies,
Saviour, may we hear your call,
give our hearts in glad obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

Prayer of Confession (*congregation*)

Merciful God, you call us to follow your way of compassion but too often we criticize each other. You call us to follow your way of peace but too often we remain divided. You call us to trust you but too often our fears and doubts overwhelm us. Forgive us, O God, and strengthen our commitment to follow your ways.

- 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 645 "Follow me," the Master said

1. "Follow me," the Master said:

we will follow Jesus.

By his word and Spirit led,

we will follow Jesus.

Still for us he lives to plead,

at the throne will intercede,

offers help in time of need;

we will follow Jesus.

2. Should the world and sin oppose,

we will follow Jesus.

He is greater than our foes;

we will follow Jesus.

On his promise we depend;

he will hear us and defend,

help and keep us to the end;

we will follow Jesus.

3. Though the way may dark appear,

we will follow Jesus.

He will make our pathway clear;

we will follow Jesus.

In our daily round of care,

as we plead with God in prayer,

with the cross which we must bear,

we will follow Jesus.

4. Ever keep that end in view;

**we will follow Jesus.
All his promises are true;
we will follow Jesus.
When this earthly course is run,
and the Master says, "Well done!"
life eternal we have won;
we will follow Jesus.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 27:1, 4-9p. 477 NT & Psalms

¹The Lord is my light and my salvation—
so why should I be afraid?

The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger,
so why should I tremble?

**⁴The one thing I ask of the Lord—
the thing I seek most—
is to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
delighting in the Lord's perfections
and meditating in his Temple.**

⁵For he will conceal me there when troubles come;
he will hide me in his sanctuary.
He will place me out of reach on a high rock.

**⁶Then I will hold my head high
above my enemies who surround me.
At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy,
singing and praising the Lord with music.**

⁷Hear me as I pray, O Lord.

Be merciful and answer me!

**⁸My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me."
And my heart responds, "Lord, I am coming."**

**⁹Do not turn your back on me.
Do not reject your servant in anger.
You have always been my helper.**

**Don't leave me now; don't abandon me,
O God of my salvation!**

New Living Translation (NLT)

Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 9:1-4 p. 559 pew Bible

1 Corinthians 1:10-18 p. 283 NT & Psalms

Matthew 4:12-23 p. 7 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon A great light

Prayers of the People (*minister*)

Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)

God of the fishers who first followed Jesus, you have called us to follow and here we are. We offer what we have and ask you to bless our gifts. Give us the courage we need to invite others to join us in following Jesus, our friend and saviour. Amen.

Hymn 171 The people that in darkness

- 1. The people that in darkness pined
have seen a glorious light;
the people dwell in day, who dwelt
in death's surrounding night.**
- 2. To hail your rise, O better Sun,
the gathering nations come,
rejoicing as when reapers bear
the harvest treasures home.**
- 3. To us a Child of hope is born,
to us a Son is given,
and on his shoulders ever rests
all power in earth and heaven.**
- 4. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
forevermore adored,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the great and mighty Lord.**
- 5. His reign of righteous government
shall over all extend,
for peace and justice shall abound
in this world without end.**

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