

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
February 2, 10:00 AM
Rev. Rosemary Dawson, Designated Pastor
David Cavallin, Music Director

PRELUDE

David Cavallin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Pastor: Let us welcome one another with the gifts of God's peace

***MOMENT OF CENTERING**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sharon Tilbe

One: Gather this day before God, who is our refuge and defense.
Sing praise to the God of faithfulness and goodness.

All: We remember God's mighty deeds and saving works.
With hope, we place our trust in God.

One: In Jesus Christ, God speaks to us with gracious words.
God invites us to come with open ears and eager anticipation.

All: We gather to consider and understand the ways of God.
We seek to be strengthened in God's wisdom and power.

One: God touches our lips and calls us to speak.
God empowers us to minister in Christ's name.

All: God's word of love and justice is ours to proclaim.
We commit ourselves to living for the glory of Christ.

***HYMN**

"God is Here"

Black #70

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, we are in awe that you have claimed us as your people. You have called us to a new way of being but we resist your will. Our intentions hinder your guidance and our concerns leave little room for your call. O God, have mercy on us, expand our horizons to encompass possibilities we have not perceived, and open our hearts to people we have not regarded. Transform us into your witnesses in the name of Christ. Amen.

*** SILENT PRAYER**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***Please rise in body or Spirit**

***SONG OF PRAISE**

“Bless His Holy Name”

Blue #13

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is with - in me, Bless His
ho - ly Name. He has done great things, He has done great
things, He has done great things, Bless His ho - ly Name.

Fine
D.C. al Fine

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Sharon Tilbe

This reading tells of Jeremiah’s call to prophetic ministry (which began before the fall of Jerusalem 627-586 BCE.) His ministry was to speak God’s truth to corrupt power. Yet Jeremiah’s call focuses on God’s sovereignty amidst danger, fear, and inadequacy. God’s assurance of deliverance to Jeremiah continues to support Christian communities throughout the generations, and offers courage and comfort to us today.

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’ for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.” Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Luke 4:14-30

The Holy Spirit is a major actor in Luke’s Gospel and in its sequel, the Acts of the Apostles. Jesus is the one who is quintessentially filled with, empowered, and guided by the Spirit. In this account, Jesus speaks publicly of his anointing by the Spirit and the mission he will fulfill. It also reveals people’s reactions to him.

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

***Please rise in body or Spirit**

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?” He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown.

But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

SERMON

“A Hard Truth”

Rev. Rosemary Dawson

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

David Cavallin

***HYMN**

“O God of Strength”

Black #534

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

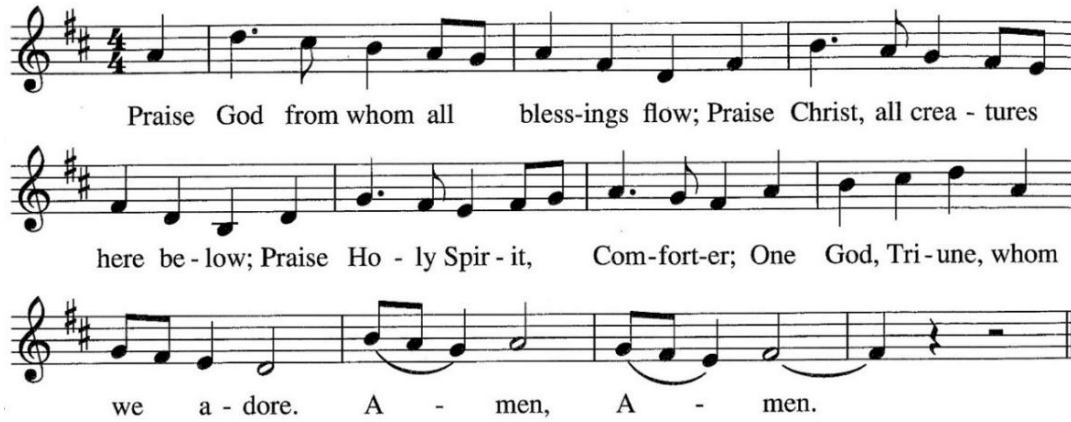
OFFERING

Invitation

***Doxology**

Black #776

***Please rise in body or Spirit**



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures
here be - low; Praise Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er; One God, Tri - une, whom
we a - dore. A - men, A - men.

***Prayer Of Dedication**

For the saving mission of Jesus Christ, we thank you God. For your call to extend Christ's ministry, we are humbly grateful. With open hearts we reinvest our resources and our lives to follow your purposes. Bless us and our offerings for your glory. Amen

COMMUNION

Hymn

As We Gather at Your Table"

Black #332

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Consecration

Service by Intinction

Prayer of Gratitude

Lord Jesus, we have received your word and tasted your grace. Now may your Spirit strengthen and guide us as we seek to live as your disciples and servants in the world. Amen.

***HYMN**

"O Jesus I Have Promised"

Black #493

***COMMON COMMISSION**

Let us go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast to that which is good, rendering to no one evil for evil, strengthening the fainthearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all persons, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

***BENEDICTION**

David Cavallin

***Please rise in body or Spirit**



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