

**St. John's Reformed Church
January 29, 2023 - 10:00 A.M.
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Please join responsively by speaking aloud the bolded sections.

Pre-Prelude *Jane Bier, Organist*
Announcements and Hospitality *Pastor Alisha*

Our Approach to God

Prelude *Jane Bier, Organist*
Votum *Elizabeth Young, Liturgist*

Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe. In your wisdom you have made all creation to worship you now in this time and place, in unity with prophets, martyrs, and saints from all times and places...

Call to Worship

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.'"

Praise the Lord! -from Psalm 89:1-4

*Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* #521 v. 1-3

Salutation & Prayer of Invocation *Pastor Alisha*

Prayer of Confession *Elizabeth Young, Liturgist*

**God of grace, you have given us Jesus, the light of the world,
But we choose darkness and cling to things that hide the brightness of your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life. Baptize us with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach and live your Word and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our light forever. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

*Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.*

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Alisha

Summary of the Law: Micah 6:8, NRSV

“He has told you, O mortal, what’s good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?” **May the Spirit guide us to be obedient to this Word. Amen.**

*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.*

Musical meditation

Jane Bier, Organist

The Word of God in Proclamation

Prayer of Illumination

Elizabeth Young, Liturgist

Lesson from the Old Testament: Micah 6:1-8 (p. 866)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Lesson from the Psalms: Psalm 15 (p. 495)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn *Blest Are They* #117 v. 1-3

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12 (pg. 4, New Testament)

Sermon

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Prayer for Blessing

Our Response to God's Grace

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed *Elizabeth Young*, Liturgist

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will 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.

*meaning the universal Christian church-all believers in Jesus Christ

*The Peace, The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

The Offering

Offertory

Jane Bier, Organist

*Doxology ***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

**God of wonder,
we offer you these humble gifts,
signs of your goodness and mercy.
Receive them with our gratitude,
that through us all people may know
the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.**

Prayers for the People of God

The Lord's Prayer (use 'trespasses')

*Hymn *God of Mercy, God of Grace* #934 v 1-3

Benediction

*Congregational Amen “Go Now in Peace”

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with us each hour of every day.
Go now in faith steadfast strong and true.
Know he will guide us in all we do.
Go now in love, and show we believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and, in love.*

*Postlude

Jane Bier, Organist

**Indicates congregation to stand if able.*