

## Epiphany Sunday

10:30 a.m.

January 7, 2024

### GATHERING

*The people of God come together in the Lord's name*

**Prelude** - *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* - Diane Bish

**Introit** - *Oh, Come Let Us Sing* - Ruth Schram

#### **Call to Worship**

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,

**ascribe to the Lord, glory and strength.**

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name,

**worship the Lord in holy array.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the water.

**The God of glory thunders, the Lord is upon many waters.**

The voice of the Lord is powerful.

**The voice of God is full of majesty. Let us praise the name of the Lord!**

**Opening Hymn 154\*\*** - *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

*All hail the power of Jesus' name!*

*Let angels prostrate fall,*

*let angels prostrate fall;*

*bring forth the royal diadem,*

*and crown him, crown him,*

*crown him, crown him,*

*and crown him Lord of all.*

*Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,*

*ye ransomed from the fall,*

*ye ransomed from the fall,*

*hail him who saves you by his grace,*

*and crown him, crown him,*

*crown him, crown him,*

*and crown him Lord of all.*

*Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget*

*the wormwood and the gall,*

*the wormwood and the gall,*

*go spread your trophies at his feet,*

*and crown him, crown him,*

*crown him, crown him,*

*and crown him Lord of all.*

### **Invocation**

**Living God, when the Spirit descended on Jesus at his baptism on Jordan's water you revealed him as your own beloved Son. You anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior now and forever. Amen.**

### **PROCLAMATION**

*The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.*

**Scripture Reading** - Psalm 72:1-4; 17-20 (Old Testament p. 533/504)

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

**Gloria Patri** (sung)

**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.**

**God's Word for Young Disciples**

**Baptism** (Hymnal p. 33)

(Congregation will sing Hymn 611 - *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*)

*Child of blessing, child of promise,  
baptized with the Spirit's sign;  
with this water God has sealed you  
unto love and grace divine.*

*Child of love, our love's expression,  
love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits,  
into joy and laughter lead.*

*Child of joy, our dearest treasure,  
God's you are, from God you came.  
Back to God we humbly give you;  
live as one who bears Christ's name.*

*Child of God your loving Parent,  
learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,  
trust and love God more than all.*

**Anthem** - *The Work of Christmas* - Dan Forrest

**Scripture Reading** - Matthew 2:1-12 (New Testament p. 2/1)

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

**Sermon** - *Over Us All to Reign*

Pastor Jon Priebe

## RESPONSE

*The people of God respond to the Word*

### **Hymn of Response 252\*\*** - *When Jesus Came to Jordan*

*When Jesus came to Jordan  
To be baptised by John  
He did not come for pardon  
But as His Father's Son  
He came to share repentance  
With all who mourn their sins  
To speak the vital sentence  
With which good news begins*

*He came to share temptation  
Our utmost woe and loss  
For us and our salvation  
To die upon the cross  
So when the Dove descended  
On Him the Son of Man  
The hidden years had ended  
The age of grace began*

*Come Holy Spirit aid us  
To keep the vows we make  
This very day invade us  
And every bondage break  
Come give our lives direction  
The gift we covet most  
To share the resurrection  
That leads to Pentecost*

### **Discipleship Moment**

**Offertory** - *Rock of Ages* - Diane Bish  
(Please fill out the attendance sheet found in the pew.)

### **Doxology\*\***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## SENDING FORTH

*The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith*

### **Closing Hymn 247\*\*** - *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

*O Morning Star, how fair and bright  
thou beamest forth in truth and light,  
O Sovereign meek and lowly!  
Thou Root of Jesse, David's Son,  
my Lord and Master, thou has won  
my heart to serve thee solely!  
Thou art holy,  
fair and glorious, all-victorious,  
rich in blessing,  
rule and might o'er all possessing.*

*Thou heavenly Brightness! Light divine!  
O deep within my heart now shine,  
and make thee there an altar!  
fill me with joy and strength to be  
thy member, ever joined to thee  
in love that cannot falter;  
toward thee longing  
doth possess me; turn and bless me;  
here in sadness  
eye and heart long for thy gladness.*

*What joy to know, when life is past,  
the Lord we love is first and last,  
the end and the beginning?  
He will one day, O glorious grace,  
transport us to that happy place  
beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen!  
Come Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness, we are yearning for the day of your returning.*

**Benediction and Response** - *As We Leave This Sacred Place* - Ruth Schram

**Postlude** - *March on the Old Hundredth* - Brenda Portman



**Being Baptized Today: Weston Charles Monda, son of Abigail Morrison and Kyle Monda.**

**The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and given:**

in loving memory of Chuck Marciniak, by Chuckie Marciniak

in loving memory of Dan Patrino, by his family

**Music:** One License A-731491

## CHURCH NOTES

**Children's Ministries:** Evening Children's Activities will begin again next week. Bell rehearsals are at 4:00 p.m., choirs are at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner and ROCK activities including the Wesley Youth Group until 7:00 p.m. Please come join us as we begin our winter session.

**Thinking about joining First Church?** We want to help you get connected through our Discipleship Pathway. Discovery, our first class, begins next Sunday, January 14, at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. It will be led by Pastor Jon. Come and discover who we are as a denomination and local church serving this community. For questions and sign-up, please see or contact Pastor Pippin.

**Daniel: Lives of Integrity, Words of Prophecy:** This study by Beth Moore will be the next one offered by the Women's Bible Study. The prophet Daniel faced unbelievable pressures to compromise his faith, to live in a hostile culture, and to confront temptations and threats. Today, believers in Jesus Christ face many of the same trials. The first portion deals with that, while the second portion explores thrilling prophecies from the time of Daniel through the second coming of Christ. They meet on Tuesdays (7-9 pm) or Wednesdays (10 am-noon) beginning January 30/31. The cost is \$20. Please contact Kathy Kuzas by January 16 at 330-923-5241 x 212 to register.

**Hats, Gloves, Scarves Mission:** We have started our annual mission now that winter is here. We are asking for new or gently-used gloves/mittens/winter hats, scarves, or new socks. The donation table is located across from the church library. Items may be left there, or if the line is empty, please feel free to bag the items, then place them directly outside on the line.

## ANTHEM

*The Work of Christmas.* – Dan Forrest.

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among brothers, To make music from the heart.

## NEXT STEPS

### The Rightful King

The first \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus were non-\_\_\_\_\_ from Persia

Matthew only calls Herod “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” until the \_\_\_\_\_ arrive

### I Respectfully Disagree

*Eph. 3:10* – \_\_\_\_\_ in difference displays God's \_\_\_\_\_

this helps teach us \_\_\_\_\_: “I may be \_\_\_\_\_, but...”

*Matthew 5:22* – in conflict, we must \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts from \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions for Reflection:**

Are there some kinds of Christians who really make me uncomfortable? If the variety in the church helps display God's wisdom, what can I learn of God's wisdom from them?

**Question for Discussion:**

Share a time when you saw the diversity and difference of those who follow Christ. Are you usually around Christians who are like you or who think differently?

**Memory Verse:** *Ephesians 3:10* – “so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.”

**Readings for this Week:** Genesis 1:24-31, Acts 10:1-16, Philippians 2:1-4

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –  
PRAYER BULLETIN  
JANUARY 7, 2024**

**MINISTERS & STAFF:**

Forrest Waller

**HOSPITALIZED:**

**MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:**

Scott Adie	Mark & Cindy Blaser
Bob Ahonen	Lee Minier
Debbie Amundsen	Kathi Sawyer
Glenn Atwood	Christina Shaw
Jim Bailey	Martha Shoults
Bill & Janet Blank	Ken Tunstall
Mark & Cindy Blaser	

**DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:**

Patt Combs and family on the death of her husband, member Ed Combs on 12/23.