

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given

in loving memory of my parents, Paul & Florence Jones, and brother Don,
given by Carol Lewis

in loving memory of Bill Blank, given by his family

Music—One License A-731491

Children's Anthem Lyrics—*May God's Love*—Gullickson

May God's love keep you warm, Free from danger, free from harm;

Calm your fear, dry your tears, Keep you in Love's waiting arms.

For the Lord's love is pure, Ever faithful, ever sure.

Have no fear, God is near, And love's patience will endure.

May God's love flow in you, May God's love begin to grow in you;

Large and small, loving all, Ever faithful, ever true.

Anthem Lyrics—*Missa Festive: Agnus Dei*—J. Leavitt

Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Grant us thy peace.
Amen.

Offertory Lyrics—*The Lord Is My Shepherd*—Allen Pote

Based on Psalm 23

**Please stand as you are able.

Clergy & Staff

Jon Priebe, Lead Minister

Howard Pippin, Associate Minister

Marvin Brown, Senior Minister Emeritus

Dean Wagner, Director of Music/Organist

Tim Zuschin, Assistant Chancel Choir Director

Donna Curfman, Director of Children's Ministries

Jennifer Brooks, Director of *Weekday Christian Preschool*

Contact Information

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Sunday Worship Service and Live-streaming at 10:45 am.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

10:45 am

February 9, 2025

GATHERING

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude—*Benedictus*—Alec Rowley

Introit—*The Spirit of the Lord Fills the Whole World*—Charles Callahan

Call to Worship—

Let the words of our mouths

And the meditation of our hearts

Be acceptable in your sight, O Lord,

Our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

Opening Hymn 674**—*See the Morning Sun Ascending*

Invocation (please be seated)—*Prayer of Saint Richard of Chichester*

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.

Scripture Reading—*Psalms 71:14-19*

Gloria Patri—*Glory Be to the Father* (Hymnal p. 70)

Children's Anthem—*May God's Love*—Gullickson

Children's Choir

Gods Word for Young Disciples—

Anthem—*Missa Festive: Agnus Dei*—John Leavitt

Epworth Choir
Wilbur Chase, soloist

PROCLAMATION

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

Scripture Readings—*Mark 6:30-34*

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

Sermon—"Why Do We...Proclaim?"

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The People of God respond to the Word.

Hymn of Response 156**—*I Love to Tell the Story*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory—*The Lord Is My Shepherd*—Allen Pote

Chancel Choir

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.

Prayer 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 598**—*O Word of God Incarnate*

Benediction—*Into the Coming Days*—Ruth Elaine Schram

Postlude—*Choral Prelude on "Miles Lane" (All Hail the Power)*—Rowley

OPENING HYMN

Hymn #674, See the Morning Sun Ascending

1. See the morning sun ascending,
radiant in the eastern sky;
hear the angel voices blending
in their praise to God on high!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high!
2. So may we, in lowly station,
join the choristers above;
singing with the whole creation,
praising thee for thy great love.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God above!
3. For the loving-kindness ever
shed upon our earthly way;
for thy mercy, ceasing never,
for thy blessing day by day:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God alway!
4. "Wisdom, honor, power, and blessing!"
with the angelic host we cry;
round thy throne, thy name confessing,
Lord, we would to thee draw nigh.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high!

GLORIA PATRI

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.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #156, I Love to Tell the Story

1. I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story,
'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

2. I love to tell the story;
more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies
of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story,
it did so much for me;
and that is just the reason
I tell it now to thee. (Refrain)

3. I love to tell the story;
'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy Word. (Refrain)
4. I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story
that I have loved so long. (Refrain)

CLOSING HYMN

Hymn #598, O Word of God Incarnate

1. O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.
2. The church from you, our Savior, received the gift divine,
and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the sacred vessel where gems of truth are stored;
it is the heaven-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.
3. The Scripture is a banner before God's host unfurled;
it is a shining beacon above the darkling world.
It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging tide,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands, to you, O Christ, will guide.
4. O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
to bear before the nations your true light as of old.
O teach your wandering pilgrims by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended, they see you face to face.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Scott Adie	
Bob Ahonen	Lee Miller
Joanne Ames	Lee Minier
Debbie Amundsen	Becky & Jerry Pecko
Mary Ellen Atwood	Becky Petty
Dorothy Bates	Robbie Robinson
Mark & Cindy Blaser	Holly Ross
Suzanne Callahan	Kathi Sawyer
Mary Griest	Todd Schneider
Lilly Kennedy	Kathy Walker
Dwight Konic	Bette Wenk
Judy Lewis	Mike Yeager
Marge Magee	Rose Ann Youngkin
	Tim Zuschin

Our Deepest Sympathy & Prayers:

Brent Meyers & family on the death of his father, Carter Meyers on 1/28

The Meeker & McKenna family on the death of their mother, member Lois Meeker on 1/26

Christie Rosencrance & family on the death of her father, member Jim Henes on 1/19

Mike Zrelak & family on the death of his brother, Jim Zrelak on 1/23

In our greater world: We lift up the families of those lost in the recent aircraft crashes. We continue to pray for those fighting and affected by the LA wildfires. We lift up Tallmadge UMC and Twin Falls UMC.

CHURCH NOTES 2-9-25

Boy Scout Breakfast: Going on TODAY until 12:30pm. Free breakfast, free-will donations accepted.

Singer's Company: Join us for "A Winter Evening" Concert. Wednesday, February 12 @7:30pm here in the Sanctuary.

All Church Meeting: We will have updates/reports on the stewardship campaign and budget, introduce the Church Square MOU, and have a brief survey. Please plan on attending **February 16, after the 10:45am service.** Thank you!

2025 Golf League: It's time to start thinking spring! We are in need of 6 golfers, men, women, and youth, to join our 2025 golf league. We meet Wednesday evenings at Fox Den (first tee 4:45pm) beginning the first week of May. If interested please contact Jim Ward, Jim Yates, or Jim Boss for more information.

2025 Toddler Time & 2026 Registration: A program for toddlers aged 2 and their caregivers. This interactive class will feature music and songs, fingerplays and stories, art activities, and play. We still have openings for 2025. Preregistration for the 2025-26 school year is now available. Please contact Jennifer at 330-923-5243 with questions about either program.

Teacher Appreciation Brunch: Have you taught a Sunday School class this year? Led a Bible Study? Helped with our Children's programs? If so, please join the Spiritual Formation Committee for a casual brunch reception on February 16 from 9:00 to 11:00am in the Parlor. Stop in for a selection of treats as we celebrate your contributions to our church family!

Ecumenical Ash Wednesday: First Christian Church (next door) will host this year's Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service @7:00pm on March 5. Hope to see you there.

Annual Pasta Dinner Fundraiser: benefitting Epworth Choir's *Spring Tour*. Saturday, March 15, from 4:30 to 7:00pm. The University of Akron choir will be here for a special performance after the meal. The cost is \$10 pre-sale, \$12 at the door for adults, \$5 for children ages 4-10 and free for children 3 and under. See an Epworth choir member or stop by the church office to purchase tickets.

Why do we...preach?

After the gathering of the church, the scriptures are read and proclaimed vs. 34 – when the crowds gathered, Jesus began to teach them
For Methodists, this is typically in song, sermon, and a message for children

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

What do you expect from a preacher and from yourself during a sermon?

Psalm 71:15 – I preach because of the steadfast love and mercy of God

“What do you have to say to me today, Lord?”

Questions for Reflection:

What are you doing during a sermon?

What are you expecting from the preacher?

What are you expecting of yourself when you're engaging with a sermon?

What steps do or could I take to help myself grow through what God is teaching me or transforming in me through worship?

Questions for Discussion:

What kinds of things do you tend to remember most from sermons?

Memory Verse:

Isaiah 55:3a – “Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.”

Readings for this Week:

1 Peter 4:1-10, Mark 6:34-44, Psalm 19:7-10