



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 30, 2022

Some tips for our time together:

1. Please mute your Zoom feed. There will be moments for you to share as you feel led at which point you can unmute.
2. As is typical, the singing and bold print are for communal response. Caroline and Dave will be unmuted and be the “out-loud” voice of the people. We invite you to sing and say the words aloud along with them where you are while muted.
3. Follow along in the bulletin on a separate device (e.g. phone)
4. We aren’t sure, but it might make sense to switch back and forth between the ‘gallery’ and ‘active speaker’ modes. Perhaps utilizing active speaker mode for the reading of scripture, homily/sharing, and prayers of the people, while using gallery for the rest.
5. Create sacred space. Find symbols of the faith—cross, candles, Bible, bowl of water, icons—to put on a table near you during this time.
6. Asterisks in the bulletin indicate where the congregation is invited to stand.

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP* (*adapted from Thorndale UMC*)

We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

We are the salt of the earth.

We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

We are the light of the world.

We are called to follow the commandments and the law.

The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.

Come, let us be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

Come, let us love one another with the love of God.

Let us join together in our love of God, to worship and to follow Jesus.

SONG* - God is Love

God is love, and love will never fail me.
God is love, and love will never fail me.
When my faith is forgotten
and my fears keep growing stronger,
God is love, and love will never fail me.

God is love, and love will never fail me.
God is love, and love will never fail me.
When my hope is decaying
and despair seems to surround me,
God is love, and love will never fail me.

God is love, and love will never fail me.
God is love, and love will never fail me.
When my answers have failed me
and I need to find a Savior,
God is love, and love will never fail me.

SONG* - O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free.
Rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me.

Underneath me, all around me
is the current of your love.
Leading onward, leading homeward
to thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
tis a heaven of heavens to me.
And it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to thee.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
spread his praise from shore to shore.
How he loveth, ever loveth,
changeth never, nevermore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*adapted from MinistryMatters*)

Loving God,
you call us into community
and bless us with abundant life,
yet we turn aside to follow other paths.
We take the easy way out,
listening to the world's call
rather than your call to commitment;
we quarrel with one another,
letting differences divide us;
we cherish our resentments,
shutting off our hearts
from forgiveness and reconciliation;
we cling to petty jealousies,
feeling we deserve more than we have.
Forgive us when we wander from your love.
Draw us into community with each other,
and feed us with your grace,
that we may grow in faithfulness
and work together in peace.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

SONG* - Ubi Caritas

Ubi caritas et amor,
ubi caritas, Deus ibi es.

Live in charity and steadfast love,
live in charity, God will dwell with you.

WORD

EPISTLE LESSON - 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away

all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

GOSPEL LESSON* - Luke 4:21-30

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 not this 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 home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.” ’ And he said, ‘Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s home town. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for 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 lepers 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Pastor Dave

RESPONSE

SONG - I Then Shall Live

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am his child, and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardon'd, I'll forgive another;
the law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving, too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
then I'll be there to care and follow through.

Your kingdom come around and through and in me,
your pow'r and glory, let them shine through me;
your hallowed name, oh, may I bear with honor,
and may your living kingdom come in me.
The bread of life, oh, may I share with honor,
and may you feed a hungry world through me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

(To give online, visit rescov.org/give)

DOXOLOGY*

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

HOLY COMMUNION

SENDING

SONG* - For Everyone Born

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overheard.

Chorus

And God will delight
when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion, and peace.
Yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy.

For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and color,
for gay and for straight, the chalice of grace.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out,
to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*