

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2016

Scriptural Meditation

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit. ⁵ There are different ways to serve the same Lord, ⁶ and we can each do different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do. 1 Corinthians 12:4-5

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of Our Church Bell

Welcome and Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Prelude *Faithfulness* by D. Wagner

Call to Worship

One: God created all the races and nations of the world and willed that we live together in peace and harmony.

All: God made us to be family.

One: There is strife in the human family; injustice abounds as racism, classism, sexism, cultural imperialism and other isms. We are a divided people.

All: God made us to be family.

One: We have been called to let justice roll down like waters.

All: God made us to be family.

One: We must work passionately to bridge the gulf between us, overcome the injustices that oppress us, and restore community among us.

All: God made us to be family.

One: We must be determined enough to change what we can.
We must have the courage to accept what we cannot change.
Above all, we must be wise enough to know the difference.

All: God made us to be family.

[Based on the Writings of Dr. Martin Luther King]

Prayer of Invocation

*** Gathering Song** *Great is Thy Faithfulness* #39

*** Prayer of Reconciliation**

Let us remain standing and express ourselves to God.

All: Lord, how we must try your patience! We often doubt, when we should place our faith in your abiding presence. We think that we have to have all the answers, and judge others who fail to live up to our expectations. Help us to really understand the miraculous ways in which you have already worked in our lives and in others, and will continue to work as we journey in faith. Bring us to your Light, and let it flood through our whole beings, that we may be transformed into people of joyful service and faith. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

***A Time for Contemplation** (a private time for you and God)

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

One: God's love is continually poured out for us.
Drink from the cup of forgiveness and compassion, dear ones.
Believe the good news of the Gospel.

All: In Christ's love we are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri** # 581

**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 Little Ears with Sandy Wilhelm and Pastor Kim

Heifer Project

Recognition of Birthdays and Anniversaries

A Song of Blessing (Adapted from an Irish Blessing, Tune: *Amazing Grace*)

***May joy and peace surround you,
contentment at your door,
And happiness be with you now,
God bless you evermore.***

~Hearing God's Word~

Prayer for Understanding God's Word

All: Beloved One, open our ears and our hearts to your words—words of love, of belonging, of transformation, of strength. Help us to claim your words as our own. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 62:1-5 page 692

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Thy Perfect Love* by John Rutter

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, Thy perfect love close in my breast.
That I thee love and never rest; And make me love all things best,
And wounde my heart in thy love free, That I may reign in joy evermore with thee.
[Text: 15th Century]

New Testament Epistle Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 12:1-11 page 174

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Lesson John 2:1-11 page 93

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Message Pastor Kim Nelson

~Responding to God's Word~

***Affirmation of Faith**

Let us stand and affirm our faith.

All: I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events which surround us.

I refuse to believe that we are so bound to racism and war, that peace, brotherhood and sisterhood are not possible.

I believe there is an urgent need for people to overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to violence and oppression.

I believe that we need to discover a way to live together in peace, a way which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of this way is love.

I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality.

I believe that right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant.

I believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits.

I believe that what self-centered people have torn down, other-centered people can build up.

By the goodness of God at work within people, **I believe** that brokenness can be healed. "And the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, and everyone will sit under their own vine and fig tree, and none shall be afraid."
[An Affirmation Based on the Writings of Dr. Martin Luther King]

Invitation to Become a Joyful Giver

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad.

Offertory

Andantino

arr. by G. Faure'

***Doxology**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (# 606)

**All: 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. A-men.**

Tune: Old Hundredth LM, Genevan Psalter 1551, Public Domain.

Prayers of the People followed by The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Prayer Response

(adapted from *Kum ba Yah* # 472)

v.1) **Come by here, my Lord, come by here!
Come by here, my Lord, come by here!
Come by here, my Lord, come by here!
O Lord, come by here!**

v. 2) **Someone needs you, Lord, come by here!
Someone needs you, Lord, come by here!
Someone needs you, Lord, come by here!
O Lord, come by here!**

Text and Melody: African-American Spiritual, Public Domain.

~Going Forth to Serve God~

Life in Our Church Community

***Song of Going Forth**

I Love to Tell the Story

462

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Sound the Trumpet

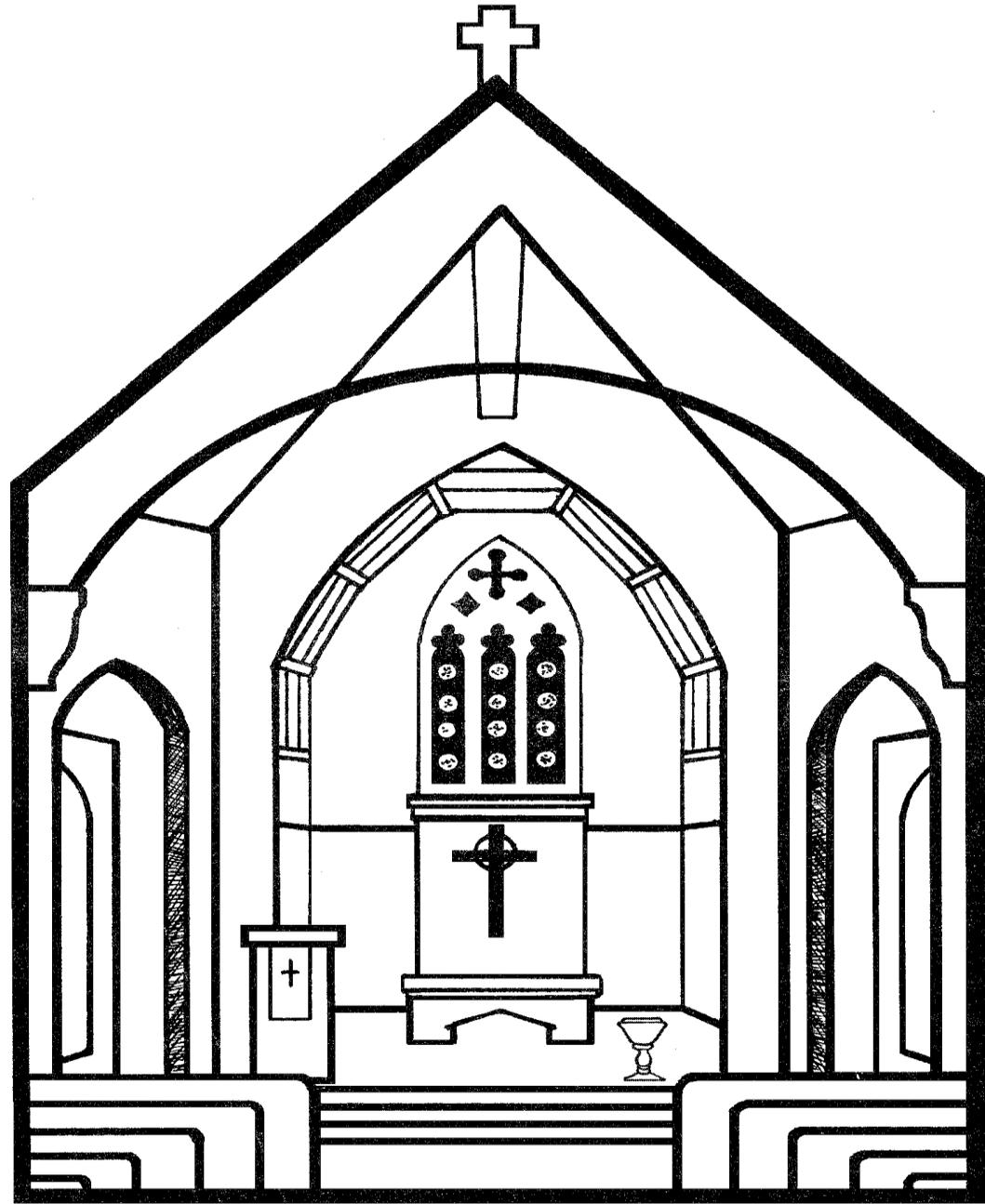
by H. Purcell

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*Please stand, if you are able.

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.

Music printed and recorded for congregational use only under CCLI # 11373529



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CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI