

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

JANUARY 23, 2022

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Preparing for Worship – O Divine Spirit, bring us your good news and fulfill it, for we are poor and humble in spirit. O Sinless Sovereign, release us from captivity, for we are trapped under sin and suffering. O Light of God Eternal, banish our blindness and help us to see, for we seek your freedom and holy favor.

Prelude **Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist**

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name **The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter**

***Opening Song** **"God of Wonders"** *WORSHIP TEAM*
"Song Title"

***Call to Worship**

Let the law and the prophets be proclaimed among the people.

May the Holy Spirit come down and reveal them.

Do not weep, for the Spirit is here to bring good news to the poor!

Let the poor take heart, the oppressed go free, the captives be released, and the blind see.

Let the people rejoice and share with those who have nothing. For this is the year of jubilation!

In Christ, we know the favor of God. The joy of the Lord shall be our strength!

Timothy Matthew Slemmons, *The Joyful Feast: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship, Year C*, Cascade Books, Eugene, OR., p. 39. Used with Permission. All rights reserved.

***Song of Faith #51** **"How Great Thou Art"** *HINE*

***Opening Prayer** **The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter**

Songs of Praise *WORSHIP TEAM*

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Fran Seymour-Hunter

The First Reading **Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

The Second Reading **1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ** **Luke 4:14-21**

***Responsorial #472** **"Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus"** *LEMMELE*

Children's Sermon (Kids 3rd Grade and Younger can walk to Children's Church)

Announcements & Prayers of the Community: 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations - A collection plate is available in the front of the sanctuary, ushers will collect the offering, or you can give online.

Dedication Prayer & Offertory Special

Prayer and The Message **"The Word of God: Alive and Active Among Us"**
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

Invitation to Faith and Fellowship

***Closing Hymn** **"Beautiful Savior"** *WORSHIP TEAM*

***Spoken Benediction** **The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter**

***Postlude** **Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist**

**Please stand as able*

HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

GOOD NEWS! God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you have done wrong things (sinned) which have hurt God and others. Apologize to God and turn away from harmful behavior and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** – Accept and trust that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross in your place and give God the credit for raising Jesus from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Rescuer and Redeemer (Savior) and Ultimate Leader (Lord). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE JESUS WAY** - Tell your family and friends about your new trust in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly share your decision to be a follower of Jesus (Christian).

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor, Moderator, or come forward at a meeting of the congregation. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.



American Baptist Church USA – American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today, with approximately 5,000 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members across the United States and Puerto Rico.
www.abc-usa.org



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