

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 15, 2023

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name

*Opening (Stand) # "Open the Eyes of Our Heart" Worship Team

*Call to Worship (Stand)

You have heard, O people, that God is not partial.
The Lord does not want any to perish.

**Truly, anyone who fears the Lord
and does what is right is acceptable to God!**

Therefore, come and hear again the good news of God's peace,
The message that Christ Jesus came preaching.

**Truly, Christ is Lord of all,
Ordained to judge the living and the dead,**

Therefore, come and bear witness to Christ.

Testify to his goodness and believe in his name!

**Jesus is the One anointed
to heal, to save, to rule, and to serve!**

†Timothy Matthew Slemmons, "Lightening from the East: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship,
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*Opening Prayer (Stand)

Song of Faith # 72 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" FAITHFULNESS

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Sonia Roling

The First Reading Isaiah 42:1-9

The Second Reading Acts 10:34-43

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ Matthew 3:13-17

*Responsorial (Stand) "Light of the World Sing" Worship Team
"Alleluia"

*Greeting and Sharing Peace with Family and Neighbors (Stand)

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

Announcements & Prayers of the Community 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 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 - Worshippers are invited to give their tithes, gifts, and offerings to the Lord.



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Prayer of Dedication – With each small offering, O Spirit of Christ, hear our sighs of surrender, of peace, of recognition that the former things have come to pass, and it is time for you to do a new thing. Receive these outpourings, O Lord our God, and bless their use, that through them the blind and those bound in darkness might see your marvelous light and know freedom in the truth of Christ Jesus and in the Spirit of the Lord.

A Prayer of Illumination & The Message

"Consider It Joy"
Reverend Art Campbell

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

*Closing Hymn (Stand) # 350 "Summons" KELVINGROVE

*Spoken Benediction

*Postlude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

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 5,000 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members across the United States and Puerto Rico. www.abc-usa.org

And a VOICE
from HEAVEN said,
“This is my dearly loved SON,
who brings me great

JOY”

Matthew 3:17

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