

# THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 29, 2023

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name

\*Opening (Stand) # "Blessed be Your Name" *Worship Team*

### \*Call to Worship (Stand)

Rejoice before the Lord as with joy at the harvest.  
Exult before the Lord in the fullness of God's presence!

**You, O God, have greatly added to your people.  
You, O Lord, have increased our joy!**

Sing and make melody to the Lord our God.

Fill the house of the Lord with shouts of jubilation!

**For the Lord has gathered us under the folds of his tent.  
The house of God is opened to those who seek him.**

I ask only to dwell with the Lord forever,  
To behold the beauty of the face of the Lord.

**Come, my heart says, seek the face of God.  
Your Face, O Lord, do I seek!**

†Timothy Matthew Slemmons, "Lightening from the East: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship, Year A." ©2014. Cascade Books, Eugene, OR. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

### \*Opening Prayer (Stand)

Song of Faith # "Light of the World / Light the Way"

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Sonia Roling

The First Reading

Isaiah 9: 1-4

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 4:12-23

\*Responsorial (Stand) 502 "Be Thou My Vision"

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

Children's Sermon (Kids 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 – Receive, O God, these tokens of devotion, offered with our joy and glad adoration. Use them, we pray, to draw into your kingdom those whom you call to be one with us in Christ, who is all in all.**

A Prayer of Illumination & The Message

"Putting Us in Our Places"  
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) # 419

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

\*Spoken Benediction

\*Postlude

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## 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](http://www.abc-usa.org)



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