

"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

# Welcome To Worship

February 6, 2021 9:30 a.m.

### The Good News



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

#### **TODAY'S WORSHIP**

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Preparing to Worship...



"The Good News"

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**♦Welcome and community news** 

**♦Readying Ourselves for Worship** 

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground! Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

**♦Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:** 

How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~The Joy of Passing the Peace~

**♦Opening Special Music Video** 

<u>Please Prepare Me</u>

## **♦Gathering as God's People: Our Theme**

Our theme throughout these weeks leading into the Lenten season is "The Good News!" We are exploring the Gospel of Luke and delving into the Old Testament readings, together, revealing wisdom and informing one another as we consider them side by side. For much of the time, the Gospel will be in conversation with words from the Prophets, Jeremiah and Isaiah. This week we will hear from Isaiah.

The word, "gospel" comes from the Anglo-Saxon term, *god-spell*, meaning "good story," which in both Greek and Latin are often translated as "good telling" or "good news." There are many ways for us to think about good news, and there is <u>no</u> question that we are seeking some good news in these times! In this case, New Testament authors use the term, "good news" to mean the news of salvation, or liberation from sin/brokenness, and the promise of God's never ending presence. We are reminded throughout the wisdom teachings that God is not distant. Even if we feel far away or removed, God is with us every step of the way. We can build our capacity to remain open and awake to God's presence on our journey.



In this "Ordinary Time" leading up to the Lenten Season, let us worship in the spirit of Epiphany - attentive to how the Divine is manifesting in our lives and aware that we work hand in hand with the Holy One to <u>live</u> the "good news."

So, here are a few questions that we'll consider each time we gather in the coming weeks: What might the Good News look like in your life? How might you recognize it beyond your own experience? In such challenging times, how do we honor the range of emotions and realities we are living and witnessing while opening our hearts to the possibility of liberation from such brokenness?



#### **♦Gathering Special Music Video**

How Can I Keep From Singing - Audrey Assad

#### **♦Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

<u>All:</u> God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise.

Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **♦Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Divine Peace - Can I quiet the noises in my mind to open room for your voice? Can I still the chaos of movement in my brain to allow for serenity and peace?

The voices of this world have taken my attention captive, filling my mind with all sorts of distractions. Peace feels far away and focusing on you only an unlikely possibility. Center my overflowing and overthinking consciousness on you and on this very moment. Direct my hardening heart on sharing your love in this world. Soften my soul to seek your presence even when discord and disarray are occupying the spaces surrounding and within me. Amen.



Rest in the Divine presence. Center down into the inmost calm that the Holy One provides. Focus on the love that is always available to you and imagine sharing that love with our hurting world.

# **♦Short period of silent reflection**

#### **♦Bible Wisdom Teachings**

#### Isaiah 6:1-8

#### **♦Reflection Questions**

Can I relate to Isaiah's realization and humility? What might be freeing about acknowledging my brokenness? How could this equip me to live into my gifts and respond to God's call?

#### Luke 5:1-11

# **♦Reflection Questions**

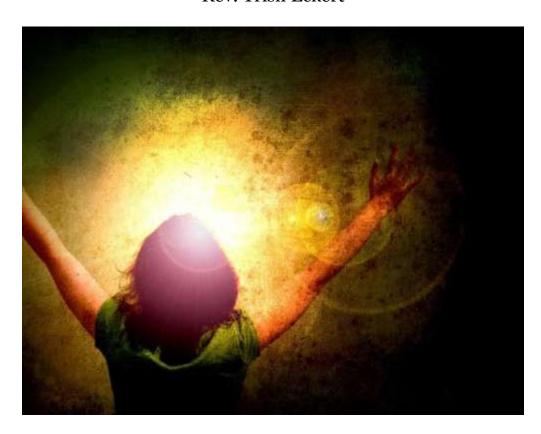
Do I notice the surprising ways in which God moves in the midst of situations whose outcome I think I already know? Is there deep water I need to put my net into—beyond what I can see, beyond what I know, beyond my familiar limits—to bring up an abundance that God has in store? What am I willing to leave behind in order to participate in such a miracle and to pass it along to others?

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: Thanks be to our God.

## **♦Message**

"The Good News: Abundant Faith"
Rev. Trish Eckert



#### **♦Special Music Video**

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am, Lord)

# **♦Sharing Our Wisdom**

## **Affirming Our Faith with Intention...Our Prayer**

All: In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one Triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth praying, "Come, Lord Jesus?" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

# **♦A Moment of Quiet for Everyone**

#### **♦**Community Prayers, Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer



# **♦Preparation of the Table Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Pastor: In this time of fear and exhaustion, confusion, and scarcity, come into the deep water of God's love. Cast your nets into the miraculous waters of Christ's grace. Drink of the living water, eat of the bread of life, for this is the table of abundant love.

All: Pour out your Holy Spirit on all of us gathered here, that we may answer your call and be your people. Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that they may nourish and strengthen us to go into deep waters when you call us to take a risk. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world.

Pastor: Come, let's share in the feast of new and everlasting life!

# **♦Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread Communion of the People**



# **♦Benediction – Becoming a Living Blessing**

What of this shared wisdom goes with you as helpful and life-giving?

# **†**Our Response...Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your word lives on in us.



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