

# The Season of Epiphany

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

January 23, 2022

Prelude

Welcoming

## Lighting the Christ Candle

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

## Call to Worship

As one week finishes and another week begins,  
we have come to this time of worship that we might place ourselves,  
our lives, our loved ones, and all our cares and joys in the embrace of  
God, whose welcome is always assured.

**We come confident that God is always with us.**

**We come thankful that, in this world in which we live, we have this  
place to call our spiritual home and people to companion us on our  
journey. We come to give thanks.**

Come, and let us worship God.

## **Opening Hymn: I Am the Light of the World!** (Voices United 87)

*Words and Music: Jim Strathdee*

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*Refrain* 'I am the light of the world!  
You people come and follow me!  
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery  
of what you were meant to do and be.

1 When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and the shepherds  
have found their way home,  
the work of Christmas is begun: *Refrain*

2 To find the lost and lonely one,  
to heal the broken soul with love,  
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,  
to feel the earth below, the sky above! *Refrain*

3 To free the prisoner from all chains,  
to make the powerful care,  
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,  
to see God's children everywhere! *Refrain*

4 To bring hope to every task you do,  
to dance at a baby's new birth,  
to make music in an old person's heart,  
and sing to the colours of the earth! *Refrain*

## Scripture Readings

The Epistle (New Testament): 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:14-21

## **Hymn of the Day: Christ Has No Body Now but Yours**

(More Voices 171)

*Words: Adapted by Stephen C. Warner, 2003, from St. Teresa of Avila*

*Music: Rick Gunn. 2006*

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*Music © 2006 by Rick Gunn*

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*Refrain* Christ has no body now but yours  
No hands, but yours  
Here on this earth yours is the work,  
To serve with the joy of compassion

1 No hands but yours to heal the wounded world,  
No hands but yours to soothe all its suff'ring,  
No touch but yours to bind the broken  
Hope of the people of God. *Refrain*

2 No eyes but yours to see  
As Christ would see,  
To find the lost,  
To gaze with compassion  
No eyes but yours to glimpse  
The holy joy of the city of God. *Refrain*

3 No feet but yours to journey  
With the poor to walk this  
World with mercy and justice.  
Yours are the steps to build  
A lasting Peace For the children of God. *Refrain*

4 Through ev'ry gift, give back to those in need;  
As Christ has blessed, so now be his blessing,  
With every gift a benediction  
Be to the people of God. *Refrain*

## Reflection

### Prayers for Others and Ourselves

Eternal God, quiet the thoughts in our minds, that we may hear your voice. Calm the fears in our hearts, that we may see your way. Open the doors of our hearts, that we may walk in the path of Christ. Come to us, Holy Spirit and transform us by your grace.

We give our hearts to you, God: you create all things. You desire wholeness for all people, and your desire moves the world. You set us free; you lead us into new lives.

We follow Jesus, your Christ, the embodiment of love, who taught and healed, who fed and forgave. He confronted our systems of privilege and exclusion. For his challenge to the powerful he was crucified; but you raised him from the dead. We trust you to raise us to lives of love and service.

We live by your power, Holy Spirit. O Mystery of Love and Justice, your Spirit is upon us for the sake of the world. Your vision of a redeemed world of justice moves us and gives us hope. In your power you send us into the world to bring good news to the poor, recovery of sight to the blind and liberty to the oppressed, for the sake of the mending of the world.

**The Lord's Prayer** – The Work of the People *featuring Timothy Coons*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Parting Hymn: When You Walk from Here** (Voices United 298)

*Words and Music: Linnea Good*

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When you walk from here,  
when you walk from here,  
walk with justice, walk with mercy,  
and with God's humble care. *Repeat*

### **Benediction**

Gracious God,

As we go out into the week, pour out your Spirit upon us:

to bring good news to the poor,

to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to set the oppressed free,

and to proclaim the time of Your grace,

in the power and the name and the company of Christ.

Amen.

Postlude

*Worship Leaders – Nancy Walker and Bill Cantelon*

*Music Leader – James Yi*

*Vocalists – Margaret Bates and Blyth Hughes*

*Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey*

*Scripture Reading – Edward Hickcox*

*Technical Support – Karen Clark and Bob Krueckl*

*Flowers for the service are offered by Jennifer Hastings  
in celebration of the life of her husband, Harland Hastings.*