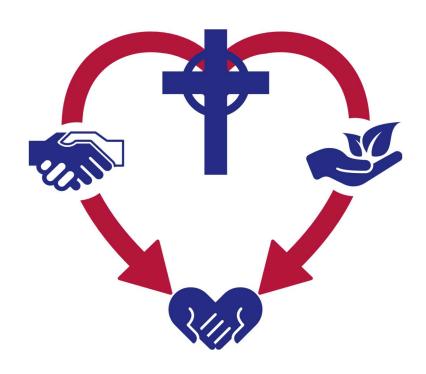
# We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ:

by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



# A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany Remembrance of Baptism February 16, 2024

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards, with the same options, are also available and we invite you to share your concerns and allow us to pray with you.



## We Gather to Worship God

\*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (Luke 3)

Leader: The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

People: Prepare the way of the Lord, make God's paths straight.

Leader: Every valley shall be filled,

People: and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

Leader: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;

People: and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Amen.

Invocation

\*Opening Hymn #610

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

#### We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession" Words/Music by Kenneth Jones (front cover of hymnal)

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you.

Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

#### Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of salvation, we are surrounded by the goodness of your creation and your continued creation in our own lives. You bring healing and wholeness, you proclaim good news to the poor, you bring new and abundant life. So often we marvel at the works of human hands, and are blind to the signs of your work among us. We see your Spirit at work in ways that we cannot explain, and yet we keep looking for more signs. We are like children who are never satisfied, accepting only what we expect. Give us eyes to see the signs of your glory, give us ears to hear your prophets, and give us hearts that are attuned to your kin-dom. Amen.

#### Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

#### \*Assurance of Pardon (Malachi 4, Luke 7)

Leader: For you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go our leaping like calves from the stall. Among those born of women no one is greater than John the baptizer; yet the least in the kin-dom of God is greater than he.

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we have already been forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

\*Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#647; no repeats)

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give Thanks! Give Thanks!

#### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

\*Transition Hymn #831

"I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness"

#### We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources (see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

\*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Time for Young Disciples

(Children are dismissed at this time for Children's Church and Bible Builds)

Special Music "Come Thou Fount"

as arranged by Chris Rice Sandee Cribbs, Arden Stallings

**Chancel Choir** 

Scripture Reading Luke 7:18-35

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word Rev. AJ Ochart

"Data"

#### Responding to God's Word

\*Hymn of Preparation for Baptism #490

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

Remembrance of Baptism

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kin(g)dom 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, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin(g)dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### Sending Out Into the World

\*Sending Hymn #744

"Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Congregational Benediction #531

"May the Love of the Lord"

\*Postlude

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



Rev. AJ Ochart, Pastor Kenneth Jones, Director of Music Ann Paschall, Lay Leader

