

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for the Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024

Pre-Service Music: *Voluntary in D* - William Selby

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Litany* - Lani Smith

Introit: *Seek to Serve* Lloyd Pfautsch

Call to Worship

God is our rock and salvation.

We wait to hear from God; our souls wait.

We depend on God alone;

we release what will pass away and rest in God's enduring mercy.

Though God calls us down difficult paths,

we answer, relying on God's help, for God keeps calling us to the work.

Let us worship God!

Prayer of the Day

Great God, Jesus awakened the disciples to a new life-changing purpose that caused them to drop it all and follow him. You call us here from our everyday work in this very busy world. Have we dropped it all to follow you? Awaken us, we pray. Show us how to leave everything behind and with our lives to proclaim the good news— your kingdom is drawing near. Make us into vessels that carry your message of love, that we might, with others, turn around, see, and believe. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn #307: *God of Grace and God of Glory* (please stand)

Call to Confession

Almighty God, Maker of all things, **have mercy upon us.**

Jesus Christ, Redeemer of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

Holy Spirit, Giver of life, **have mercy upon us.**

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Hear now our own prayers of confession. (silent prayers)

This we pray in Christ's holy name. **Amen.**

Declaration of Pardon

“The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.”
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory Be to the Father #581:

(please stand)

Anthem:

Come Follow Me

John Leavitt

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

There are different gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through different people in different ways, but it is the same God who achieves his purpose through them all.

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit, to use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of him.

Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ.

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers. God of Grace. **Receive our prayer.**

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church,

the world, and all of creation. *(brief silence)*

God our rock and deliverance, do not let your church be shaken. We trust you never abandon your promises to the most vulnerable among us. Give your church wisdom and empathy in its varied ministries.

God of grace. **Receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn #170:

You Walk Along Our Shoreline

(seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Scriptures for the Day

Old Testament Lesson: Jonah 3:1 – 10

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 7:29 - 31

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:14 – 20

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon:

Called to Cast Nets

Rev. Dennis Winzenried

Prayer for Listening and Speaking – First Presbyterian, Rolla (stand)

In all the relationships of our church life, community life, and personal life may we follow the teachings of Jesus. May we endeavor to speak the truth in love and be guided by scripture in our thoughts, decisions, and actions. May we respect and listen deeply to one another, keep confidences, and avoid gossip and triangulation. May we pray for and with one another, building each other up, realizing every soul is precious to God. Amen.

Dedication of Tithes, and Offerings

(please stand)

Doxology #606: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Prayer of Dedication: *adapted from Stewardship Prayer – Thomas Merton*

Almighty God, we thank you for all the gifts You have given us: our lives, our loved ones, all that we have and all that we are. Most of all, we thank You for Jesus, your Son and our Redeemer, who came among us to show us the way to eternal life. Jesus was the perfect steward of your gifts, showing that complete trust in You is necessary, and that giving of self is a most important part of following Him. May the offerings of our time, our talents, and our material resources be made in the same spirit of sacrifice that Jesus taught us by His life and death for us. Amen.

Sending Hymn #716: *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* (stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always.

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Postlude in D - Austin North*

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Jeff Sandquist and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Cheryl Koederitz and sermon provided by Rev. Dennis Winzenried.

Portions of the service reprinted by permission of Presbyterian Press from Call to Worship®. Copyright 2023, and Sundays and Seasons 2024, Augsburg Fortress Press, Copyright 2023.