

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**

**Worship Service Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Jan. 25, 2026

**Pre-Service Music:**     *He Knows My Name*             Jay Rouse

**Welcome and Announcements:**

**Prelude:**     *Peaceful Piano in C Major*             Mark Hayes

**Introit: #BH179:**     *God is My Strong Salvation*             Psalm 27

**Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day**

In the sea of life's daily stress and strife, in the struggle to keep our heads above the waves, Jesus calls us from the shore: "Follow me, and be fishers of people!"

**God gathers us into new boats built with room for friend and stranger.**

"Follow me, and use your gifts with purpose. Follow me, and build abundant life."

**We will be weavers of community, architects of justice, gardeners of peace.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**God our light and our rescue, our fortress in times of trouble, when human powers seek to crush us, protect us in the hidden places of your heart. Ease our fears and let us rest in you. When we are safe, but other lives are threatened, fortify our resolve to be your protection for all our kin and all your good creation. When the work is done, we ask only to live in your house and enjoy your beauty forever. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #720**                     *Jesus Calls Us*                     (stand)

## **Call to Confession**

Christ calls us to follow, knowing that we are human. Jesus knows we are not perfect. He knows we will not always get it right. All he asks is that we try, learn, and try again.

**Let us go to God, telling how we have tried and failed, that God may teach us what we must learn.**

In that spirit, let us turn to Christ. In faith, let us confess our sin.

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Christ, our Messiah, you call us to fish for people, but we are hesitant to leave our boats. We are afraid to let go of the things we hoard, believing they make us secure. We are afraid to put our trust in you, afraid to follow, afraid we will fail. Forgive us. Transform our fear into faithfulness, and enable us to walk with you, that we may be part of your work in the world. Amen.**

## **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Just as Jesus called the disciples, so Christ calls us.

**Forgiven of our sin and freed to serve, let us answer Christ's call. Christ calls us, forgives us, heals us, and teaches us. Thanks be to God!**

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

## **Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Glory to God #581:**            *Glory Be to the Father*

**Anthem:**                    *Grace Alone*    Molly Ijames

## **Service for Installation of Officers:**

*Ray Fox, Ming Leu, Clayton Read – Ruling Elder*

*Luke Gutches, Melba Read, Janice Zanders – Deacon*

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.**

Installation Congregational Questions: *(responses)* - **We do.**

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

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

Merciful God. **Receive our 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; 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 #492**

*You Belong to Christ*

(seated)

**Prayer for Illumination:**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

**Scriptures for the Day:**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 9:1 - 7.

**Second Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-18.

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 4:12 - 23

A new teaching, with authority!

**Thanks be to God.** *Mark 1:27*

**Sermon:**           The Light of the World                           Jonathan Kimball

**Affirmation of Faith** (From The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968)

**We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

**Dedication of Tithes and Offerings:** (please be seated)

**Offering #710:** *We Lift Our Voices*

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**God of glory, as people brought gifts to the infant Jesus, we bring our gifts to you. May these gifts be used to lift up those who are oppressed, to bring deliverance to those who are in need, to support those who are poor, and to help those who are in trouble. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn #79:** *Light Dawns on a Weary World* (stand)

**Charge and Benediction:** (remain standing)

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
bless you now and forever.

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

**Postlude:** *Go Ye Into All the World* John Turner

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