

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

Feb. 8, 2026

Pre-Service Music: *Jesus Loves Me* J.B. Taylor

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Come Away to the Skies* Tracey Craig McKibben

Introit: #755: *Alleluia! God Sustains Us* Psalm 112

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

We are salt for the earth.

We are a light for the world.

Just as no one hides a lamp away,

we will offer the world what only we can give.

In shining our lights, we will remember:

We are not the only ones with vital wisdom.

Grateful for mutual enlightenment,

we will not drown out another's beam with ours.

Prayer of the Day

O God from whom all blessings flow, help us to embrace the unique gifts your Spirit has instilled in each of us. Give us the wisdom to discern where your world could use our talents most, and grant us humility to recognize where we rely on the strength and insight of others, so that, in mutual giving and receiving, all needs may be met, according to the way of Jesus through his life and death. Amen.

Opening Hymn #314 *Christ Be Our Light* vs. 1, 2, and 5 (stand)

Call to Confession

Into this space we bring our weights and burdens—the things we have done or not done, said or not said.

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us lay down those burdens before God.

Prayer of Confession

Patient God, it is so easy for us to miss the point. We know how to perform righteousness; we go to church, we donate, we volunteer, but we care more about how we are seen than our faithfulness to you. We show off our piousness, instead of actually sharing our food, our homes, our resources with those in the most need. Have mercy on us for the ways we serve ourselves, and teach us your way, the way that leads to justice and peace. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Beloved, hear the good news: When we cry for help, God says, “Here I am!” When we ask for mercy, God grants it freely, longing for a closer walk with us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Alleluia! 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: *The Lord is My Light and My Salvation* John Leavitt

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 #452 *Open the Eyes of My Heart* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

God of shining splendor, your voice makes the earth tremble in wonder. Overshadow us with your Spirit so that we may hear your Word and live as faithful disciples and covenant people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 58:1 - 12.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:13 - 20

A new teaching, with authority!

Thanks be to God. *Mark 1:27*

Sermon: On God's Side Jonathan Kimball

Affirmation of Faith (Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.08)

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #712: *As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought* vs 1 and 3

Prayer of Dedication:

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

Sending Hymn #377: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* (stand)

Charge and Benediction:

(remain standing)

Beloved children of God,
receive the gift of the Holy Spirit,
the grace of Jesus Christ,
and the blessing of the Lord forever.

Alleluia!

Mark 1:11, 9:7

As Jesus called the first disciples,
so he calls to us this day:

Follow me.

Amen.

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

Postlude:

Halle, Halle Doxology

Pepper Choplin

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by the Chancel Choir and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Cheryl Koederitz. Sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball. Portions of the service reprinted by permission of Presbyterian Press from Call to Worship®. Copyright 2025, and Sundays and Seasons 2026, Augsburg Fortress Press, Copyright 2025.