

MORNING WORSHIP

January 17, 2021

Half past Ten O'Clock

Second Sunday after Epiphany GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

WELCOME AND NOTICES

INTROIT

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

HOUSTON

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The buzz of the world disrupts and disorients our lives.

Congregation: Call us into Your way of life, O God.

Leader: The complaints of others settle in our minds and clouds our vision.

Congregation: Lead us into Your vision of Life, O God.

Leader: The promises of power and protection tempt our minds toward division and greed.

Congregation: Lead us into repentance and reconciliation, O God.

Leader: The cries of the poor, the oppressed and outcast pierce our hearts.

Congregation: Guide us by Your example of living for others, O God.

*HYMN

"Here I Am, Lord"

Daniel L. Schutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.

All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night

I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.

I have wept for love of them, They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

CALL TO CONFESSION

adapted from Rev. Susan Blain

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God, You know us better than we know ourselves. You know our thoughts, our weaknesses, our motivations, our sins. We have been tempted to lash out, to cease control, to escape reality, to hide, to hoard, to give up. And You still love us. Forgive us when we don't believe such love is true or possible. Forgive us when we wonder how You could love us just as we are. Forgive us when we forget our intricate construction, fearfully and wonderfully made. We forget every human on Earth has been made in Your image. Remove from our minds every thought which keeps us from You. Break down the walls, push aside the pride, and help us to trust anew. You know our hearts. You love us still. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 8:38, 39

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*HYMN

“Live into Hope”

TRURO

**Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God’s own jubilee!**

**Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.**

**Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one’s daily bread, to hear God’s word and thus be fed.**

**Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:12-28

SERMON

“The Power of Temptation“

Lori Archer Raible

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Text to Give

704-734-9818

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

arr. Lloyd Larson

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

adapted from Rev. Amantha Barbee

**Holy One, giver of life, of strength, perseverance, comfort and grace, we honor You, even with our giving.
We have convinced ourselves that we are living in the land of poverty due to the pandemic and the
systemic realities that plague our being. But, You do provide for us. You do give us everything we need,
perhaps not everything we want, but You are our heavenly parent and we trust You for our keeping.
Because of this trust, we respond with gratitude, love, joy, and commitment, to the fulfillment of our
promise to You and Your church. Because we have faith, we give. Thank You for this opportunity to
show You how much we honor You. Amen.**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

For those worshipping in the Sanctuary, please be seated after the Benediction until after the Postlude ends. Then, take caution to maintain social distance as you exit the Narthex.

*Those who are able please stand.