

McKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WORSHIP SERVICE

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

January 21, 2024

WE ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Faye D'Ippolito, Organist

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 62)

(L) For God alone our souls wait in silence;

(C) [silence]

(L) From God alone comes our salvation.

(C) God alone is our rock and our salvation,

(L) Trust in the Lord at all times, O people, and pour out your heart before God.

(C) The Lord is our fortress, our refuge, our hope.

(L) For God alone our souls wait in silence,

(C) We wait for You, O Lord.

(ALL) [silence]

*HYMN

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

No. 447, blue

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Almighty God,

You call us to follow you – and to fish for the sake of others. We confess we'd rather fish to serve ourselves. We find the time, energy, and resources necessary to protect our self-interests. We struggle mightily to do likewise for the interest of others. We are more concerned about things that impact our comfort than we are about those who genuinely suffer. We confess we are proud and arrogant; "puffed up" by all that we know, harshly critical of the ignorance of others. We confess we resent your mercy and grace ... when we are not the recipients, when they are poured out on the "un-deserving".

Gracious and merciful God - slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love - forgive our sins.

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (Psalm 103)**

The Lord is merciful and gracious, abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our failures. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, is his steadfast love toward those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, he removes our sins from us." In Jesus Christ, your sins have been, are, and forever will be forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

**Glory be the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

JOYS

Leader: "For (joy), Gracious God..."

All: "we give you thanks"

CONCERNS

Leader: "For (concern), Merciful Lord ..."

All: "hear our prayer."

Let's pray together the Lord's 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Please contact the church by email or phone with your prayer requests during the week.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Please welcome the children to the front of the sanctuary.

ANTHEM

"I Danced in the Morning"

**(Chancel Choir)
Arr. Carter**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mark 1: 14-20

Mark 1: 14-20

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

SERMON

"Fishers of People"

Rev. Michael Stanton

THE RESPONSE

WE COMMIT TO THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY

Faye D'Ippolito, Organist

***DOXOLOGY**

HYMN

"Here I Am, Lord"

No. 525, blue

THE EXIT

WE ENGAGE THE WORLD OF GOD

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Faye D'Ippolito, Organist

All those who are able, please stand



ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 21, 2024

BE ON THE LOOK OUT:

End of year reports are being mailed out this week. If you don't receive one or have questions regarding your report, please give up a call at the office.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

Will be held, Sunday February 4, 2024 after service. More information forthcoming.

FELLOWSHIP II:

Please join together for friendship and fellowship after today's service.

OFFICERS AND SESSION MEETING:

There will be an Officers Retreat with a Session meeting held afterwards beginning at 9am on Saturday, January 27, 2024.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE, please contact the church office.

TAKE CARE, THE FLU AND COLD SEASON IS UPON US:

Please help keep everyone healthy. If you have a cold or flu, please consider joining us virtually or utilizing the masks available at the entrances. We all thank you.

HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES AND SOCKS:

We have been collecting hats, scarves, gloves and socks in all sizes, for our community for the winter. If you have any extras of these items please drop them off at the church office. Thank you.

MCKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor-Rev. Michael Stanton

Director of Music-Edward R. Moore

Organists-Candice Holsinger & Millie Kistler

Office/Financial Assistant- Robin Enright

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