First Presbyterian Church of Springfield Order of Worship for the Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 24, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson Organist: Mike Belote Worship Leader: Howard Bradley

Moment with Young Disciples: Ross Thomas

Welcome

We Approach God

Call to Worship

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

From our daily labors, the Lord summons us. Freed from fear, we are bold to follow.

"Come! I will make you fishers of people." We respond with grateful praise!

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" Glory to God 234

Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness! God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness, loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters; led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen. All the winter of our sin, long and dark, is flying from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal hold you as a mortal: but today, among your own, you appear, bestowing your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.

Call to Confession

Nothing can be hidden from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth, whose wisdom is endless, whose mercy is great. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

On the bustling shores of Galilee, Jesus called Simon Peter and Andrew, James and John. Immediately, they dropped their nets and abandoned their boats. Immediately, these fishermen-turned-followers set out to fish for people. Christ, you also call to us, but we are slow to set aside the mundane tasks that shape our lives. We are slow to abandon the excuses we recite to drown out your voice, slow to drop the demands that compete for our attention. Call us again by your Spirit and summon us to lives of gracious service. Fashion us into faithful disciples who hear Christ's commands and respond with courage and compassion, so that we might proclaim the Kingdom of God. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength. They will run and not be weary; they will walk and not grow faint. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

God Speaks to Us Through God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, giver of all light, lift up our hearts and minds to Christ, the morning star that never fades. By the light of your Holy Spirit reveal to us your saving Word and lead us to offer our lives to you in service and in love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament 1 Samuel 5:1 – 12 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Moment with Young Disciples

New Testament Mark 1:12 - 20 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "The Idols Are Tottering" The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from *The Confession of 1967*, 9.15

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

Hymn "Open My Eyes, That I May See" Glory to God 451

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me. Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear. And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere. Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Invitation to the Offering

There is only one God, from whom all things come and for whom we live. In gratitude and faith, let us offer our lives and gifts to the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Gracious God, when our hope falters, you lift us up to new heights by your Spirit. Help us to set our hearts on you, and to trust in you, no matter what our circumstances. May these tithes and offerings bring your uplifting hope to people both near and far. We ask this through Christ our Lord—our great giver of hope. Amen.

God Sends Us into the World

Hymn of Dedication

"The Church's One Foundation"

Glory to God 321

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord. She is his new creation by water and the word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride. With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed, by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed, yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?" And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction

Dr. Anderson