



Midweek Service of Word, Song and Prayer

Opening Dialog

The light shines in the darkness, **and the darkness has not overcome it.**

The Word became flesh and lived among us, **and we have beheld Christ's glory.**

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given. **In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings

Isaiah 43:1b

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

God reminds you that "you are mine". Why is this important?

Psalms 29

⁴The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

How do you hear the voice of the Lord today?

Luke 3:22b

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

What aspect of Jesus pleases you?

Reflection for the Day

The Voice of God

Are you longing to hear God's voice? What would it be like to hear God call you by name? For many it seems that God spoke to people long ago and far away, but now in this time and place God's voice is much less clear and less audible. Perhaps we cannot hear the voice of God because our world is full of noise? Perhaps we are not open to the particular frequency in which God chooses to call us? Perhaps we continually tune out this heavenly summons with our daily rush, not taking the time to quiet ourselves, our minds, our inner voices. We can use this time after Epiphany to clear out a corner of our lives for quiet prayer, meditation, or centering.

Maybe then we will be able to hear . . . to sense . . . to listen.

In this season of epiphanies, today's miraculous encounter with the living God immerses us in the sound of God's voice and bathes us in God's baptismal promise. All who are splashed by this water of baptism gasp, cry, exclaim, sigh, and sing. Let all who have breath, praise the Lord!

Hymn of the Day

Spirit of Gentleness – Dai Bassett

Responsive Prayer

Show us your mercy, O Lord, **and grant us your salvation.** (silence)

Clothe your ministers with righteousness. **Let your people sing with joy.** (silence)

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world; **for only in you can we live in safety.** (silence)

Lord, keep this nation under your care, **and guide us in the way of justice and truth.** (silence)

Let your way be known upon earth; **your saving health among all nations.** (silence)

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten, **nor the hope of the poor be taken away.** (silence)

Create in us clean hearts, O God, **and sustain us with your Holy Spirit.** (silence)

Closing Prayer

O God, in you we live and move and have our being. Guide and govern us in this day by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but remember that always we are walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Dismissal

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**