



**Order of Worship  
January 23, 2022  
Third Sunday after the Epiphany  
10:00 AM**

*10:00 Online Worship  
YouTube Channel "Harmony UMCVA"*

**GATHERING AND PRAISE**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

*Blessed Master*

Landon

*The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.*

**Call to Worship**

Damon Moore

The Spirit of God is upon us.

**We are called to be God's people.**

The Spirit of God is upon us.

**We are called to be the body of Christ.**

Come let us worship God, who binds us together  
in love and service.

**Opening Prayer**

Damon Moore

Bountiful God, you have blessed us with so many gifts. In this time of worship, may we be open to receiving these gifts. Help us claim our gifts and use them to bring freedom and justice to a hurting world. May the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable to you. May the transforming Spirit of joy and unity bind us together as your body, that we may be your hands and feet and voice in this, your world. Amen.

**Hymn** (See last page)

*Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

UMH 173

**Children's Message**

Pastor Debra

**Preparation for Prayer**

(See last page)

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

*Damon Moore*

UMH 420

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Debra

**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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.**

**Ministry of Music**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Damon Moore/Greg Wilmoth

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**Prayer for Illumination (All Praying)**

Damon Moore

**Our Lord and our God, now as we hear your Word, fill us with your Spirit. Soften our hearts that we may discern your ways. Fill us with your light. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**Introduction to Scripture**

Damon Moore

By telling the audience in his hometown that they are witnessing the inauguration of the new age of God's rule in all of life, Jesus challenged his hearers to believe in him. They ran him out of town. Wouldn't we still do so? Don't we?

**Scripture Reading**

*Luke 4:14-21*

Damon Moore

**Jesus Rejected at Nazareth**

<sup>14</sup> Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. <sup>15</sup> He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. <sup>16</sup> He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup> Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. <sup>21</sup> He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

<sup>22</sup> All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

<sup>24</sup> “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. <sup>25</sup> I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. <sup>26</sup> Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. <sup>27</sup> And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

<sup>28</sup> All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

## **Sermon**

*Proclamation and Response*

Pastor Debra

## **Call to Confession**

Pastor Debra

In the midst of our sorrows and guilt, our doubt and regrets, we are bathed in light and beauty that come from God. Trusting God’s love for us, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

## **Prayer of Confession**

Pastor Debra

Ever present One, you call us to embody your presence, your body in this world, but too often we get caught up in our own vision, and lose sight of the overarching mission you set before us. We fracture into pieces. We go our separate ways, forgetting we need each other to be whole. You have given us your law to be our guide, but we turn our backs on what we see as rules and restrictions, fearful that we will not live up to your expectations. Help us see with new eyes, and hear with the ears of our heart, the liberating spirit of the law that strengthens and revives and enables us to be and do all you call us to be and do. O God of freedom and justice, help us be faithful witnesses to your law of love and unity. Amen.

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

The Spirit of God is upon us. God has called us to bring good news and freedom to the poor, to the marginalized, and to all who are in need anywhere. God’s joy is our

strength. Through God we can do all things. God's Spirit surrounds us with forgiveness and love.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving for Offerings**

Pastor Debra

**Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Debra

O God of all gifts, we join with Jesus in proclaiming the year of your favor. Bless our gifts and bless us as we seek to bring joy and comfort to those who are unknown to us, and to those who are near and beloved. Amen.

**GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

**Closing Hymn**

*The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

FWS 2241

**Benediction**

Pastor Debra

You have been called and anointed.  
You have been strengthened and enlightened.  
You have become one body in Christ.  
Now go to spread joy and liberation  
in word and in deed  
to all the world.

**Postlude**

*Honor and Glory*

Rinck

**Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies**

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,*

*Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.*

*Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return,  
till thy mercy's beams I see;  
till they inward light impart,  
cheer my eyes and warm my heart.*

*Visit then this soul of mine;  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, Radiancy divine,  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.*

### **Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will,  
to do and to endure.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
till I am wholly thine,  
till all this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.*

**The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve**

*The Spirit sends us forth to serve;  
we go in Jesus' name  
to bring glad tidings to the poor,  
God's favor to proclaim.*

*We go to comfort those who mourn  
and set the burdened free;  
where hope is dim,  
to share a dream  
and help the blind to see.*

*We go to be the hands of Christ,  
to scatter joy like seed  
and, all our days, to cherish life,  
to do the loving deed.*

*Then let us go to serve in peace,  
the gospel to proclaim.  
God's Spirit has empowered us;  
we go in Jesus' name.*