



**January 19, 2025
Second Sunday of Epiphany**

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Prelude

Thy Word

M. Smith

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

Carolyn Masters

God's faithful love welcomes us here.

Thank God for this glorious gift!

God's faithful love redeems our lives.

Thank God for our many blessings!

God's faithful love is ours to share.

We will offer this gift to God's world.

Opening Prayer

Carolyn Masters

Faithful God, we come to you from many walks of life.

Some of us come after wandering off.

Others come sensing that you are as close
as their very breath.

From our many journeys,
welcome us with your love.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,

that we might sense your presence in our lives.
In joyous gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

UMH 400

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Passing the Peace of Christ

Carolyn Masters

Peace is a gift of God's love. Let the Lord bless us and give us strength, as we share signs of this peace!

Please turn to those around you and greet them with the peace of the resurrected Christ.

Children's Message

Pastor Larry

Ministry of Music

He Will Be My God

Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Understanding

All Praying

Carolyn Masters

Lord, open our ears to listen for God's miraculous message of love. Amen

Scripture Reading

Philippians 1:12-26

¹² Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters,^[b] that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. ¹³ As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard^[c] and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴ And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

¹⁵ It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. ¹⁶ The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷ The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. ¹⁸ But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice,¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.^[d] ²⁰ I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is

more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Response to the Word

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn

He is Exalted

TFWS 2070

Sermon

"A Purpose to Live and Die For"

Pastor Larry

The Apostle's Creed

UMH 881

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

UMH 70

Glory be to 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.

Morning Prayer

Pastor Larry

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.

Offertory Invitation

Carolyn Masters

As we offer our material gifts in this time of offering, let's also reflect and rejoice in the time, talents, and spiritual gifts with which we are blessed. Let us share abundantly from every aspect of our lives.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Be Comforted, My People

L. Smith

**Doxology*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication*

Carolyn Masters

God of steadfast love and faithfulness,

thank you for the gift of your love

and the gifts of your Holy Spirit.

**Thank you for the gifts we return to you,
this day and every day.**

Help us share as generously with others

as you have shared with us,

that your love might be known

throughout all the world. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

Hymn

Blessed Assurance

UMH 369

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Benediction

Pastor Larry

Choral Benediction

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain,

Over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain,

That Jesus Christ is born.

COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

*Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.*

*2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.*

*3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.*

HE IS EXALTED

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high;
I will praise him.
He is exalted, forever exalted
And I will praise his name!
He is the Lord,
Forever his truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth
Rejoice in his holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.*

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He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.*

BLESSED ASSURANCE

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.*

Refrain:

***This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.***

*2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.*

(Refrain)

*3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.*

(Refrain)