

****Call to Confession**

****Prayer of Confession**

God of our Restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust. Amen.

****Assurance of Forgiveness**

****Hymn “Gloria Patri”**

*“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.”*

****The Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share this peace with one another.

Time with Our Youngest Saints

THE WORD

Unison Prayer for Understanding

We have gathered before your Word, O God. We want to hear with understanding, so give us attentive ears. By the power of your Holy Spirit at work in the word read and proclaimed, make the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts acceptable to you, our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.

The Reading from the Old Testament Isaiah 61:1-8

“The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. Because their shame was double, and dishonour was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.”

Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Reading from the Gospels

Luke 4:14-21

14Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 18" The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, 19to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." 20And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Liturgist: The gospel of the Lord for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

A Gift of Music

Sermon **“What Would Jesus Do?”**

****Hymn 411** **“Arise, Your Light is Come!”**

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer **(debts/debtors)**

“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 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 Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

****Hymn** *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!” Amen.

****Prayer of Dedication**

THE SENDING

****Hymn 430** *“Come Sing, O Church, In Joy”*

****Charge and Blessing**

****Postlude**

****please stand as you are able**



First Presbyterian Church of Lancaster

Order of Worship for

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025 ~ 11 a.m.

Liturgist: Mrs. Lita Leavell

Interim Organist—Mr. Jim Parrish

Ushers—Mrs. Joyce Bryant and Mrs. Cheryl Denney

Pastor—The Reverend Michael Denney

Please silence cell phones prior to worship.

THE GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

****Call to Worship**

Liturgist: God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

People: God calls us to be builders as well.

Liturgist: God calls us to build our lives:

People: to restore broken places and continue to grow.

Liturgist: God calls us to build our faith:

People: to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

Liturgist: God calls us to build our community:

People: to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

Liturgist: God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of scripture:

People: to preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

****Prayer of the Day**

****Hymn 466**

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"