

LARGE PRINT

# Worship Celebration

Second Sunday after the Epiphany +  
Human Relations Day + UMW Sunday

January 14, 2024 + 9 AM

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## We Gather as God's Children

Words of Welcome

Opportunities for Ministry

Prelude - *This is My Father's World*

Jason W. Krug

### + Call to Worship

The voice of God calls to us! Are you listening?

***Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.***

The hands of God beckon us! Are you paying attention?

***Show us, Lord, your servants are paying attention.***

The love of God asks us—are you ready to follow?

***Guide us, Lord, and we, your servants, will follow.***

Come, let us worship the God whose tenacious love never stops calling and beckoning and asking us to follow.

***Thanks be to God! Amen.***

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2023.*

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### + Hymn

*Be Thou My Vision*

UMH 451

### Prayers of the People (Seeking & Offering Peace)

**Music of Meditation & Reflection - *O God Beyond All Praising***

arr. Anthony Giamanco

### The Lord's Prayer

**Choir Anthem - *Lord, You Know Me Through and Through***

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, arr. Hal Hopson

# We Grow in God's Word

Leader: With disciples of every time and place,  
let us listen for the word of God among us.

**People:** *Our ears and hearts are open.*

## First Lesson - Psalm 139.1-20 (NRSVUE)

- <sup>1</sup> O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
- <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.
- <sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- <sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O LORD, you know it completely.
- <sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.
- <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
- <sup>7</sup> Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
- <sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- <sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
- <sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and night wraps itself around me,"
- <sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.
- <sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- <sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.
- <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you,

when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
<sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.  
In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.  
<sup>17</sup> How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
<sup>18</sup> I try to count them—they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end—I am still with you.  
<sup>19</sup> O that you would kill the wicked, O God,  
and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—  
<sup>20</sup> those who speak of you maliciously  
and lift themselves up against you for evil!

The word of God for the people of God.  
***Thanks be to God.***

## **Second Lesson - John 1.43-51 (NRSVUE)**

<sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” <sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” <sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” <sup>49</sup> Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” <sup>51</sup> And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

The word of God for the people of God.  
***Thanks be to God.***

**Sermon - *The Call to See***

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely

**+ Hymn**

*Whom Shall I Send?*

UMH 582

**Invitation to Give Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory - *Andante***

arr. Lani Smith

**+ Doxology**

UMH 95

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment**

*God of all wisdom, how often have we been deaf  
to your voice speaking to our hearts,  
especially when we move in a world  
that needs it so desperately?*

*The reading from 1 Samuel brings us the phrase,  
"The word of the Lord was rare in those days,"  
which resonates with the relevance of the evening news.*

*As we bring our gifts to be dedicated this morning,  
we pray that you might open our ears,  
open our hearts to hear*

*where you call us to respond with obedience,  
so that we might do what you need  
to begin healing our world.*

*In Christ, we pray. Amen.*

*From 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20); John 1:43-51. Used with Permission of <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>.*

**We Go Out to Serve in God's Name**

**+ Hymn**

*Come & See*

TFWS 2127

**+ Benediction**

**Postlude - *Festive Voluntary***

arr. Robert Lau

*Our service of worship is ended.  
Our worship through service now begins.*