

LARGE PRINT

Worship Celebration

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2024 + 9 AM

We Gather as God's Children

Words of Welcome

Opportunities for Ministry

Prelude

March on a Theme by Handel

Alexandre Guilmant

+ Opening Prayer

*O God, searcher of all our hearts,
You have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own.
As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace,
And to enter anew into a covenant with you,
Reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us.
Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being,
And receive us in mercy, for the sake of our mediator, Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

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+ Hymn

Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

UMH 606

Prayers of the People (Seeking & Offering Peace)

Music of Meditation & Reflection

Alle Menschen müssen sterben, BWV 643

J. S. Bach

The Lord's Prayer

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 - Jeremiah 31.31-34 (NRSVUE)

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson - 2 Kings 23.1-3 (NRSVUE)

3 Then the king directed that all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem should be gathered to him. ²The king went up to the house of the LORD, and with him went all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the LORD. ³The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to follow the LORD, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon - Renewal

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely

Wesley's Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

***Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.***

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

***I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.***

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

***And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.***

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593

Invitation to Give Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Choir Anthem

Jesus Is My Lord

Nancy Price, Don Besig

+ 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.***

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

*For earth, which you have molded,
For creatures and animals,
Plants, water, air, and fire,
For Jesus who died and rose
Again,
For the breathe of life,
We give you thanks, O God.
Let these gifts be used for good wherever there is need,
In the name of all that you
Have first given us,
Especially Christ Jesus, your
Son, our Savior. Amen.*

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We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

UMH 420

+ Benediction

Postlude

Lobe den Herren, "Praise to the Lord"

Johann Gottfried Walther

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