

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 14, 2024

The asterisk () indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

Silent Prayer of Preparation

We thank you, O God, for calling us into your church to be your people. We have gathered here because we have heard your voice and responded to it. You have reached out to us in Jesus Christ. You have touched us with your Spirit, and we have turned toward you, seeking to live as we have been loved. We call upon your holy name this morning to empower us to worship and to serve. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

arr. Anna Laura Page

Welcome and Announcements

Pause for Poetry

Jacquie D'Angelo

Introit

“Introit on ‘The Westminster Chimes’”

John Lloyd

All through this hour, Lord be my guide
That by thy power no foot shall slide.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God is near, as close as faith will bring and as a surprising love in times of doubt.

People: God speaks into our hearts.

Leader: God is far, like echoes of eternity and sounds of angel song in the splendor of the universe.

People: God speaks into our hearts.

Leader: God is a small voice, breathing into our souls in wisdom, and God is a grand voice, claiming the ground for love amid seductive clamors for power.

People: Speak to us, God of grace. Speak to us this hour. Amen.

***Hymn**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

#65

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully as creatures in need of your constant care. We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will. We have failed our nation, neighbors, families, friends, and ourselves. Give us ears to hear your wisdom. Lead us to honesty and faith so that we may begin again with renewed strength. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response Hymn** “Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (v. 1)

#610

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children’s Sermon

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Choir Anthem

“Lead Me, Lord”

Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-76

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness,
Make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only,
That makest me dwell in safety.

Second Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Response to the Word***Affirmation of Faith**

The Westminster Confession of Faith (6.064-6.065)

All those whom God hath predestinated unto life, and those only, he is pleased, in his appointed and accepted time, effectually to call, by his Word and Spirit, out of that state of sin and death in which they are by nature, to grace and salvation by Jesus Christ: enlightening their minds, spiritually and savingly, to understand the things of God, taking away their heart of stone, and giving unto them an heart of flesh; renewing their wills, and by his almighty power determining them to that which is good; and effectually drawing them to Jesus Christ; yet so as they come most freely, being made willing by his grace.

This effectual call is of God’s free and special grace alone, not from anything at all foreseen in man, who is altogether passive therein, until, being quickened and renewed by the Holy Spirit, he is thereby enabled to answer this call, and to embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it.

***Hymn**

“God Is Here!”

#409

Prayers of the People and 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 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 Offering***Response**

“Doxology”

#606

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sending of God's People

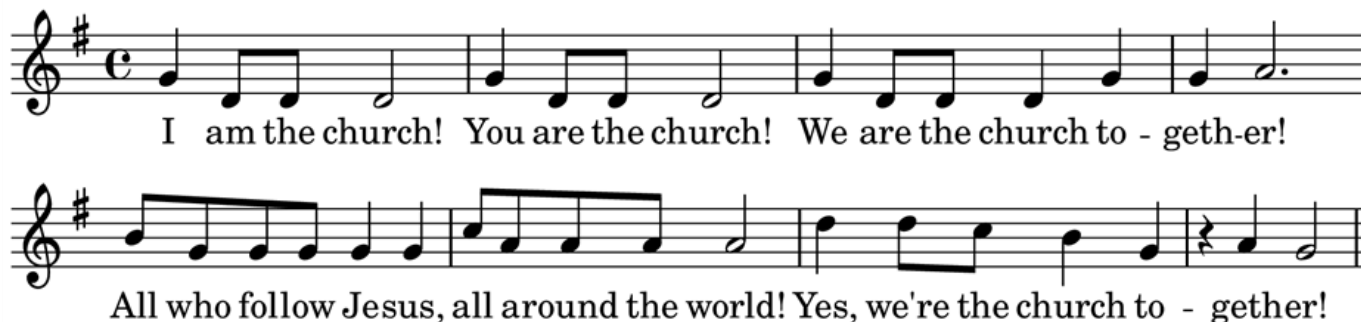
***Closing Hymn**

“Here I Am, Lord”

#69

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Response “We Are the Church”**



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The first staff contains the melody for the lyrics: "I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!". The second staff continues the melody for the lyrics: "All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - geth-er!".

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***Postlude**

“Be Thou My Vision”

arr. Gregg Sewell

Pastors: Rev. Désirée Youngblood
Steven A. Watters

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd
Organist: Carol Welk

Liturgist: Cherie Watters

Cherie was born and raised Hamilton, Ohio. She and her husband, Steve, are transplants to central Ohio, having moved to London in 1987. They have a blended family of 5 children, and 8 grandchildren ... the oldest is 19, and the youngest is 9 months. Cherie has a deep love for animals, and has had multiple dogs and cats over the years, along with a ferret at one time. Today, she has resigned herself to one cat, Annie, and one dog, Finn, a long haired German Shepherd who many of you have met.

Cherie is an avid reader, enjoys the occasional puzzle, and loves her flower gardens. The vegetable garden she leaves to Steve's care. She loves all things Irish/Celtic, hiking, and being in the woods. Hocking Hills is a favorite getaway. Cherie & Steve love to spend time with their grandchildren, plan family get-togethers when time allows, and just being together.