



# Community Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
28 January 2024

## GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

### \*Call to Worship

(One) The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. We too now see this glorious light.

**(All) The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

(One) We have been called out of darkness. We too now see this glorious light.

**(All) Like the Magi, we have beheld Christ's glory—His glory as the only Son of the Father.**

(One) For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given. In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. Christ is the King of all nations. Christ is Lord over all creation.

### Opening Prayer

#### Responsive Psalm

*Psalm 111*

(One) Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**(All) Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**

(One) Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

**(All) He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.**

(One) He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

**(All) The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.**

(One) They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

**(All) He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.**

(One) The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

\*Hymn (261)

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

(1) When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

(2) Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
save in the death of Christ, my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

(3) See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

(4) Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

### **Prayer of Confession**

(All) God of Glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Silence**

### **Communal Assurance of Pardon**

(All) In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, our sins have been washed away by the blood of the Lamb and we have been set free and reconciled with our Creator. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **PROCLAMATION**

**Old Testament Reading**  
**New Testament Reading**  
**Gospel Reading**

*Deuteronomy 18:15-20*  
*1 Corinthians 8:1-13*  
*Mark 1:21-28*

### **Sermon**

#### **\*Hymn (461)**

*Breathe on me, Breath of God*

(1) Breathe on me, breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love whate'er you love,  
and do what you would do.

(2) Breathe on me, breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until with you I will one will,  
to do and to endure.

(3) Breathe on me, breath of God,  
so that your will is mine,  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with your fire divine.

(4) Breathe on me, breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
but live with you the perfect life  
of your eternity.

## **RESPONSE**

#### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

*The Apostles Creed*

**I believe** in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. **I believe** 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, died, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from

thence he will come to judge the living 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 life everlasting. Amen.

### **Offertory**

#### **\*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

### **Passing of the Peace**

### **Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer** (sins/trespases)

## **SENDING**

### **Charge**

### **Benediction**

### **Postlude**

**Guest Minister:** Lyndon Lampert

**Minister:** Rev. Jason Brian Santos, Ph.D. (206) 962-9886

**Organist/Pianist:** Celeste Scott

### **Community Presbyterian Church**

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## **SCRIPTURES**

### **Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

18:15 The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.

18:16 This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I

hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die."

18:17 Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said.

18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command.

18:19 Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

18:20 But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak--that prophet shall die."

### **1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

8:1 Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.

8:2 Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge;

8:3 but anyone who loves God is known by him.

8:4 Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one."

8:5 Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth--as in fact there are many gods and many lords--

8:6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

8:7 It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

8:8 "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

8:9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

8:10 For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols?

8:11 So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.

8:12 But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

8:13 Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

### **Mark 1:21-28**

1:21 They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.

1:22 They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

1:23 Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit,

1:24 and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."

1:25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"

1:26 And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

1:27 They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

1:28 At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.