

PROCLAIMING

SERMON

“The Courage to Listen”

Rev. Russel W. Shuluga

RESPONDING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

No gift of ours can match the gift of your Spirit, but without our bodies made available and obedient to the Spirit the church cannot be the body of Christ to do your work in the world. Use us and ours as we respond to your call in the gospel of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: God, you call each of us to serve you, and we answer,

People: “Here I am!”

Pastor: Jesus, you call each of us to follow you, and we answer,

People: “Here I am!”

Pastor: Holy Spirit, you call each of us to worship you this day, and we answer,

People: “Here I am!”

Pastor: Go into the world, listening for God's call in your lives. Go into the world, ready to follow Jesus Christ. Go into the world, sustained by the love and power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Here I Am, Lord”

No. 593

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD!

Liturgist: Barbara Thaw



Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

Pastor: Reverend Russel W. Shuluga

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Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us.

May God bless your experience in worship with us today.
We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

January 17, 2021
Order of Worship

CENTERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

Pastor: God knows each one of us personally and God loves each one of us.

People: Thanks be to God for such wondrous love!

Pastor: Come this day into the presence of God.

People: We come with overflowing hearts!

Pastor: Celebrate God's mercy and compassion.

People: Praise be to God who offers us hope.

PRAISING

OPENING HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" No. 139

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come joyfully before the Lord!

People: God knows us and loves us!

Pastor: Come prayerfully before the Lord!

People: God sees our concerns, our fears, and our sins!

Pastor: Come hopefully before the Lord!

People: Christ proclaimed God's love and forgiveness for all God's people!

Pastor: Know throughout all of your being, that God absolutely loves you!

People: How precious and powerful that knowledge is! Thanks be to God!

OPENING PRAYER

We praise you, O God, who calls us to enter into communion with yourself. We hear your call to freedom along with your plea that we care for one another as you care for us. Help us to be so filled with your Spirit that our freedom will not become a means of ensnaring others. Amen.

INTROIT "O Lord, Your Tenderness" TFWS #2143

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS Diana Spencer

CONFESSING

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has searched for us and found us. God has healed our sorrows and wounds. May we open our hearts to God's magnificent love.

GENERAL CONFESSION

Awesome God, you have made all of creation and each cell of our bodies. You know our thoughts and you know our sins. We desperately try to hide our mistakes, our weaknesses, our embarrassments. But you know it all and so we come before you now asking for your forgiveness. Even as you know the limits of our human capabilities, we know the unlimited power of your love. Forgive us, cleanse us, and make us whole.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The God who has made us will never desert us. The God of creation is creating still, making us new. The God whose love gave us the gift of Jesus Christ is the same God whose love forgives and sustains us. Amen.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE "He Touched Me" No. 367

HEARING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: Prepare the way of the Lord.

People: We listen for the word of God.

FIRST LESSON 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. John

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL IS READ John 1: 43-51

THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ