

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Let us give thanks for the wonderful deeds of God, through our own generosity and faithfulness to others.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM 'Largo' G.F. Handel

*DOXOLOGY No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy One, Jesus of Nazareth, Spirit from on high, may our gifts reveal your grace and mercy far and wide. May others learn of your faithful love through the power of your works and through the gifts we bring this day. May they also learn that you have everything to do with their lives. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?

People: Everything! You are the source of our life, our wisdom, our healing.

Pastor: What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?

People: Everything! You give us mercy, grace, and hope.

Pastor: What you to do with the world, Jesus of Nazareth?

People: Everything! You are the holy one of God, the savior of the World!

Pastor: Let us give thanks with our whole hearts!

People: Amen!



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE 'Danish Amen' No. 898

A-men, a-men, a – men.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 'Let There Be Peace on Earth' No. 431

*POSTLUDE 'Trumpet Tune' C. S. Lang

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

**January 28, 2024
4th Sunday after the Epiphany**



Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. 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.

Pastor Russel's contact information:

Phone: (412) 735-5072

Email: Shulugarussel@gmail.com

Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – 11:15 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE 'Prelude and Fugue in G major' J.S. Bach

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHERING WORDS

What have you to do with me, Jesus of Nazareth? What have you to do with my joys and my hopes, with my hurts and my losses? Come with grace and mercy.

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies'

No. 173

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come to worship this day. Bring with you all your joys and sorrows.

People: Jesus will offer hope.

Pastor: Come to worship this day believing in the power of God through Jesus Christ.

People: Jesus will bring us healing.

Pastor: Come to worship this day feeling the presence of God.

People: Jesus will teach us new ways to live. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

Open our hearts and spirits this day to hear the great good news of your power and presence with all your people. Fill our hearts with rejoicing as the words are proclaimed in song and story. Enliven us and remind us that you are with us, through the pillar of fire, through the magnificent words of the prophets, through the ministry and love of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

INTROIT

God Is Here'

No. 660, Vs. 1 & 4

(Sung to the Tune "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling", No. 485)

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

MIFFLIN EMSEMBLE

'Draw Us in the Spirit's Teather'

Harold Friedell

CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

May we prepare our hearts and spirits to receive God's mercy and healing.

GENERAL CONFESSION

We think we know so much, O God, and with our meager knowledge we presume to judge others. We arrogantly announce our own righteousness without compassionate thought. We proclaim your word when it suits us and often only to those with whom we want to associate. We shut others out because of our faulty judgment and our blindness. There have been so many times in which our humble help would have been a blessing to someone, but we have placed our comforts before serving others. In the competing voices of today's world, we have turned around and around, trying to find the way to live. Help us, merciful God, to again listen to you. Help us to truly open our hearts to you. Remind us again of your great love and presence in our lives. Forgive us our foolishness and our stubbornness. Create in us new spirits, filled with your love, offering peace and hope to all. In Jesus' Name we pray. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Quiet your hearts, beloved of God, for God is speaking to you with love. Rest your spirits, struggling ones, for God will surround you with peace. Open your lives to God's power and presence and do not be afraid. God is with us, now and for all time. AMEN.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

'Amazing Grace'

No. 378 V. 1

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts.

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE

'Thy Word'

No. 601 (Refrain only)

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

'Alleluia'

No. 186

"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: and also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Mark

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL IS READ

Mark 1: 21-28

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

'DO WE KNOW WHO HE IS'

Pastor Russel Shuluga