



TRUCKEE LUTHERAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – February 4, 2024

*We invite you to participate in worship, reading the parts in bold print. ♪ means All Sing!
* We invite you to stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk.*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME

Pastor Pat Mecham

OPENING WORDS

Sing to the Lord a new song;

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

His understanding is beyond measure.

Let us worship God.

*** ♪ GATHERING SONG – “You Are Mine”**

Congregation

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Together we confess our sins.

God our Creator, we confess that we are broken, sinful creatures. We trust in our own power when you promise to be our strength. We exploit the poor and weak when you promise them salvation. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to rely on you alone and to give ourselves freely for others for the sake of your good news; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

*** SHARING OF THE LORD’S PEACE**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ in a way that you feel most comfortable, saying “The peace of Christ be with you.”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,

they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

The LORD heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

**The LORD counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**

Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

**The LORD lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

**who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up on the mountains.**

God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.

**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. **Hallelujah!**

*** GOSPEL READING Mark 1:29-39**

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel, the Good News of God.

Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION – "Our Limited Scope"

Pastor Pat Mecham

*** ♪ SONG IN RESPONSE – "Will You Come and Follow Me"**

Congregation

*** APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS AND PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Almighty and merciful God, from whom comes all that is good,

We praise you for your mercies! Help us to love you, and to be thankful for all your gifts by serving you and delighting to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Pat Mecham

Please conclude your prayer with "Lord, in your mercy," and all will respond, "Hear our prayer."

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

♪ **COMMUNION SONG – "In the Singing"**

Congregation

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

* ♪ **SENDING SONG – "Jehovah Jireh"**

Congregation

PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD – ANNOUNCEMENTS *Birthdays/Anniversaries*

We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church, in our local community, and throughout the world.

* **BENEDICTION**

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return to no one evil for evil, but overcome evil with good.

Amen!

* **POSTLUDE**

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