



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 23, 2025

10:00 am

*please rise as you are able, in body or spirit.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP*

*In this sacred space, **trust in the Holy Spirit.***

*On this sabbath day, **take delight in Jesus Christ.***

*Among the faithful, **commit your way to the Lord.***

Worship the triune God with gladness!

HYMN*

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

315

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace.

[silence]

**Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / PASSING OF THE PEACE*

RESPONSE TO PARDON

582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

OLD TESTAMENT – Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 Lucian Robinson
“Trust the Lord, and do good”

OFFERING OF MUSIC Adult Choir
“God of Great and God of Small”

GOSPEL – Luke 6:27-38
“Be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate.”

SERMON Dr. Linda Dickerson
“Willing to Hear?”

SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE

Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor to include those ordinarily despised and excluded. His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death. He commanded his disciples to live the same way. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER

God, in your mercy, Hear our 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.

HYMN* *“Go to the World!”* 295

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE* 765

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

FELLOWSHIP TIME – All are Welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES