

Southminster Presbyterian Church



A Service for the Worship of God
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
January 31, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION

We invite you to light your Christ Candle at home as we light it during worship.

Gathering Around God's Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Pat Bethel

Call to Worship

One: God, who flung the stars into the night sky, rejoices over all Creation.

All: Come to us, Creator God, and help us to see the wonders around us.

One: Christ, the Word of joy and life, offers us hope.

All: Come to us, O Christ, and make our hearts your home.

One: The Spirit, who breathes life into emptiness, gives us peace.

All: Come to us, Spirit of the Living God, and help us to love this world into a more whole and holy shape. Amen.

Hymn # 662

"Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies"
Please join our soloist in singing the hymns.

Cari Sullivan

Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

We think we know so much, O God, and with our meager knowledge, we presume to judge others. Sometimes, we do not recognize our own self-righteousness and impatience. We proclaim your word but often fail to live by it. There have been times when our humble help could have been a blessing to someone, but we placed our comforts before service. Amid the competing voices in today's world, we forget how to listen to your voice. Merciful God, remind us again of your great love and presence in our lives. Forgive our foolishness and our stubbornness. Fill us anew with your Spirit that we might offer the peace and the love of Christ Jesus to others.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession) Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*One: Quiet your hearts, children of God, for God is speaking to you with love.
Rest your spirits, struggling ones, for God can fill you with peace.
In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and set free to a new way of living.*

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response to Forgiveness

Hymn # 595

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

sing twice

**Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!**

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Pat Bethel

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Children's Time

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Anthem

“Be Thou My Vision”
Vocal Ensemble

arr. Heather Sorrenson

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Sermon

“Love Builds Up”

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Responding to God's Word

Hymn # 316

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

verses 1,2, and 4

Presentation of Offerings

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Presentation Hymn

Sung to the tune of "All Creatures of Our God and King"

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's 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 # 693

"Though I May Speak"

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Postlude

Jim Pera



*The flowers were given to the glory of God by Wes and Gretchen Cleaves
in celebration of their 58th wedding anniversary.*