

Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 1, 2026



Gathering and Announcements *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Prelude *May Jesus Christ Be Praised* – arr. Penny Rodriguez
Jessye Whitis, pianist

***Call to worship** (Psalm 27:1)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

We gather in the presence of God. Let us open our hearts and minds in worship.

***Opening Hymn # 14** *For the Beauty of the Earth*

***Call to confession**

Let us pause here to confess the sins that have kept us from recognizing and enjoying God's presence.

***Prayer of confession**

Gracious God, when despair and suffering overwhelm us, we cry out for you and feel abandoned. We doubt your presence and your promises. We believe you have turned away from us in anger. We ask why you have forsaken us. In these moments, strengthen us in faith and fill our hearts with courage. We believe, God. Help our unbelief. Amen.

(Silence is kept)

***Assurance of pardon** (Psalm 103:17)

“The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.” Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

Choral Anthem *Think of Me* – by Robert Thygerson

Jessye Whitis, Music Director and pianist

Prayer for illumination

God of epiphanies, you reveal yourself to us in diverse and numerous ways. Free us from the distractions that turn our focus away from you and your Word. Open us to the truth you reveal to us today. Amen.

Scripture readings Isaiah 9: 1 – 4; Matthew 4: 12 - 23

Sermon *Be Like Zebedee*

Richard Wood, Ruling Elder

***Affirmation of faith** (from a Brief Statement of Faith)

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us
courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

Call for the offering

Let us return a portion of the gifts we have been given to Christ's ministry and those most in need.

Offertory *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* – arr. Kurt Kaiser
Jessye Whitis, pianist

***Doxology # 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

***Hymn # 498 Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken**

Prayer of dedication

Holy God, we present these offerings to you in faith. We trust that you will bless and use them to further Christ's ministry and serve those in need. May these gifts bless those we know who are suffering and those known only to you. Amen.

Holy Communion

***Hymn of Sending # 662 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies**

Blessing

Your heart beckons you to "Come! To seek God's face!" (based on Psalm 27:8)

Let us listen to the needs of our heart and leave this house of worship ready to seek, find and follow our Savior.

May the grace, hope, peace and love of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us all, now and forever. **Amen.**

Postlude *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* Jessye Whitis, pianist

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