



**Community of Faith
Presbyterian Church
Sunday, January 7, 2024**

Regular type, leader reads; **Bold type, all read**

Gathering Around the Word

**Welcome and Announcements
Centering Music**

+Call to Worship

L: In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

**P: The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for ever.**

L: May the LORD give strength to his people!

P: May the LORD bless his people with peace!

+Hymn *Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn #107*

Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession

Please join in the prayer of confession.

God who is faithful and just, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Empower us to serve you fully, to share the resources we have with those who have less, to weep with those who weep, and to laugh with those who laugh. Help us to be good stewards over the earth you have placed in our care; help us to unite in love and concern for one another, our local community, and with brothers and sisters in all the world. *(Moment of silent prayer)*

Assurance of Pardon

L: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

P: Thanks be to God!

L: Be at peace. **Amen.**

Response of Praise *He Came Down #137*

Passing of the Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another: the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us share the sign of the peace with one another

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

L: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

Scripture Reading Acts 19:1-7

1While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. 2He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." 3Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." 4Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." 5On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — 7altogether there were about twelve of them.

Anthem

Scripture Reading Mark 1:4-11

4John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

9In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Sermon Rev. Trent Holden

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

**All: O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works. Amen.**

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; in the way of Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray, saying: **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.**

Joys and Concerns

Taking the Word into the World

+Song *We Three Kings #151*

+Charge and Benediction

Toll free conference call number (605) 313-5521, access code 1204749#

(Cell phone charges may apply)

Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 7, 2024

Contact

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Scriptures for

Sunday, Jan. 14

1 Samuel 3:1–10 (11–20)
Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18
1 Corinthians 6:12–20
John 1:43–51

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Betty Murphy
Ella Grace Marksberry
Emille Walden
Jean Jennings' Family
Jo Shade
Johanna Willis
Kelly Montana
Kleier Family
Lynda Jaeger
McDermott Family
Ron Carlin
Ruth Roeber

Finishing Out the Year - Supporting the Work of the Presbytery and the Denomination with Per Capita

Per Capita is a fundamental way in which all of us, as members of the nearly 10,000 congregations and mid councils of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) connect, participate, and share in the work of the wider church. Per capita is the primary source of funding for the Presbytery, as well as the Synod and General Assembly, and is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future. It is how Presbyterians are trained to become better ruling elders, teaching elders and deacons, and ministers. It is how Presbyterians are helped to discern God's call in their lives. It has supported our ministries at COF through grants to CLASP and for equipment purchases for our virtual church services. Please prayerfully consider (if you have not yet done so this year) donating the \$34 per capital apportionment set by the Presbytery, for each church member.