The Presbyterian Church of Okemos February 2, 2025 Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany



Gathering As a People of God

Preparation: "Jesus didn't come just for me. The for-you-ness of the gospel extends far beyond my comfort zone. And part of what it means to be saved is to have that comfort zone stretched until your heart aches for others. Jesus didn't come to make us feel good. He came to set us free, whether it feels good or not." – Rev. Diane Roth, from the *Christian Century*, 2025

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude Chorale on Canonbury Alice Jordan

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Setting the Table

Choral Introit For God Alone

PCO Chancel Choir Westin Sorrel, Director

* Call to Worship (Adapted from Psalm 71)

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

One: In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

All: In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.

One: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me,

All: for you are my rock and my fortress.

One: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and

cruel.

All: For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth. My praise is continually of you.

* **Hymn** #722

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak, vs. 1-4 [Canonbury]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Let us confess in faith, trusting in the hope that God's love restores us and makes us whole. Please join me, praying,

All: Merciful God, in a cynical and despairing world, you give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your hope. Forgive us when we fail to hear. In a dismissive and angry world, you give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your peace and

compassion. Forgive us when we fail to speak. In a lonely and grieving world, you give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your love and joy. Forgive us when we fail to act. May we be so captivated by your hope, O God, that we cannot help but to hear, to speak, and to act the message of your reign which is always coming into our world. Silent prayer. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: God has promised that whenever we repent and seek a new union with God, we are forgiven. That promise comes true now, for we know that in Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

All: We live as loved, forgiven and free people through the grace of God. Hallelujah! Amen.

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you. Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.

* Act of Praise #581

Gloria Patri

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

Loving God, by the breath of your Spirit inspire us through these scriptures. In the hearing of your Word we may be filled with new understanding. May that understanding give us courage to live and act as your disciples now and always. Amen.

Children's Message

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Scripture

Luke 4:21-30

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Who is Jesus? One is Whose Authority is Questioned.

Pastor Lisa Schrott

* Affirmation of Faith

(From the Inclusive Language Confession of 1967, the PC(USA) Book of Confessions, 9.08)

One: With the whole church, let us confess our faith sharing together in a portion of the Confession of 1967 that speaks to God's Work of Reconciliation: The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

Anthem Shine On Me Traditional Spiritual
PCO Chancel Choir arr. Rollo Dilworth

Westin Sorrel, director

Shine on me. Shine on me. I wonder if the lighthouse will shine on me. Is a light shinin' above? Is it shinin' above in the heavens for me?

Responding to the Word

Offering Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory Balm in Gilead Spiritual

Amira Coleman, soloist Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, piano

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy Communion

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you. **All: And also with you.**One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God. One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

in unison

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Communion will be served by intinction. Please take a piece of bread and dip into the cup of juice and partake as you return to your seat. The bread is gluten, soy, nut and dairy free so all may partake together.

Communion Prayer

Sent Out As a People of God

* **Hymn** #498 Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken, vs. 1-4 [Beach Spring]

* Benediction Pastor Lisa Schrott

PostludeVoluntary in D (Fugue)

Willam Selby

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

The Prayer of Confession and Promise of the Gospel were inspired by a prayer by John van de Laar. Available online at https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/01/prayer-quietly-prophetic.html. The Affirmation of Faith is from The Confession of 1967 Inclusive Language Text, found at https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/confess67.pdf

Ushers: Trudy Sturk, Jill Tribell, Tom Schaberg, Keith Camann

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Jerri Gillett and Barbara Dorr for providing the snacks, Tom Schaberg for making the coffee, and to Wayne Scott for washing the dishes.

Education Hour:

All Ages Game Day with Pizza Lunch

Next Week: February 9, 2025; Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8; Luke 5:1-11

Education Hour: Souper Bowl of Caring! All ages are invited to join the youth immediately following worship to bid on soup bowls they painted and to have some delicious soup. Donations will benefit the Greater Lansing Food Bank.

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit

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