

**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*  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Alice Jordan

**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*  
PCO Chancel Choir  
Westin Sorrel, director

Traditional Spiritual  
arr. Rollo Dilworth

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*  
Amira Coleman, soloist  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, piano

Spiritual

**\*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**



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