



January 28, 2024 – Livestream
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amy Sell

RECOGNITION OF PAST LEADERS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Gavotte for Violin and Cello

R. Glière

Phil Palermo, violin; Kurt Fowler, cello

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord, O Servants of God.

People: Let the name of the Holy One be praised.

Leader: From high noon to full moon,

People: let the name of the Holy One be praised.

Leader: From heaven's attic to earth's cellar,

People: let the name of the Holy One be praised.

Leader: From raising the weak to seating the strong,

People: let the name of the Holy One be praised.

*OPENING HYMN #127

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;

feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;

let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;

be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;

death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee;

I will ever give to thee.

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'ry where,
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

From skyscraper or hilltop, whatever we can climb,
it's up to us to tell it, not just at Christmas time. *Refrain*

OPENING PRAYER

**Great God,
you deliver us from the evil that pursues us,
and you gather us into the goodness of Jesus Christ.
Inspire our worship and empower our witness
through the gift of your Holy Spirit, to the glory of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Not Ashamed

D. Forrest

Men of the Cathedral Singers; Jim Caraher, piano

Phil Palermo, violin; Kurt Fowler, cello

I'm not ashamed to own my Lord, or to defend His cause,
maintain the honor of His Word, the glory of His cross.
Jesus, my Lord, I know His name, His name is all my trust,
He'll never put my soul to shame, nor let my hope be lost.
I know that safe with Him remains, protected by His power,
what I've committed to His hand, until my final hour.
Then He shall own my lowly name before His Father's face,
and in the New Jerusalem appoint my soul a place.
I'm not ashamed to own my Lord, Jesus, my Lord.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 111

Brandon Wallace

Leader: Praise the Lord.

**People: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

Leader: Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who have pleasure in them.

**People: Full of honor and majesty are the works of the Lord
whose righteousness endures forever,**

Leader: who has caused his wonderful works to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.

**People: The Lord provides food for the faithful,
and is ever mindful of his covenant.**

Leader: The Lord has shown his people the power of his works
by giving them the heritage of the nations.

**People: The works of the Lord's hands are faithful and just;
the precepts of the Lord are trustworthy;
they are established forever and ever,**

to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

Leader: The Lord sent redemption to his people,
and has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and wondrous is God's name.

**People: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
The praise of the Lord endures forever.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sarah Galloway

FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 8:4-6

⁴So, what about eating meat that has been offered to idols? Well, we all know that an idol is not really a god and that there is only one God. ⁵There may be so-called gods both in heaven and on earth, and some people actually worship many gods and many lords. ⁶But for us,

There is one God, the Father,
by whom all things were created,
and for whom we live.
And there is one Lord, Jesus Christ,
through whom all things were created,
and through whom we live.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #561

Jesus, United by Thy Grace

v. 1-2, 4-5

***Jesus, united by thy grace and each to each endeared,
with confidence we seek thy face and know our prayer is heard.***

***Help us to help each other, Lord, each other's cross to bear;
let all their friendly aid afford, and feel each other's care.***

***Touched by the lodestone of thy love, let all our hearts agree,
and ever toward each other move, and ever move toward thee.***

***To thee, inseparably joined, let all our spirits cleave;
O may we all the loving mind that was in thee receive.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sunil Kotian

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2013

Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord my soul who leads me into life.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Brandon Wallace

OFFERTORY

Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

arr. C. McMichael
Phil Palermo, violin; Kurt Fowler, cello;
Heather Hinton, piano

*DOXOLOGY #94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SECOND LESSON

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵ "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶ This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God anymore, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' ¹⁷ Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹ Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰ But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.'"

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Succession Plan

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN #593

Here I Am, Lord

v. 1

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

DEDICATION OF CHURCH LEADERS

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #593

Here I Am, Lord

v. 2-3

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain: ***Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.***

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

***I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? [Refrain]***

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

arr. R. Hobby

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and
in memory of Roy & Madaline Hammett the parents, grandparents and great-grandparents
of Linda McElwrath, Sharel & Tom Welch and Alyssa, Kathleen & Lizette Welch.*

Upcoming Events

Today, Book Exchange, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Tonight, State of the UMC, 4:00pm

January 30, LGBTQ+ Fellowship, 6:00pm

February 2, Indiana Pacers v. Sacramento Kings, 7:30pm

February 4, Youth Group Bowling, 2:00 – 4:00pm

February 10, Eviction Sealing Event, 9:30am – 12:30pm

February 11, featuring singer Callie Day at the 11:00am service

February 13, Mardi Gras, 5:30pm

February 18, Lenten Small Groups
begin at various locations, times, and dates

February 21, Renewing Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30 pm

February 22, Miriam Circle, 12:30pm

February 27, Women of Lydia, 7:00pm

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood

Senior Pastor

Sunil Kotian

Pastor of Mission & Outreach

Amy Sell

Minister of Discipleship & Formation

Brandon Wallace

Minister of Youth & Young Adults

Sarah Galloway

Liturgist

John Hague, James Horton,

and Allen McCormack

Audio Visual

Mark Gilgallon

Music Director

Heather Hinton

Organist