

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 29 January 2023

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

***Greeting**:**

The Lord has brought us from bondage,
And redeemed us from the house of slavery.
Therefore, let us praise the Name of the Lord,
**That all the world may know
how God has saved us.**
(Based on Micah 6)

*Praise Choruses: Eight hymns in eight minutes

***Opening Prayer**:**

Almighty God,
who by the light of your Word,
has turned the foolishness of the cross
into saving wisdom;
**increase in our hearts the power of faith,
that no temptation may quench the fires
which you have kindled in the hearts of those
who walk with you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.**
(Gelasian Sacramentary, Alt.)

*Opening Hymn: 505 *(Tune 296)* "When Our Confidence Is Shaken"

(2)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 465 *(Verse 1 and 2 only)*
"Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

Psalter: 747 Psalm 15

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*Hymn of Preparation: 163 "Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know"

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon: "Welcome"

*Affirmation of Faith: 881 "The Apostles' Creed,
Traditional Version"
Joys, Concerns, Prayers

*The Peace: Let us offer one another
signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/offertory

*Doxology: 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

(3)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession**:

Eternal and loving God,
we come before your majesty this day
and would bring all we have
to show our thanksgiving.

**We ask that your Holy Spirit give us
a true spirit of humility.**

**Open our minds to see your wisdom for us
is clothed in the world's foolishness.**

Enable us to let the world know your saving acts.

Look with mercy upon those who suffer this day.

**Give them patience in their affliction,
that they and we may rise up and call you blessed.**

Show us the way of salvation this day and always,

**for we offer ourselves, our gifts, and our prayers,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(OSL, alt)

*The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 467 "Trust and Obey"

*Blessing**:

The Lord bless you and keep you;
**the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.**

Amen. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude/Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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