

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10 a.m. Sunday 26 January 2025

Third 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 heavens are telling the glory of God;

And the earth proclaims God's handiwork.

As we proclaim the praise of God,

May the words of our mouths

and the meditation of our hearts

be acceptable to God,

our rock and our redeemer. *(Psalm 19)*

*Praise Choruses: 2227 "We Are the Body of Christ"

2228 "Sacred the Body"

*Opening Prayer^:

In you, O God, every family on earth receives its name.

Illumine the homes of this earth with the light of your love,

granting courage to those who are hurt or lonely,

endurance to those who care for sick family members,

and wisdom to those in fearful times of change.

We thank you for gifts of love we have received

from mother, father, spouse, child, or companion.

As we have been loved by you and by others, so may we love.

Grant us your peace, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

(Ruth Duck, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)

*Opening Hymn: 182 "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 594 "Come, Divine Interpreter"

(2)

First Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalter: 750 Psalm 19 *(Response 1)*

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

*Hymn of Preparation: 566 "Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love"

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:14-21

Sermon

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.

Offertory

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving^:

O God, most merciful and gracious,
of whose bounty we have all received,
accept this offering of your people.

**Remember in your love those who have brought it
and those for whom it is given,**

and so follow it with your blessing

that it may promote peace and goodwill among all peoples,

(3)

and advance the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. *(Presbyterian, U.S.A., 20th Cent.)*

*The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 2120 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

*Closing Prayer^:

Grant, O Lord, that what has been said with our lips
we may believe in our hearts,
**and that what we believe in our hearts
we may practice in our lives,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(John Hunter, Scotland, 19th Cent., Alt.)

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude/Going Forth _____

*Indicates the people standing, if willing and able

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