

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC

Give Me Jesus

African American Spiritual
Arr. Marques L. A. Garrett

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCE

The Rev. Dr. James Butler

* UNISON INTROIT (Hymn 297, v. 4)

***Unite us, anoint us, O Spirit of love. For you are within us, around us, above.
Equip us for service with gifts you bestow.
In Christ is our calling. In Christ may we grow.***

* OPENING RESPONSES

The Rev. Dr. Cinda Gorman

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Taste and see that the Lord is good

How blessed are those who seek their comfort and refuge in God.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

And all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

* HYMN 401

"Here in This Place"

GATHER US IN

* ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Beloved in Christ: God is with us!

We are not alone!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION

**Before you, Holy Lord, and with our friends in Christ, we acknowledge our
imperfection and the many ways we wound ourselves, others, and the earth, our
mortal home. We have pursued our own best interest rather than the well-being of
our neighbors. We have nursed grudges and withheld forgiveness. We have been
unhelpful critics. Forgive us and free us to do what love commands; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG REPONSE

***You are the Lord! Giver of mercy. You are the Christ! Giver of mercy.
You are the Lord! Giver of mercy.***

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

I Corinthians 13:13

(Pew Bible, N.T. p.175)

* GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 4:20-30

(Pew Bible, N.T. p.61)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SUNG BLESSING (Hymn 547, v. 1)

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river, I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

SERMON

"Nerve Pokers: Enemies or God's Messengers?"

Dr. Butler

"When they heard what Jesus said, his townspeople were outraged."

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

ANTHEM

Peace Between Nations

Christopher Wiggins

Peace between nations. Peace between races. Peace between neighbors in love of the King of
Life. Peace between sister and brother. Peace between life partners. Peace between parents
and children, the peace of Christ above all peace. Peace between brothers peace between
sisters. Peace between lovers in love of the King of Life.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERTORY

Where Could I Go?

James B. Coats

Lucie Freeman, solo

Living below in this old sinful world. Hardly a comfort can afford. Striving alone to face temptation sore. Where could I go but to the Lord? Where could I go? Oh, where could I go seeking a refuge for my soul? Needing a friend to save me in the end. Where could I go but to the Lord? Neighbors are kind, I love them every one. We get along in sweet accord. But when my soul needs manna from above, where could I go but to the Lord? Life here is grand with friends I love so dear. Comfort I get from God's own word. Yet when I face the chilling hand of death, where could I go but to the Lord?

*** DOXOLOGY** (Hymn 606)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*** INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** HYMN 693**

"Though I May Speak"

GIFT OF LOVE

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** DEPARTING MUSIC**

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. Edwin T. Childs

The people are welcome to depart or remain seated while the Departing Music is played.

Our Mission

To extend the gracious welcome of God in Jesus Christ through worship,
service and spiritual growth in a supportive community of faith.

Staff

The Rev. Dr. James Butler, Pastor * The Revs. Dr. Steve and Dr. Cinda Gorman, Parish Associates
Dr. Kaori Hongo, Minister of Music * Aliyah Kennedy, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025

10 a.m.
