



First Presbyterian Church

meets at
292 West Main Street · Newark, DE 19711
302-731-5644 · firstpresnewark.org



January 19, 2025

Second Sunday after the Epiphany



*A nurturing community in Jesus Christ reflecting God's love for the world
as we Worship, Grow and Serve.*

*Those who are able may stand

PRELUDE Improv on ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGLEIN

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS

“This is the amazing story of God’s grace. God saves us by His grace and transforms us more and more into the likeness of His Son by His grace. In all our trials and afflictions, He sustains and strengthens us by His grace. He calls us by grace to perform our own unique function within the Body of Christ. Then, again by grace, He gives to each of us the spiritual gifts necessary to fulfill our calling. As we serve Him, He makes that service acceptable to Himself by grace, and then rewards us a hundredfold by grace.”

-Jerry Bridges

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks for joining us in worship today. Please sign the red Friendship Pad. If you are a visitor, please share with us your contact information, including your email address, so we can add you to our email distribution list.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

How precious is the steadfast love of God.

**All people may take refuge in the shadow of
God’s embrace.**

Christ is the fountain of life.

In Christ we behold the Light of God. Amen.

***HYMN #286**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (unison)**

Holy God,

through signs of grace you reveal your glory to all the world.

Open our eyes to the hidden and surprising wonders you perform,

that we may believe with our minds

and trust in our hearts

that you alone are Lord of all creation.

Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

***GLORY TO GOD HYMN #582 (unison)**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy and gracious God, we confess that we have not loved as You call us to love. We have ignored the cries of the oppressed and tolerated the sin of racism in our hearts and communities. We choose comfort over justice, silence over action, and complacency over courage. Forgive us, Lord, and cleanse our hearts. Open our eyes to see Your image in all people and our ears to hear the Spirit's call to justice. Lead us to be Your agents of healing and transformation. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Goodness of God Johnson/Cash/Ingram/Fielding

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Holy Spirit, guide us as we hear Your Word. Quiet the distractions around us, still the restlessness within us, and open our hearts to receive Your truth. Grant us discernment to understand and courage to act. May Your Word challenge and transform us to walk in love and justice. Speak, Lord, for we are listening. Amen.

SCRIPTURES (PAGES 604, 933) *Isaiah 62:1-5, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11*

Response after reading: This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MESSAGE

*If you have prayer concerns or joys today,
please use our Prayer Request Card and give it to an Usher during this hymn*

HYMN # 300We Are One in the Spirit*

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

***AFFIRMATION OF FATH (unison)**

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**OFFERTORY ANTHEM***Many Gifts, One Spirit*

Allen Pote

Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice.

Many reasons, one promise, many questions, one choice.

O God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above.

In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.

O God, remind us we are not alone.

Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne.

Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand.

We are members of one family, growing strong by joining hands.

O God, remind us we are not alone.

Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne.

Take our many ways of working, blend the colors of each soul

Into the beauty of a rainbow, give us life, Lord, make us whole.

SONG OF DEDICATIONPraise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

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****PRAYER OF DEDICATION****PRAYER CONCERNS**

*As each group is prayed for the minister will say: Lord in Your Mercy, and the people will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER (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.
Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

***HYMN # 306**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Hymn #339

Lift Every Voice and Sing, v. 1

LIFT EVERY VOICE

**Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won.**

About the Music by Christian Hendricks

Love and unity are wed together today: God's love for the nations will be revealed when, as a bride and bridegroom, Jerusalem is redeemed to God; we will take refuge under God's love; Paul exclaims that, not despite our differences, but because of them, we are united in one spirit; and Jesus begins revealing his miracles at the wedding in Cana.

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGLEIN ("There flew a little forest bird") is a 17th century German folk song that was first used as a hymn tune for "O Day of Rest and Gladness"; amongst its other hymn settings is #733 in our hymnals, "We All Are One in Mission," tying in with the theme of today's service.

As Martin Luther King Jr. Day is tomorrow (January 20), we honor his legacy with the great anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing" as our postlude. Love and unity are not just states of being, they are actions, and this song reminds us that we cannot rest on our past laurels—especially in the face of present dangers—, that we must "sing, till earth and heaven ring...with the harmonies of liberty," and to "march on, till victory is won."

If you are thinking of joining
our church, we would love to
have you!
Please contact Pastor Dan at
302-731-5644 or 484-557-9983



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(Copy link to your web browser)

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Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am- 1:00 pm