

Bold Text is read or sung by the congregation

PRELUDE & CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (based Psalm 146)

Jane Sturgis

Praise the Lord!

Let my whole being praise the Lord!

I will praise the Lord with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

God: the maker of heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them,

God: who is faithful forever,

who gives justice to people who are oppressed,

who gives bread to people who are starving!

The Lord: who frees prisoners.

The Lord: who makes the blind see.

The Lord: who straightens up those who are bent low.

The Lord: who loves the righteous, protects immigrants,

helps orphans and widows,

We praise only this Lord.

OPENING PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN

**Come, great God of all the ages;
make your earthly mission known;
speak through every deed
and person;
let your way and will be shown.**

**Guide the church
to true commitment;
give direction now, we ask;
fit us for the work of building;
dedicate us to the task.**

**Come, Christ Jesus, flesh and spirit,
sure foundation, cornerstone;
help us form the church eternal;
may your vision be our own.**

**Send a message to each follower;
lead all people to your way;
urge us to strong faith and action
as we build the church today.**

Come, Great God of All the Ages | No. 309

**Come, great Spirit, in and with us,
tune our ears to hear your call;
through the moving
of your presence,
let redeeming love recall**

**Ministry in dedication,
love embodied in our deeds;
challenge us to do your bidding,
see your purpose, fill all needs.**

**Come, O come, in celebration,
household of the one true God;
in commitment and rejoicing
let us go where Christ has trod;**

**As we act in faith and reverence,
let us, Lord, the future see;
place us in the church triumphant,
now and for eternity.**

"Come, Great God of All the Ages"

TEXT: Michael Perry, 1973, alt. MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983.
CCLI License No. 11195013

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, you taught us that in your kingdom,

“Blessed are the poor in spirit”— but we have been rich in pride.

“Blessed are those who mourn”— but we have often been callous to suffering.

“Blessed are the meek” — but we are rebellious by nature.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness” — but we tolerate evil.

“Blessed are the merciful”— but we are harsh and impatient.

“Blessed are the pure in heart” — but we have entertained darkness.

“Blessed are the peacemakers” — but we have not sought reconciliation.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness” — but we do not challenge the world. “

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me” — but we have hardly made it known that we are yours.

Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us all of our sins. Renew us and lead us to seek your kingdom.

(A time for silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Raise a Song of Gladness: Jubilate Deo | No. 155

Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.

Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:23-5:1-15 (NRSV)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Every Time I Feel the Spirit | Brittney Williams (solo)

SERMON

Blessed to be a Blessing | Rev. Cindy Carlisle

“Raise a Song of Gladness: Jubilate Deo”

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1978 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1978

CCLI License No. 11195013

***HYMN**

Blest Are They | No. 172

**Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow;
they shall be consoled.**

REFRAIN:

**Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you; holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!
Blest are they, the lowly ones;
they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger
and thirst;
they shall have their fill.**

[REFRAIN]

**Blest are they who show mercy;
mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart;
they shall see God.**

[REFRAIN]

**Blest are they who seek peace;
they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith;
the glory of God is theirs.**

[REFRAIN]

**Blest are you who suffer hate,
all because of me.
Rejoice, be glad;
yours is the kingdom;
shine for all to see.**

[REFRAIN]

"Blest are They"

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1978 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1978
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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from A Declaration of Faith)

God created human beings with a need for community and with freedom to enter into it by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience and to one another with love and helpfulness.

We believe that we have been created to relate to God and each other in freedom and responsibility.

We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility by trying to live without God and other people or against God and other people.

Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being, and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them. Since every human being is made for communion with God and others, we must treat no one with contempt.

We are to respect and love all other people and ourselves as well.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord's Prayer | p.35

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.

***SENDING HYMN**

**The church of Christ in every age,
beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.**

**Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.**

**Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.**

The Church of Christ in Every Age | No. 320

**For Christ alone,
whose blood was shed,
can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share
our bread
and feed the starving multitude.**

**We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread Christ's liberating word.**

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

TEXT: James Weldon Johnson, 1900 MUSIC: J. Rosamond Jonson, 1905
CCLI License No. 11195013

***BLESSING**

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Preaching — Rev. Cindy Carlisle

Liturgist— Jane Sturgis

Choir Director—Brittney Williams

Accompanist/Pianist—Patricia Provencio

Technology — Bob Jones & Jim Collins

JAN 30 - FEB 5

MON | 30

BIRTHDAY
Sandy Winston

TUE | 31

BIRTHDAY
Adwoa Adu-Gyamfi

WED | 1

Zoom Bible Study, 12:00PM
Deacons, 6:00PM

THU | 2

Hand Bells, 5:30PM
Quilter's Board, 6:00PM
Youth Group, 6:00PM

SUN | 5

Communion Sunday Worship, 10:00AM
Fellowship Hour, 11:30AM
NA of EP, 3:00PM

Prayers & Concerns

Eric Regis

Maggie Fenstermacher

Ann & Judy Ann Patrick

Bob Hedicke

Frances Blankinship

Pat Bryant

Mildred Helm

Lee Brownfield

Doug Conway

Need to add or remove someone from the Prayers/Concerns list? Give us a call at (915) 755-8206 or email us at office@epgrace.com Names will remain on for 30 days, unless we are notified otherwise.

To make an offering online, please scan the QR Code.
For all offerings given in any form, thank you!



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