

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

January 29, 2006

The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

“Ave Verum”

W. A. Mozart

The Call To Worship

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

Praise the Lord!

**Your work is full of honor and majesty,
and your righteousness endures forever.**

The works of your hands are faithful and just;
all your precepts are trustworthy.

**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice it have good understanding.**

(from *Psalm 111*)

The Prayer of Praise

*The Hymn 488

“*The God of Abraham Praise*”

*The Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we have claimed to have more knowledge than we really possess. We have presumed to judge others on the basis of our limited understanding. We have grasped for freedom without taking full responsibility for our actions. Our witness is weak, and is shared mostly with those whom we prefer. By our actions, some of our sisters and brothers are excluded, some are misled, and some are unjustly accused. If we have violated another’s conscience, if we have caused someone to fall, we are deeply sorry. For failing to do all Christ expects of the church, we repent and seek Your forgiveness...

(time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news!

Jesus has power to rid us of unclean spirits.

Jesus has power to cast out our sins.

Friends, believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.

Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

p. 218 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalm 111*

p. 691 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

“*Oh, Praise the Lord*”

W. A. Mozart

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Mark 1:21-28*

p. 42 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 504

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

The New Testament Lesson: *I Corinthians 8:1-13*

p. 208 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

“Watching Out
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

*The Affirmation of Faith

from “A Brief Statement of Faith”

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Offertory

“Adagio K. 356”

W. A. Mozart

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

By giving away some of the wealth we cherish so much, we keep ourselves focused on who you are, gracious God, and on what you expect of us. As the body of Christ, we seek to be a healing force in our world. May the offerings we present be used in ways that encourage healthy and healing behaviors among us in the church, within our community, and as far as our influence can reach. Receive us and our gifts, we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

GO IN GOD’S NAME.

*The Hymn 380

“O Christ, the Healer”

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Postlude

“Viennese Sonatina No. 1”

W. A. Mozart