

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

January 16, 2005

The Second 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

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 40)

When I waited patiently for you, O God, you bent down to me and heard my cry.

**You put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.**

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;

I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

**Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me; let your  
steadfast love and faithfulness keep me safe forever.**

The Prayer of Praise

**You have called us before we were born, O God, and named us in our mother's womb. You have made our mouths like sharp swords, and hid us in the shadow of your hand. You have made us polished arrows and kept us safe in your quiver. In Christ you have called us to be your servants, to be a light to the nations, and to herald your goodness to all. Now our heads are lifted up and we will offer you our sacrifices with shouts of joy. Praise be to you our Maker, Redeemer, and Friend. Amen.**

\*The Hymn 483      *"Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we confess that we have received your call but have failed to properly respond. You have called us to be a servant to the nations, but we have been preoccupied with our own salvation. You have given us a ministry to all people, but we have remained focused on ourselves. You called us to share our goods with the world, but we have gathered more for our own use. You directed us to declare your mercy to the nations, but we have sought to bend the nations to our will. You have made us a servant, but we have acted as if we were in charge. Cleanse us, God. Forgive us. Redeem us and grant us your mercy...(time for silent confession).**

\*The Choral Response

\*The Assurance of Pardon

(from I Cor. 1)

Grace and peace is given to you in Jesus Christ.

**All who call upon His name the Lord claims as His own.**

God will keep you firm to the end,

without reproach on the Day of our Lord Jesus!

**It is God Who called us to share in the life of God's Son, Jesus Christ.**

God keeps faith and forgives our sin.

**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: *Isaiah 49:1-7*

p. 629 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 40:1-11*

p. 486 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

*“Praise to the Lord”*

Daniel Sharp

The *Epistle* Lesson: *1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

p. 991 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

\*The Hymn 402

*“Now Praise the Hidden God of Love”*

The *Gospel* Lesson: *John 1:29-42*

p. 922 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

*“Come and See”*  
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

\*The *Apostles' Creed*

p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

\*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

**God of the saints in every age and time, we are grateful for the privilege of being numbered among them as we invest our gifts from You. Because of Your generosity, we have not lacked for anything we really need. Grant now that our words and deeds may follow our offering into loving service in Your realm through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME. . .

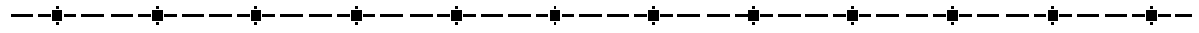
\*The Hymn 420

*“God of Grace and God of Glory”*

\*The Charge & Benediction

*“God Be in My Head”*

\*The Postlude



**Please note that there will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, January 30, following the 11:00 a.m. service of worship.** The purpose of this meeting is to elect members to the 2005 Church Officer Nominating Committee, approve changes in terms of call for our pastors, and to conduct any other appropriate business that may come before the congregation.