

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

January 30, 2005

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

*“Come, Let Us Sing Unto the Lord”*

Michael R. Keller

The Call To Worship

Let all who hunger for God come to God’s holy hill!

**Blessed are those whose desire is for the Lord;**

**let us lift our hearts and voices in thanksgiving.**

Let all who thirst for God enter the temple of the Lord.

**Blessed are those who worship in spirit and in truth.**

**Let us worship God with prayer and praise!**

The Prayer of Praise

\*The Hymn 474

*“O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, you chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; and what is weak in the world to shame the strong. So why is it that we keep striving to be more powerful and more wise in the world? Our lives include the struggle to be “great” in our chosen profession, in our sports activities, even in our knowledge of world events or the latest trends. We feel the need to boast – about ourselves, our jobs, our children, our busy, busy lives. What we should be boasting about is you, God – about your generosity to us, your presence in our lives, your care for the world. Help us to re-order our priorities, God. We want to be the best we can in service to you and to others. Help us remember Jesus’ model of ministry, and to rejoice and be glad to do your work in this world. . . .(time for silent confession). . .**

\*The Choral Response

\*The Assurance of Pardon

\*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

**We sit at your feet, O Lord. Lead us in the ways of your truth.  
Teach us how to be your blessed community. Amen.**

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Micah 6:1-8* p. 805 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 15* p. 470 in the pew Bible

The Anthem *“Ye Followers of the Lamb”* Edwin Earle Ferguson

The *Epistle* Lesson: *1 Corinthians 1:18-31* p. 991 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

\*The Hymn 233 *“Blest Are the Uncorrupt in Heart”*

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Matthew 5:1-12* p. 837 in the pew Bible

The Sermon *“What Really Matters”*  
Rev. Erin C. Sharp

Musical Mediation *“The Beatitudes”*  
Jubilate Ringers

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

**We offer but a portion of the bounty you bestow, O God. Receive our gifts as we seek to walk in Your way. Where justice is sought, use these gifts to bring Christ's liberating Word. Where there is pain, may they bring the healing of Christ's love. Where there is want, let them assure others that You know of their needs before they are voiced. Continue to enhance what we give to You, as we become more obedient to Christ's will for our lives. Bless both these gifts and those who return them to You in Jesus' holy name. Amen.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME. . .

\*The Hymn 433 *“There's a Spirit in the Air”*

\*The Charge & Benediction

\*The Postlude