

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Chiming of the Hour

Preparation for Worship

Prelude

Prelude on “*Hiding Place*” arranged by Tom Birchwood

* Call to Worship from Psalm 146

Happy are those whose hope is in our Creator,
for God keeps faith forever!
God brings justice for the oppressed and gives food for the hungry.
God sets the prisoners free and gives sight to the blind.

* Hymn of Praise No. 666 *The Voice of God Is Calling* MEIRIONYDD

**The voice of God is calling to women and to men;
the voice once heard in Zion, resounds on earth again:
whom shall I send to succor my people in their need?
Whom shall I send to loosen the bonds of shame and greed?**

**I hear my people crying in slum and mine and mill;
no field or mart is silent, no city street is still.
I see my people falling in darkness and despair.
Whom shall I send to shatter the fetters which they bear?**

**We heed, O God, your summons, and answer: Here are we!
Send us upon your errand, let us your servants be.
Our strength is dust and ashes, our years a passing hour,
But you can use our weakness to magnify your power.**

**From ease and plenty save us; from pride of place absolve;
purge us of low desire; lift us to high resolve;
take us, and make us holy; teach us your will and way.
Speak, and behold! we answer; command, and we obey!**

* Prayer of Praise Elizabeth Corney

Welcome Lia Scholl

* Gathering Music *All Are Welcome* words and arrangement by Marty Haugen

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe-ly live, a
6 place where saints and chil- dren. tell how hearts learn to for- give. Built of
10 hopes and dreams and vi- sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall
15 end di- vi- sions: All are wel- come, all are wel- come,
18 all are wel- come in this place.

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Prayers of the People and Blessing New Councils

Hymn of Offering

When Will Justice Flow Like Waters? BEACH SPRING

**When will justice flow like water, bringing healing to the earth?
Peace awaits our works of justice, giving everyone full worth.
Holy Wisdom, come to help us one another’s burdens bear;
As we join with those who suffer, fill us with Your loving care.**

**Holy Wisdom, give us courage; help us be Your prophets bold,
Speaking words of truth and fairness, all Your goodness to uphold.
Still injustice based on gender, race, and class and stifling norms
Stirs us all to loving action, joining You to bring reform.**

**Holy Wisdom, send us forward, spreading Good News everywhere;
Freedom’s doors will swing wide open, as with You we dream and dare.
Joining You to end oppression, we break walls to bring release;
All creation blossoms fully on Your wondrous paths of peace.**

words by Jann Aldredge-Clanton, 2010

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

* Offertory Response

Praise God whose dawn transfigures night LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God whose dawn transfigures night,
Whose Daystar shines for us on high.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Whose Spirit brings into our sight,
The hope which to our world draws nigh.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!!**

The children may exit to the Children’s Room (107B) for playtime.

* Offertory Prayer

Introduction to Our Sacred Text

Lesson from the Gospels Luke 4:14-30, NLT

Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit’s power. Reports about him spread quickly through the whole region. He taught regularly in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord’s favor has come.”

He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. Then he began to speak to them. “The Scripture you’ve just heard has been fulfilled this very day!” Everyone spoke well of him and was amazed by the gracious words that came from his lips. “How can this be?” they asked. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” Then he said, “You will undoubtedly quote me this proverb: ‘Physician, heal yourself’—meaning, ‘Do miracles here in your hometown like those you did

in Capernaum.’ But I tell you the truth, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown.

“Certainly there were many needy widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the heavens were closed for three and a half years, and a severe famine devastated the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them. He was sent instead to a foreigner—a widow of Zarephath in the land of Sidon. And many in Israel had leprosy in the time of the prophet Elisha, but the only one healed was Naaman, a Syrian.”

When they heard this, the people in the synagogue were furious. Jumping up, they mobbed him and forced him to the edge of the hill on which the town was built. They intended to push him over the cliff, but he passed right through the crowd and went on his way.

Anthem

Lift Ev’ry Voice words by James W. Johnson, 1921

music by J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921

*(Solo) 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.*

*(Choir) Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears have been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

***(All) God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light;
keep us for ever in the path, we pray.***

***Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we for ever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.***

Sermon

When Lives Really Matter Lia Scholl

* Hymn of Commitment No. 668 *For the Healing of the Nations* CWM RHONDDA

We invite you to commit your life to Christ as a disciple, to join our church as a member, or you may wish to reaffirm your faith or make other commitments. You are welcome to come forward at this time.

* Announcements and Godspeed

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude on “*Lift Ev’ry Voice*”

**Please stand as you are able.*

