

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on the Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

January 31, 2021

Welcome

Prelude: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* – Craig Curry

Call to Worship (Psalm 111)

Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures forever.

Prayer of the Day

God of the prophets, help us to recognize your voice among the competing claims of our day. Be present with us to guide our prayers and praise. Let us not presume to know your message without careful listening or to speak your word without discerning the Spirit. Light your fires within us so we may heed your summons and give our best in your service. Amen.

Hymn: *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:21-28

Sermon: Love Builds Up

Confession of Faith (from Confession of 1967, 9.15)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

Hymn: *All Creatures Of Our God and King*

Commission and Blessing

Witness to the good news you have heard.
God is even now raising up prophets among us.

**We thank God for his time of being together.
We are grateful for freedom to worship and grow.**

God is establishing truth among us, inviting us to learn.
Dare to question and explore, as disciples of Jesus.

**We praise God for insight and guidance we have received.
We delight in ways we are able to help others.**

God will supply us with words of our witness.
We will be led to offer others appropriate help.

**All honor and majesty and glory be to God!
May we never stop praising God with our lives!**

Amen. **Amen.**

Postlude: *All Creatures of Our God and King* – Mark Hayes

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis, Mary Kwantes, and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley. Portions of the service drawn from Feasting on the Word, used by permission.