

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *Draw Me Nearer* – Arr. Tracey Craig
McKibben

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Introit: *Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect (Psalm 19)*

Responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

We praise you, God, for the diversity of your body.

By God's Spirit, we are one.

From diverse backgrounds and diverse places,

by God's Spirit, we are one.

From diverse cultures and diverse generations,

by God's Spirit, we are one.

From diverse questions and diverse dreams,

by God's Spirit, we are one.

We celebrate our diversity. We celebrate our unity.

By God's Spirit, we are one. Hallelujah!

Prayer of the Day (from Luke 4)

God of jubilee, in Jesus Christ you are always bringing good news to the poor and liberty for the captives. You grant sight for the blind and freedom for the oppressed. You declare the year of holy favor. Help us this day as we, your people, gather, to hold this vision of jubilee. Teach us this day to both receive and embody the fullness of your Spirit's vision. Amen.

Opening Hymn #300: *We Are One in the Spirit* (stand)

Call to Confession

Turning to God and following the light of Christ, let us in faith confess our sin and the sins of the world.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we have wandered from your light. We follow paths of self-indulgence, instead of focusing on our need of you. We passively accept the suffering of the world, expecting others to stand up and work for the change we would like to see. Lord, in your strength, renew us and compel us by your invitation that we may work to pursue your justice and mercy for all people, sharing your light in ways great and small. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

May the God of mercy, the Lord of strength, forgive you all your sins; and may the Holy Spirit keep you in new life.

By the grace of God, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #583: *Glory to God* (stand)

Anthem: *Lord of Our Life* John Holler

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers.

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all who share scripture: for parents, grandparents, and godparents; teachers, mentors; deacons, pastors, bishops, and scholars. Inspire passion for the stories of faith.

God of grace, **Hear our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. We join together in the prayer that Jesus taught his followers to pray:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn #772: *Live Into Hope* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12: 12 – 31a

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:14-21

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *One Body, Many Gifts, Working Together*

Susan Murray

Affirmation of Faith (based on Ephesians 3)

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering Hymn #709: *God, We Honor You*

Prayer of Dedication: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

Sending Hymn #456: *Listen, God is Calling* (stand)

Charge and Benediction: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

(remain standing)

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Rejoice, the Lord is King* – Mark Hayes

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