



# Union Presbyterian Church

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

### January 22, 2023 | 10AM

Reformed worship is centered around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word Incarnate. In worship we gather around the Word, engage with the Word, and respond to the Word.

**Bold text** is read or sung by the congregation.

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

This morning's liturgy is adapted from liturgy written by Joanne Carlson Brown and posted on [ministrymatters.com](http://ministrymatters.com).

Based on Isaiah 9, Psalm 27 and Matthew 4.

This hymn's simple repetitive tune reinforces the text's sense of receptivity and expectation as a gathered group enters worship.

Confession is our opportunity to be honest with God, so that our relationship may be restored and our hearts reconciled.

## Gather

### Welcome and Announcements

*Please help us to know you by signing the fellowship pad. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue prayer card. Place both in the offering plate when it is passed.*

### Prelude

#### \*Call to Worship

To those who sit in darkness, light has dawned.

**To those who dwell in gloom and despair,**

God's glorious presence has appeared.

**God is indeed our light and our salvation.**

We will follow, unafraid,

**where God and Jesus lead us.**

Let us worship our God of light and promise.

**Let us celebrate the hope and joy of our salvation.**

#### \*Hymn 395

*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

LIEBSTER JESU

**Blessed Jesus, at your word we have come again to hear you;**

**let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in glowing faith be near you.**

**By your gospel true and holy, teach us, Lord, to love you solely.**

**All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded,  
till your Spirit breaks our night, filling us with light unclouded.**

**All good thoughts and all good living come but by your gracious giving.**

**Glorious Lord, yourself impart, Light of Light, from God proceeding.**

**Touch our lips and ears and heart; help us by your Spirit's pleading.**

**Hear the cry your church now raises;**

**hear, and bless our prayers and praises.**

### Prayer of Praise

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

**God of our light and our salvation, sometimes we prefer to live in darkness, embracing the safety and anonymity of the shadows; sometimes we delight in our divisions, believing we are better than others; sometimes our calling feels too heavy, and we seek to run away from it. Forgive our fear. Forgive our aversion to the light. Forgive our unresponsiveness to your call. Forgive our willful blindness and deafness to the way of Jesus. Help us know deep in our souls that you are our light and our salvation and will provide all that we need for the journey.**

*(Silent prayers of confession)*

Based on Psalm 27.

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient practices of worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

Hymn #450

Children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger are invited to come to the chancel steps.

Based on Jesus' calling of the disciples, this hymn notes that their mode of fishing involved nets requiring the participation of more than one person. Likewise, We are called to serve and bear witness to the risen Lord in community.

## Responsive Assurance of Forgiveness

The light of God's love shines into the dark places of our world, healing its brokenness, and bringing hope to places of despair. The light of God's love makes us a forgiven people.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

## \*Sharing Christ's Peace

Because God has given us the peace of forgiveness, let us also be at peace with one another. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Engage

### \*Song for Illumination *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

## Children's Message

### Scripture Reading

Matthew 4:12-23 (Pew Bible NT p.6)

Hear what God's Spirit is saying to us. The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ!**

### Message

*It Takes a Village*

Rev. Lisa Stenner

### \*Hymn 170

*You Walk Along Our Shoreline*

AURELIA

**You walk along our shoreline when land meets unknown sea.  
We hear your voice of power, "Now come and follow me.  
And if you still will follow through storm and wave and shoal,  
Then I will make you fishers but of the human soul."**

**You call us, Christ, to gather the people of the earth.  
We cannot fish for only those lives we think have worth.  
We spread your net of gospel across the water's face,  
Our boat a common shelter for all found by your grace.**

**We cast our net, O Jesus; we cry the kingdom's name;  
We work for love and justice; we learn to hope through pain.  
You call us, Lord, to gather God's daughters and God's sons,  
To let your judgment heal us so that all may be one.**



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# Respond

## Offering of Our Time, Talent and Treasure

Financial offerings support the Body of Christ through the life and mission of Union Presbyterian Church. You may give online [www.unionpresby.org](http://www.unionpresby.org) automated giving through your bank, and through snail mail.

### \*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

#### \*Hymn 546 (v.1,2) *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* SICILIAN MARINERS

**Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.**

**Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.**

### \*Charge and Benediction

Jesus, the light of the world, calls us to follow.  
Go and tell the news of God's love.  
Cast the nets of grace wide, that all may see the glory of God.  
Go forth and shine with God's light!  
May God—Source, Word, and Spirit—bless you with the radiance of love.

### \*Postlude

This hymn of corporate benediction was written by a Baptist pastor in rural Yorkshire and set to a tune first transcribed from Sicilian sailors.

Our worship does not end with the postlude, but continues out into the world, where we are sent to love and care for God's people

## Worship Leaders

Cheryl Martinez, Accompanist  
, Acolytes  
Nancy Shupe, Liturgist

# Announcements

## Welcome to worship at UPC this morning!

Please help us get to know you by signing the fellowship pad. If you are a first time visitor, please leave your email address or phone number so that we can continue to welcome you. Also, stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex to pick up your welcome gift after the service!

**We value children in worship!** There are children's materials and crayons available as you enter the Sanctuary, a play area in the north window of the sanctuary, and a nursery area down the hall to the right of the narthex.

**UPSeniors are lunching at Chuy's at 11am on January 26.** Please RSVP to Elaine Johnson [elainejohnsondul@gmail.com](mailto:elainejohnsondul@gmail.com).

**Congregational Meeting & Lunch Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>** The meal will be prepared by the Deacons. No need to bring anything but yourself. This annual meeting is for the Session to present the 2023 Budget, for the congregation to approve Pastor Lisa's 2023 terms of call, and to elect the 2023 Officer Nominating Committee. In the PC-USA, the Session approves the budget and is presenting it to the congregation for information. The Session recommends the pastor's terms of call; however, the congregation calls the pastor and is the body that must annually approve the pastor's terms of call. Finally, the Session presents names for the Officer Nominating Committee with a representative from the Music Program, the UPSeniors group, the Session, the Deacons, and a member at large. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor provided that the person nominated has already agreed to serve. The 2023 Officer Nominating Committee will help our congregation discern who the Spirit is leading to serve as Deacons and Elders in the class of 2026.

**Interested in Good Fellowship and Bible Study with Other Men?** We would like to begin a UPC Men's Bible Study. Those interested, please contact John Seibert (859-760-4712) or Robert Brown (859-669-6008). Once we have identified those interested, we will have an initial meeting at the church to work out the details.

## Adult Activities

### Yoga

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am  
Family Room

### Florence Women's Club

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 12:30pm – 2:30pm  
Info: Sharon Price 859-391-3984

### Iglesia Pentecostales Palabra de Vida

Sunday at 4pm  
Thursday at 6:30pm  
Info: (513) 728-5343

### Choir Practice

Wednesdays at 7pm Sanctuary  
Adults & high school students

### Alcoholics Anonymous

Wednesdays at 8pm

### UPS (Union Presbyterian Seniors)

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Lunch at local restaurants  
Info: Elaine Johnson

## ✦ Youth Activities

### Middle School Youth

TODAY: NKY Youth Ice Skating  
Leave UPC 515pm. Return 8pm  
Next week: Congregational mtg & lunch

### Senior High Youth

TODAY: NKY Youth Ice Skating  
Leave UPC 515pm. Return 8pm  
Next week: Congregational mtg & lunch

### Boy Scouts, Troop 805

Monday at 7pm

## ✦ Children's Activities

### Sunday School K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 9:15am in Room 112

### Union Music Academy

Saturday 9:30 am

### Cub Scouts, Troop 805

Tuesday at 7pm

### Girl Scouts Troop 2146

Every Other Friday at 6pm

## ✦ Abraham's Pantry

### Mondays & Thursdays

Volunteer through website for time of your choice