

MORNING WORSHIP

January 18, 2026

Half past Ten O' Clock

Second Sunday after Epiphany

*When the organ begins, please prepare for worship through silent prayer and meditation.
Following the service, greet one another with joy and affection!*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

+WELCOME AND NOTICES

PRELUDE *Reflection on "E'en so Lord Jesus"* Paul Manz

CHORAL INTROIT "Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice" ABERYSTWYTH

*CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 49:1-7

Leader: Listen, all you people! Hear this, all who dwell near and far:
The Lord who formed us and called us by name speaks life and purpose into the world.

People: **God made our lives a testimony of grace and shaped us for love beyond ourselves.**
Even when we feel weary or small, the Holy One declares:
You are my servant; in you I will be glorified.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who gathers the scattered.
People: **Let us sing to the One who makes light rise in the shadows.**

+*HYMN 610 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" AZMON

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Psalm 40

Leader: Faithful and patient God, we have not always waited for You.
When the path has felt long, or the answers have not come quickly-

People: **We have rushed ahead, trusting our own strength and relying on voices louder than Yours.**

Leader: You have drawn us up from the pit of fear and despair,

People: **Yet we return there willingly- clinging to habits that bind us, silences that protect us, and excuses that keep us from Your love.**

Leader: You have put a new song of praise in our mouths,

People: **But often we choose tired refrains of complaint, cynicism, or even resignation.**

Leader: You desire truth, not empty offerings or careful appearances.

People: **But our lives do not always reflect our words, and our choices do not always reflect our worship.**

All: **Do not remember our sins, O God.**

In Your mercy, lift us again. Set our feet upon the rock of Your grace, that we might sing a new song marked with notes of justice, a melody of compassion, and a harmony of hope. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR KEATING WITMER RODDEY

Zach Houston, Assisting Elder

+Invitation to Baptism

The Meaning of Baptism

Questions to the Parents and Congregation

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

Prayer and the Act of Baptism

Greeting a Child of God

The Apostles' Creed

Leader: Keating Witmer Roddey is now identified as a child of God in Christ's Church. Through Baptism, God has put His seal upon Keating to share with us all the benefits of Christ's sacrifice. Let us be supportive of Rich and Katie as they nurture Keating and assist her to be a faithful disciple.

People: **With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Keating into Christ's Church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage and support you, to share the good news of God's love with you, and to celebrate with you God's unfolding blessings.**

*HYMN

"I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry"

WATERLIFE

I was there to hear your burning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;

I'll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.

When you found the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;

You were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.

Should you find someone to share your time and join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your burning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

A MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Immediately following the Baptism, children age five through second grade are invited to Children's Worship.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1:35-42, pew Bible p. 967

SERMON

"What are You Looking For?"

Lori Archer Raible

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Text to Give

704-734-9818

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Here I Am, Lord"

arr. A. Sherman

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Holy and Living God, before we knew Your name, You named us. Before we sought You, You were seeking us. In gratitude for this grace we cannot earn, we place before You these gifts and the offering of our lives. Let this return become a witness, a sign that invites others to dwell where love takes flesh and mercy abides. Take what is small and shape what is broken, that through Your Spirit we will become faithful followers who listen and learn to recognize Your voice in this midst of this noisy world You love so much. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

KELVINGROVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

“Take My Life”

HENDON

*POSTLUDE

O Thou of God, the Father

J. S. Bach

*Those who are able please stand.

+Ushers may seat late worshipers.

SELWYN AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WARMLY WELCOMES ALL WHO VISIT

Selwyn Avenue is glad you are with us this morning. We welcome all visitors, celebrating God's creativity in human diversity. We'd like to stay in touch with you! Please take a moment to fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate. Please ask an usher if you need help locating the nursery, restrooms, changing tables, or large print hymnals.

Membership is by one of three paths: 1) profession of faith in Jesus Christ (for those who have never been part of a Christian church); 2) re-affirmation of faith (for those who formerly were part of a congregation but have not been involved in recent times - for example, you were baptized and/or confirmed but moved and never engaged with a new congregation); or 3) transfer of membership from another congregation (your membership is with another church). Prospective members are invited to participate in Orientation Classes, which are scheduled several times a year, and are a wonderful way to meet others and learn about our church and all the opportunities here. We stand ready to be in communication with you about your particular situation.

WORSHIP BAGS FOR 4 YRS. - 5TH GRADE Age-appropriate activities for readers and non-readers to encourage their participation in following along in worship are available in the narthex. Please return the bag to the basket after worship.

SAPC SESSION		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Rich Bonnell, Lori Burbank, Tate Hackman, Marybet Hudson, Todd Muldrew, Walker Owens, Adam Piacentino, Denise Pineno, Evan Sauda, Elizabeth Stearns, Caroline Thompson, Tina Weinberg; Youth Elder-Sarah Pineno	Mike Bellamy, Michelle Bentley, Lee Bobbitt, Jeremy Caskey, Mike DeAmicis, Zach Houston, Catherine Miller, Sally Moore, Becky Muth, Cathy Sheely, Janet Stephens, Karye Tom	Mike Bolewitz, Katie Cumbus, Lindsay Haynie, Sebastian Marth, Roger Mills, Martha Rand, Erin Salzlein, Rebecca Thompson, Ted Zimmer