

Epiphany

January 4, 2026

GATHERING: *God invites us to enter His presence*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dan Obenschain

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
The glory of God echoes throughout the world.
Let us praise the name of the Lord.

—based on Psalm 19:1-4, NRSV

INVOCATION

Dan Obenschain

Everlasting God,
you brought the nations to your light
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Fill the world with your glory,
and show yourself to all the nations,
through him who is the true light
and the bright morning star,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN 2 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

CONFESSING: *God invites us to be honest with Him*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dan Obenschain

The light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us confess our sin to God.

—based on John 3:19, NRSV

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Responsively*)

Dan Obenschain

Eternal Light,
shine in our hearts;
Eternal Goodness,
deliver us from evil;
Eternal Power,

be our support;
Eternal Wisdom,
scatter the shadows of our ignorance;
Eternal Compassion,
have mercy on us,
that with heart and mind
and soul and strength
we may seek your face
and be brought by your infinite mercy
to the Holy Presence,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dan Obenschain

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you,
that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.
If we say that we have fellowship with him
while we are walking in darkness,
we lie and do not do what is true;
but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

—1 John 1:5-7, NRSV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

¶ GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men*

OFFERING: *Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him*

INVITATION So here's what I want you to do, God helping you:
Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.
—Romans 12:1, TM

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Blessed Assurance - flute / piano*

¶ DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

¶ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.
With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives
to the care and redemption of all that you have made,
for the sake of him who gave himself for us—
Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

¶ PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You
All: And also with you*

¶ PREPARATION HYMN 66 *To God Be The Glory*

PROCLAIMING: *God speaks to us through His Work*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of light and life,
open our eyes as well as our ears,
so that we may not only hear your Word preached today
but then see your Word lived out in our lives and in your world,
through Christ, our Lord, the light of the world. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING *Ephesians 1:3-14*

3 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—**2** assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, **3** how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. **4** When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, **5** which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. **6** This mystery is^[a] that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. **8** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, **9** and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in^[b] God, who created all things, **10** so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. **11** This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, **12** in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. **13** So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory. **14** For this reason I bow my knees before the Father.

SERMON

"Every Spiritual Blessing"
Rev. Dan Stewart

¶ HYMN OF RESPONSE 292

God of Grace and God of Glory

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!

Pastoral Prayer

We give you thanks, O God,
through your beloved servant, Jesus Christ,
whom you have sent in these last times
as Savior and Redeemer and messenger of your will.
He is your Word, inseparable from you,
through whom you made all things
and in whom you take delight.
You sent him from heaven into the virgin's womb,
where he was conceived and took flesh.
Born of the virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit,
he was revealed as your Son.
In fulfillment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering
to release from suffering those who place their trust in you,
and so won for you a holy people.
He freely accepted the death to which he was handed over
in order to destroy death and to shatter the chains of the evil one;
to trample underfoot the powers of hell
and to lead the righteous into light;
to fix the boundaries of death
and to manifest the resurrection.
And so he took bread, gave thanks to you, and said,
"Take, and eat; this is my body, given for you."
In the same way he took the cup, saying,
"This is my blood, shed for you.
When you do this, do it for the remembrance of me."
Remembering therefore his death and resurrection,
we set before you this bread and cup,
thankful that you have counted us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you as your priestly people.
We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of the holy church.
Gather into one all who share these holy mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you and give you glory,
through your servant, Jesus Christ.
Through him all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church
now and forever. **Amen.**

Distribution of the Elements

The Words of Jesus.....

Invitation to the Table

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you
proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

People: **Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!**

RESPONDING: *We respond to God's Word*

PROFESSION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed, In Unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.

COMMISSIONING: *God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

 **COMMISSION HYMN 379 "Take My Life and Let It Be"**
(Verses 1, 5, & 6)

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
shine in our hearts, transform our lives,
and brighten the world.
And the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
rest upon you always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

 *Please stand if you are able.*