

4th Sunday after Epiphany  
02 February 2025

( \*\*\*\* ) *Please be seated if you are standing.*  
(UMH) *Indicates "The United Methodist Hymnal," the hardcover songbook.*  
(TFWS) *Indicates "The Faith We Sing," the black softcover songbook.*

**Gathering in God's Presence**

Music for Gathering & Centering .....Joyce Rhodes

*"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" ~ Henry Baker*  
*"Retrospection" ~ Robert Elmore"*

Choral Introit ..... Chancel Choir

*"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" ~ UMH 480 vs. 1*

Prayer for the Day ..... Pastor Daniel

Leader: Let us pray.

**ALL: Almighty and Everlasting God, the Light of faithful souls, who did bring the nations to your light and rulers to the brightness of your rising: Fill, we ask you, the world with your glory, and show yourself to all nations; through him who is the True Light and the Bright and Morning Star, Jesus Christ, your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

\* Hymn: *God of Love and God of Power*..... UMH 578

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Greetings & Community Announcements ..... Pastor Daniel

Time with Young Christians

*Before leaving for Kid's Church & Sunday School, our students are invited to join Pastor Daniel at the front for a time of learning. Parents are asked to escort children to their classroom and to pick-up children following the service. Please sign your child in and out. Thank you.*

**Listening for the Word of God**

First Scripture Reading ..... Jeremiah 1:4-10

The Lord's word came to me:

"Before I created you in the womb I knew you;

before you were born I set you apart;  
 I made you a prophet to the nations."  
 "Ah, Lord God," I said, "I don't know how to speak  
 because I'm only a child."  
 The Lord responded,  
 "Don't say, 'I'm only a child.'  
 Where I send you, you must go;  
 what I tell you, you must say.  
 Don't be afraid of them,  
 because I'm with you to rescue you,"  
 declares the Lord.  
 Then the Lord stretched out his hand,  
 touched my mouth, and said to me,  
 "I'm putting my words in your mouth.  
 This very day I appoint you over nations and empires,  
 to dig up and pull down,  
 to destroy and demolish,  
 to build and plant."

Reader: The Word of God for you the people of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Choral Anthem..... Chancel Choir

*"The Greatest of These Is Love" ~ Theodore Lucas*

Second Scripture Reading..... 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don't have love, I'm nothing. If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I've done but I don't have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever.

Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. We know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end. When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, reason like a child, think like a child. But now that I have become a man, I've put an end to childish things. Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. Now faith,

hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

Reader: The Word of God for you the people of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Third Scripture Reading..... Luke 4:21-30

He began to explain to them, "Today, this scripture has been fulfilled just as you heard it."

Everyone was raving about Jesus, so impressed were they by the gracious words flowing from his lips. They said, "This is Joseph's son, isn't it?"

Then Jesus said to them, "Undoubtedly, you will quote this saying to me: 'Doctor, heal yourself. Do here in your hometown what we've heard you did in Capernaum.'" He said, "I assure you that no prophet is welcome in the prophet's hometown. And I can assure you that there were many widows in Israel during Elijah's time, when it didn't rain for three and a half years and there was a great food shortage in the land. Yet Elijah was sent to none of them but only to a widow in the city of Zarephath in the region of Sidon. There were also many persons with skin diseases in Israel during the time of the prophet Elisha, but none of them were cleansed. Instead, Naaman the Syrian was cleansed."

When they heard this, everyone in the synagogue was filled with anger. They rose up and ran him out of town. They led him to the crest of the hill on which their town had been built so that they could throw him off the cliff. But he passed through the crowd and went on his way.

Reader: The Word of God for you the people of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *God Knows* ..... Pastor Daniel

*God knows us even before we are born. God blesses us, but how do we respond? Do we recognize God's blessings? How do we respond to Jesus' miraculous presence and run from hard teachings?*

\* Hymn: *I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry* .....TFWS 2051

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**Responding to the Word**

Invitation to Give ..... Pastor Daniel

Offertory Music .....Joyce Rhodes

\*Doxology .....UMH 94

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ ..... Pastor Daniel

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**ALL: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us offer one another signs of God's peace and love.

*Please be mindful that not everyone is comfortable with all signs of Christian affection, exchange signs of peace with others near you. Moving throughout the worship space is discouraged. Signs of peace might include: hugs, handshakes, fist bumps, a head nod, or a wave are all possibilities. Please be respectful of each other's comfort levels with physical contact. At the end of the time of sharing, we'll be called to prayer with the instrumental: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" TFWS 2193.*

**Gathering at God's Table**

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving.....Pastor Daniel

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**PEOPLE: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**PEOPLE: We lift them up the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to thanks to the Lord, our God.

**PEOPLE: It is right so to do.**

*The pastor continues by giving thanks for God's mighty acts of salvation through history, recalls the life and ministry of Jesus, and recalls the institution of the Lord's Supper. The pastor concludes invoking the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises God concluding:*

Pastor: All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever as we join our voices in the prayer your Son, Jesus, taught us:

The Lord's Prayer.....UMH 895

Sharing the Bread and the Cup .....Pastor Daniel

*We receive the elements of the bread and cup at the front and center of the worship space. The ushers will help guide you. If you would prefer a gluten-free and or prepackaged option, they can be found to the right of the person holding the cup. If*

*children do not yet receive, please let pastor know so that he may pray a blessing for them. A blessing will be offered to any of our animal companions which might be with you.*

Communion Music..... Joyce Rhodes

TBD

Prayer after Receiving .....Pastor Daniel

Pastor: Let us pray.

**ALL: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**Sending into the Mission Field**

\* Hymn: *Here I Am, Lord* ..... UMH 593

\* Dismissal with Blessing ..... Pastor Daniel

We United Methodists are guided by three simple principles:

**Do no harm.  
Do good.  
Stay in love with God.**

\* Choral Benediction ..... Chancel Choir

*"The Gift of Love" ~ UMH 408 vss. 1 & 3*

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Music to Inspire the Journey .....Joyce Rhodes

*"Finale" - tune - "O Waly, Waly" ~ arr. Janet Linker*

Other Texts Assigned, but not used for today: Psalm 71:1-6

**Next Week's Assigned Readings:**

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

*Read and pray with these texts in the coming week as part of your preparation for worship next Sunday.*

**In Our Prayers**

For Those Who Mourn: Family of Anne-Marie Wiggers, Family of Mike Seamon, the Wallace and Abate families.

For Those with Movement and Other Limitations: Willy Barcenas (Cancer Treatment), Eleanor Blumenthal (Hospitalized), Aki Okuno, Celia Palm, Becky Schmitt, Ryan Secor (Hospice), Ada Sutton, Kay Thoresen, and Ruth Marie Wolf

For Our World, Community & Country: All or our elected leaders, local, regional, state, and national, that they might be men and women who see equity, peace, justice, and whose heart is toward the common good of all; All those who serve our communities through the work of first response: police, fire, and emergency medical services; All those experiencing natural disasters: fires; earthquakes; volcanos; hurricane and its recovery; landslides; and tsunamis.

For Peace upon the Earth: Particularly in Ukraine, East Africa (Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt), the South China Sea region, the Indian/Chinese border, Gaza, the Lebanese/Israeli border, Syria

**Calendar for the Coming Week, Week of 02 February 2025**

Monday	2/3	Office Closed
		11:30 am ..... Live Oak Sr. Nutrition, Social Hall
		4 pm ..... SPR Meeting, Fireside
		7:30 pm ..... Men’s Spirituality Group, Library
Tuesday	2/4	Office Hours: 11 am to 2 pm
		10:45 am ..... Senior Chair Yoga, Social Hall
		11:30 am ..... Live Oak Sr. Nutrition, Social Hall
		12:30 pm ..... Gift Stitchers, Art Gallery
Wednesday	2/5	Office Hours: 9 am to 2 pm
		9:30 am ..... Morning Prayer, Fireside
		11:30 am ..... Live Oak Sr. Nutrition, Social Hall
		12 pm ..... Grace Preschool Special Event, Youth Center
		7 pm ..... Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday 2/6 Office Hours: 11 am to 2 pm

10:45 am ..... Senior Tai Chi, Social Hall

11:30 am ..... Live Oak Sr. Nutrition, Social Hall

1 pm ..... Faith, Reason & Community Group, Fireside

2 pm ..... Shower Ministry, Gymnasium

7 pm ..... Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary

7 pm ..... Trustees Meeting, Fireside

Friday 2/7 Office Hours: 9 am to 2 pm

11:30 am ..... Live Oak Sr. Nutrition, Social Hall

6 pm ..... SJ Youth Symphony Jazz Ensemble Concert, Sanctuary

Saturday 2/8 Office Closed

10 am ..... Grace Preschool Open House

Sunday 2/9 Office Closed

10 am ..... Worship & Sunday School

11:30 am ..... Adult Sunday School, Fireside

### **Announcements**

**In Memoriam:** Anne-Marie Wiggers passed away peacefully on January 27th. She had been in hospice care at home for a few weeks. Anne-Marie was a long-time member who was very active in the choir, the bell choir, and as a memorial coordinator, to name just a few of her contributions to LGUMC over the years. Please keep Hans, sons Joris and Robert, and their families in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.

There will be a private, family internment in February and a public memorial later in the Spring.

Cards of condolence can be sent to:

Hans Wiggers  
 12110 Mellowood Drive  
 Saratoga, CA 95070

**Adult Sunday School** continues today at 11:30am in the Fireside Room. Pastor will continue to lead a discussion of Native American (Sioux) spiritual practices related to the "sacred pipe." This image, misportrayed in Hollywood movies, offers insight for our day-to-day circumstances. We are reading The Sacred Pipe: Black Elk's Account of Seven Rites of the Oglala Sioux and Black Elk Speaks (choose one or the other). Next Sunday is our monthly "Faith & Politics" forum.

**Hunger Challenge Bags** will be in the narthex next Sunday. Please share your spare change. The money will be sent to Silicon Valley Food Bank.

**Colonet/VIM:** ¡Hola mi familia de iglesia! Preparations for the annual Colonet 2025 mission trip are well underway, but there is still an opportunity to join the trip for any prospective missionaries. The deadline to commit to the trip is today (a.k.a. "Commitment Sunday"). There will be a mandatory team meeting today at 11:30 am in Cafe Hope (below the Social Hall). If you missed the introductory meeting, please reach out to [colonetlgumc@gmail.com](mailto:colonetlgumc@gmail.com), Erik Eastland ([DoubleE7300@gmail.com](mailto:DoubleE7300@gmail.com)), or Maggie Harris ([harrisclan\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:harrisclan_2000@yahoo.com)). We can provide you with the necessary paperwork.

Commitment Sunday Meeting: Today, Feb. 2nd at 11:30 am, Cafe Hope—Bring along your completed paperwork, ID and payment.

Trip Dates: Saturday April 5th - Saturday April 12th

*Any questions?* Email [colonetlgumc@gmail.com](mailto:colonetlgumc@gmail.com), Erik Eastland ([DoubleE7300@gmail.com](mailto:DoubleE7300@gmail.com)), or Maggie Harris ([harrisclan\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:harrisclan_2000@yahoo.com))  
¡Hasta Luego! - Erik Eastland and Maggie Harris

**SJ Youth Symphony** will be conducting a Jazz Ensemble Concert in the Sanctuary on Friday, Feb. 7 at 6pm. Tickets will be sold at the door.

**The gorgeous quilts** on display in the Sanctuary are the work of the talented quilter, Joy Palmer, and are displayed courtesy of John Palmer.

**A Celebration of the Life of Joy Palmer** will be held on Saturday, February 15 at 2pm. There will be a display of some of her beautiful quilts and crafts. Refreshments will be available in the Social Hall following the service.

**Midweek Morning Prayer:** Please join Pastor Daniel on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am in Grace Chapel.

"From the earliest days of the church, Christian worshipers saw the rising of the sun and lighting of the evening lamps as symbolic of Christ's victory over death," BOW p. 876. Morning Prayer focuses upon the praise of God and prayer for the life of the World. Sermons are inappropriate. Devotional talks, if at all, should be brief. The Scripture read simply needs to be heard and allowed to sink into our souls.

**The Prayer Ministry Assistance Request:** Prayer chain and weekly emails have been sent out by Elwin & Lois Stocking. As many know, Lois had surgery on Christmas Eve. We pray for her recover. In the meantime, Pastor Daniel is sending the weekly prayer email and is the person to contact with a request. If you would like to either be included as part of this vital ministry of our congregation, or feel God calling you to take the role of "email composer/sender," please speak



with Pastor Daniel.

**Shower Ministry Charitable Need Continues:** Thank you to those who have already donated! The need for additional one-pound Liquid Propane bottles continues to help those living in unhoused circumstances have a way to stay warm or make a hot meal. If you are able to help, please drop off the one-pound LP bottles outside the Worship Center on Sunday mornings or bring to the office. The LP bottles are widely available for camping and picnics in many stores this time of year and throughout the summer (Ace Hardware, Home Depot, etc.). Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.