

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

23 February 2025

(*) *Please stand as you are able.*

(****) *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 Centering

Allow the music being offered to help you find your center, to acknowledge God's presence, and to allow yourself time and space to open your mind and heart to the Spirit of God moving among us this day.

Greetings & Community Announcements Pastor Daniel

Worship in Song The Worship Team

"Rising" ~ Paul Baloche and Matt Redman

"Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly" ~ Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, and Pat Barrett

Prayer Pastor Daniel

Time with Young Christians Pastor Daniel

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 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

But someone will say, "How are the dead raised? What kind of body will they have when they come back?" Look, fool! When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't come back to life unless it dies. What you put in the ground doesn't have the shape that it will have, but it's a bare grain of wheat or some other seed. God gives it the sort of shape that he chooses, and he gives each of the seeds its own shape.

It's the same with the resurrection of the dead: a rotting body is put into the ground, but what is raised won't ever decay. It's degraded when it's put into the ground, but it's raised in glory. It's weak when it's put into the ground, but it's raised in power. It's a

physical body when it's put into the ground, but it's raised as a spiritual body.

If there's a physical body, there's also a spiritual body. So it is also written, The first human, Adam, became a living person, and the last Adam became a spirit that gives life. But the physical body comes first, not the spiritual one—the spiritual body comes afterward. The first human was from the earth made from dust; the second human is from heaven. The nature of the person made of dust is shared by people who are made of dust, and the nature of the heavenly person is shared by heavenly people. We will look like the heavenly person in the same way as we have looked like the person made from dust.

This is what I'm saying, brothers and sisters: Flesh and blood can't inherit God's kingdom. Something that rots can't inherit something that doesn't decay.

Reader: This is the Word of God for you the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Worship in SongThe Worship Team

"Graves Into Gardens" ~ Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, and Tiffany Hammer

Second Scripture Reading..... Luke 6:27-38

"But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don't withhold your shirt either. Give to everyone who asks and don't demand your things back from those who take them. Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you.

"If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. If you do, you will have a great reward. You will be acting the way children of the Most High act, for he is kind to ungrateful and wicked people. Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate.

"Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return."

Reader: This is the Word of God for you the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *The Way of Reversal*..... Pastor Daniel

Christian faith makes audacious claims -- people rising from the dead and finding freedom in faith. How do we live as people of faith when we are told faith, as we understand and experience it, is of little or no meaning by culture and society?

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Give Pastor Daniel

Offertory Music The Worship Team

"How Great Is Our God" ~ Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, and Jesse Reeves

* *We are an Offering*..... The Worship Team

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. We are an offering.

* 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 one another 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.

Prayers of the People Pastor Daniel

Petitions will be offered which are those known to the pastor, as well as those you add to the "Prayer Request" sheet in the Narthex. Pastor will invite the congregation to respond to the joys and concerns received with, "Lord in your mercy," and the congregation is invited to respond, "Hear our prayer."

Sending into the Mission Field

* Dismissal with Blessing Pastor Daniel

We United Methodists are guided by three simple principles:

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

* Postlude & Closing Music The Worship Team

"Shackles"

Other Texts Assigned, but not used for today: Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

Next Week's Assigned Readings:

Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

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

In Our Prayers

For Those with Movement and Other Limitations: Willy Barcnas (Cancer Treatment), Eleanor Blumenthal (Rehab), Dorothy Clapp (Rehab), Ginny Cochoran (Leukemia), Aki Okuno, Celia Palm, Becky Schmitt, Ryan Secor (Hospice), Ada Sutton, Kay Thoresen, and Ruth Marie Wolf

For Our World, Community & Country: All 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, hurricanes, landslides, and tsunamis, and their recovery

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

Calendar for the Coming Week, Week of 24 Feb 2025

Monday 02/24 Office Closed

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

7:30 pmMen's Spirituality Group, Library

Tuesday 02/25 Office Hours: 11 am to 2 pm

10:45 am Senior Chair Yoga, Social Hall

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

Wednesday 02/26 Office Hours: 9 am to 2 pm

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

7 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday 02/27 Office Hours: 11 am to 2 pm

10:45 am Senior Tai Chi, Social Hall

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

12:30 pm Senior Bingo, Social Hall

2 pm Shower Ministry, Gymnasium

Friday 02/28 Office Hours: 9 am to 2 pm

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

Saturday 3/1 Office Closed

8 am Saturday Men's Group, Zoom

Sunday 3/2 Office Closed

10 am Worship & Sunday School

11:30 am Adult Sunday School, Fireside

Announcements

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.

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

Outreach Ministry is once again holding a Briefs and Socks Drive for the month of February. Please see the eBlast sent this week for details of items needed, including links to purchase. Informational flyers are also available in the Narthex and office.

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.