

Morning Worship
First Sunday after Epiphany
January 11, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations (Psalm 89:1).

Adoration

Opening Hymn

O Father, You Are Sovereign (TH75)

*O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made;
your mighty word was spoken and light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
sets stars within their courses and stills the tempests' roar.*

*O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man;
no pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart Your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
you hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.*

*O Father, you are sovereign the Lord of human pain,
transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.
All evil over-ruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,
your love pursues its purpose — our souls' eternal good.*

*O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now,
but soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:
our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you!*

Invocation

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Confession

Call to Confession

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another (1 John 4:7-11).

Corporate Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, whose Son Jesus Christ was tempted in every way, yet without sin, we confess before you our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy; we have compromised with evil; we have doubted your power to protect us. Forgive us for our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore in us such trust and love that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance

Assurance of Pardon

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:11-14).

Thanksgiving

Offertory

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavn'ly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Offertory Prayer

Petition and Intercession

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer for the Salvation of Others

Instruction

Hymn of Preparation

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul

*Dear refuge of my weary soul, on Thee, when sorrows rise
On Thee, when waves of trouble roll, My fainting hope relies
To Thee I tell each rising grief, For Thou alone canst heal
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief, For every pain I feel*

*But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail, I fear to call Thee mine
The springs of comfort seem to fail, and all my hopes decline
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my only trust
And still my soul would cleave to Thee though prostrate in the dust*

*Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face, and shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace, be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace, attends the mourner's prayer
Oh may I ever find access, to breathe my sorrows there*

*Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will, and wait beneath Thy feet,
Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will, and wait beneath Thy feet.*

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Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1-3

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 11:17-22

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Hebrews 11:17-22

Communion

Hymn of Preparation

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

*How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss - the Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the chosen One, bring many sons to glory.*

*Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;*

His dying breath has brought me life - I know that it is finished.

*I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart - His wounds have paid my ransom.*

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Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sursum Corda

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And with your spirit.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is good and right to do so.

We welcome to Communion (also called The Lord's Table or The Eucharist) all baptized Christians who have received and are resting on Jesus alone for salvation, and are communing members of any church that faithfully proclaims the gospel. If that does not currently describe you, we invite you to participate by observing but not partaking of the elements – in part because of the warnings Scripture gives those who

partake of the Supper without discerning its spiritual significance; but also because we don't want you to express something with your body that isn't true of your heart and mind, namely, that you're trusting in and depending on Jesus as your Lord and Savior. We invite you to take this time to consider what you've seen and heard in the worship service, including Jesus' love for sinners as it is portrayed in this meal. There's also a prayer below for those considering Christianity that you might wish to pray. If this raises questions or concerns, we welcome them and invite you to address them to our pastor or elders.

Prayer for those searching for truth: Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If you are real, please open my heart and mind to the truth of who you are and what you have done in your life, death, and resurrection. Give me faith to trust you for salvation and satisfaction, and to follow you as my Lord. Help me to see this as the only way to the life you promise and for which I long. Amen.

Prayer for Christians: Lord, you have prepared for me a feast; and though I am unworthy to sit down as a guest, I rest on the merits of Jesus, and come clothed in his righteousness. While I see the bread and the cup, may I ponder why Jesus died and hear him say, "I gave my life to purchase yours, presented myself as an offering to satisfy divine justice, shed my blood to blot out your guilt, opened my side to make you clean, endured your curses to set you free." May I obey, extend the hand, take the bread, receive the cup, eat and drink, testify before all that I gladly receive Jesus to be my life, strength, nourishment, joy, delight. In the Supper give me assurance of pardon, adoption, life, and glory. As the outward elements nourish my body, may your Spirit invigorate my soul, until that day when I hunger and thirst no more, and sit with Jesus at his heavenly feast. Amen.

- excerpted and adapted from *Valley of Vision*, "The Lord's Supper"

Charge and Blessing

Closing Hymn

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

*O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

*O light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red*

Life that shall endless be.

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Benediction