

Blessed, Not Forgotten – Communion Sunday

Season of Epiphany – February 1, 2026

MEDITATION

“The Beatitudes are not a spirituality of escape, but a summons to live faithfully in a broken world.”—Walter Brueggemann, paraphrased

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

L: And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. **P: And also with you.**

PRFLUDF

“Blessed Are the Pure in Heart”

Music: Mary McDonald

CALL TO WORSHIP

Melessa Fox, Deacon

L: Arise, shine—for your light has come.

All: The glory of the Lord rises among us.

1: In weary days and heavy nights, a light still shines

All: We come as those who mourn, who hope, who hunger for righteousness.

I: God's light appears in unexpected places—

All: Among the grieving, the merciful, the brave and the peacemakers

¶ Come, all who long for justice, kindness, and courage.

All: We come to follow Jesus, to drop our nets, and to bear the light we have been given. We arise. We shine. We worship God this day.

***SONG FOR EPIPHANY** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" **Refrain Only 2x** *Black 160*

UNISON OPENING PRAYER

Melesse Fox Deacon

Gracious God, we come carrying weariness and worry, grief and anger, flickering hope and courage we didn't know we had. We come mourning what has been lost and hunger for a world made right. Meet us here, O God—not in a far-off place long ago, but now. Open our hearts to hear Jesus' words of blessing for the brokenhearted, of mercy for the strained and struggling, and of peace for those who dare to stand in love. Still our spirits. Strengthen our resolve. Remind us that we are seen and not forgotten, and that your light shines. Speak, Lord, for we are listening. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "God is Here! A We Your People Meet" vs. 1,2,3 *Black 70*

WORD FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN *Lisa Allen, Co-Church Life Coordinator*

ANTHEM "Psalm 139" *Choir*
Words: Psalm 139, Music: Allen Pote

SCRIPTURE READING | Micah 6:1-8; p. 1060; Matthew 5:3-12, p. 4
Melessa Fox, Deacon & Rev. Christina Williams

L: The Word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION "Blessed, Not Forgotten" *Rev. Christina Williams*

***RESPONSIVE HYMN** "Blest Are They" vs. 1,2,4,5 *Insert*

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During the prayers of the people, you are invited to share your joys and concerns out loud. All are invited to respond, "O Lord, hear our prayers."

SUNG LORD'S PRAYER *In Pew*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC "In Time of Holy Communion" *Choir*
Words: Carlton C. Buck, Music: Eugene Butler

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love had done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One Amen.

***UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Generous God, we offer these gifts trusting that what we release into your care becomes a blessing for others. Use what we offer—our resources, time, and courage—to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. May these gifts serve our neighbors in need, protect the vulnerable, and bear witness to your mercy at work in the world. Receive them, O God, and receive us again, as people who long to follow Jesus faithfully. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

See insert

***CLOSING HYMN**

“We Are Marching in the Light of God”*

Black 526

**Other verses: praying, singing*

***BENEDICTION**

SUNG BENEDICTION

“Peace I Leave with You”

Choir

Words: John 14:27, Music: Amy Beach

POSTLUDE

“Light of the World”

Music: John L. Hatton

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

Many thanks to the volunteers who enriched our morning together!

Tech Deacon, Amelia Allen; Choir, Linda Thomas, Joyce Kenneally, Meg Tivey, Malcolm Donald, Alan King, Chris Polloni, Clifford Moore; Hospitality, & Food donation Annual meeting Potluck

Leading worship today: Rev. Christina Williams, Minister; Stephanie Miles, Music director; Lisa Allen, Co-Church Life Director; Melessa Fox, Deacon

NEW HERE TODAY?

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! To help you navigate Sunday mornings with us, please see the guide below.

1. **Order of Worship:** *An asterisk means stand in body or spirit. **Bold text** is spoken in unison.
2. **Kid's Connection:** After the "Word for all God's children," the children remain in worship to engage in activates in their pray space and help with communion.
3. **TAKE TWO** is an adult faith formation group that meets after worship with Lisa Allen every other Sunday. Join the discussion next Sunday on *Being the Light*.
4. **After Worship:** Join us for Annual Meeting & a potluck lunch in the Covenant Room, down the hall on the right. All are welcome.
5. **Have Questions?** Please reach out to Rev. Christina or the Deacon of the day.

Music covered under One License #A-728849

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be distributed. Grape juice and gluten-free bread are served.

HYMN OF INVITATION

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Black 330

RESPONSIVE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

L: This God's table—not set for the perfect, but for the hungry and the weary.

All: We come not because we are worthy, but because we are welcome.

L: Here, bread is broken for the brokenhearted and the cup is poured out for all who thirst for mercy.

All: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

L: Come, you who mourn. Come, you who seek peace. Come, you who long for justice and kindness.

All: We come to receive grace, to drop what weighs us down, and to be nourished by love.

PRAISE AND THANKS

L: Let us give thanks to God.

All: We give you thanks, O God, for your love that meets us where we are, for mercy that holds us fast, and for blessing spoken over weary lives.

L: We thank you for Jesus, who walked among the poor in spirit, who stood with the grieving, who fed the hungry and welcomed the outcast.

All: In his life, death, and resurrection, we see your justice made flesh and your kindness poured out without measure.

L: With hearts opened by grace, we praise your holy name, O God.

All: Glory and honor are yours, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

L: Come, Holy Spirit—move among us now. Bless this bread and this cup, so that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ. Breathe into us courage where there is fear, mercy where there is anger, and hope where there is despair. Unite us with Christ and with one another, that we may leave this table strengthened to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly in your world.

All: Come, Holy Spirit. Make us one in love. Amen.

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, we give you thanks for this holy meal for bread that strengthens us, and a cup that renews our hope. You have fed us with grace when we were hungry for justice and met us with mercy when our hearts were weary. Send us now into the world as people who have been blessed, not forgotten—to bear your light and to follow Jesus with love and peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.