



**January 7, 2024**  
**First Sunday of Epiphany**

**Preparation & Praise**

*\* = Stand if you are able*

Prelude “To God Be the Glory” - arr. Bober (piano)

Welcome & Orientation

\*Call to Worship

*Come people waiting in darkness.*

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.**

*The light has shined on the nations who live in the shadow of death.*

**The true light that enlightens every person is coming into the world. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, and we beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

**The Lord is our light and our salvation. We shall not be afraid.**

\*Processional Hymn “To God Be the Glory” #66 (all)  
(organ)

# Gathering the Flock

\*Greeting Others

Personal Prayers

*If you have a matter you wish to include in our prayers but do not wish to publicly disclose, feel free to come forward during the instrumental interlude and light a candle.*

Prayer Concerns

*Is there a praise or petition that you are aware of that we can include in our prayers? If so, jot it down on a prayer card and hand to one of the attending ushers who are standing in the aisle.*

Confession & Confirmation

**Almighty and merciful God,  
We confess that we have sinned against you  
and one another in both our actions  
and our inactions.  
We recognize that in Jesus our light  
has come,  
Yet often we choose to walk in the shadows  
and ignore the light.  
Gracious God, forgive our sins  
And remove from us the veil of darkness  
which shrouds our lives.  
Illumine us by your Word  
So we may shine with the radiance  
of Christ's glory. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

## 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 trespasses as we  
Forgive those who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom,  
And the power,  
And the glory  
Forever and ever.  
Amen**

## Words of Institution

### Holy Communion

*Scripture relates that at the last supper Jesus made use of a shared meal to help his first followers discern and participate in how a selfless God shares Divinity with all. We seek to follow his instructions today as we observe this ritual. All are welcome to share in Holy Communion as together we mingle our lives with God and each other*

### Receiving Tithes & Offerings

*We believe that God's greatness is discerned in how God continually gives Godself away to others. When we choose to give ourselves away, we bear witness to God's presence and how God is assisting us in becoming our true selves. All are welcome to join us in sharing and enacting this belief as together we share our tithes and offerings.*

\*Doxology

\*Offertory Prayer

## Feeding on the Word

Preparing for the Word

**Our Lord and our God,  
Now as we hear your Word,  
Fill us with your spirit.  
Soften our hearts that we may  
Discern your ways.  
Fill us with your light.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.**

Reading from the Psalter: *Psalm 29*

*This is the word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God.**

\*Reading for the Gospels: *Mark 4:1-11*

*This is the word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God.**

Homily

\*Hymn of Response “Go Now in Peace”

#717 (1&2)  
(organ)

## Following the Spirit

“Family News”

\*Benediction \*Postlude : “Break Thou the Bread of Life” -  
arr. Kelsey (piano)