

Welcome to Church of Christ

February 2, 2025 ~ Fourth Sunday After Epiphany & Communion

We are honored to worship God with you today!

Prelude *Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now* - J. G. Walther

Call to Worship (inspired by Isaiah 58) ~Nels White

Leader: Is not this the fast that I choose, says God:
to loose the bonds of injustice;

**People: To undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?**

Leader: Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;

**People: When you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?**

Leader: Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;

**People: You shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help,
and God will say, Here I am.**

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (trespasses/debts)

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 (debts), as we forgive those who trespass against us (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

Hymn 355 *This Is a Day of New Beginnings (Worship and Rejoice)*

V1 This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember, and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.

V2 For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference as faith and hope are born again.

V3 Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past, and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.

V4 In faith we'll gather round the table to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

All are welcome to partake. Grape juice, not wine, is served.

Invitation

Consecration and Service

Prayer of Gratitude (unison) – Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace. Amen.

Scripture: Luke 6:1-16 ~Nels White

One Sabbath while Jesus was going through some grain fields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them. But some of the Pharisees said, “Why are you doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?” Jesus answered, “Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? How he entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and gave some to his companions?” Then he said to them, “The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath.” On another Sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. The scribes and the Pharisees were watching him to see whether he would cure on the Sabbath, so that they might find grounds to bring an accusation against him. But he knew what they were thinking, and he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come and stand in the middle.” He got up and stood there. Then Jesus said to them, “I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?” After looking around at all of them, he said to him, “Stretch out your hand.” He did so, and his hand was restored. But they were filled with fury and began discussing with one another what they might do to Jesus. Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Sermon “Sabbath Time”

Light of Service *Norfolk Lions Club Ambulance* ~Jon Riedeman

We have a chance to offer financial gifts in support of Spirit-led work. Undesignated gifts go to the recipient named above. Please use the white envelopes in the pews to designate giving otherwise. There is no obligation, and we always welcome prayers for our LOS recipients. Thank you!

Offertory *Peace* - P. Mock, arr. R.A. Nichols

Doxology (two versions are offered) Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen. OR: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Sharing Joys and Church Life Updates

Sharing Prayer Concerns

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn 580 *We Are Called to Be God's People* (Worship and Rejoice)

Vs 1 We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives his grace, one in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race. Let us show how he has changed us, and remade us as his own, let us share our life together as we shall around his throne.

Vs 2 We are called to be God's servants, working in his world today; taking his own task upon us, all his sacred words obey. Let us rise, then, to his summons, dedicate to him our all, that we may be faithful servants, quick to answer now his call.

Vs 3 We are called to be God's prophets, speaking for the truth and right, standing firm for godly justice, bringing evil things to light. Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill, that the world may know the blessing of the doing of God's will.

Our Common Commission

Let us go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast to that which is good, rendering to no one evil for evil, strengthening the faint-hearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all persons, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude *"Little" Fugue in A Minor* - J. S. Bach
Please remain seated to listen or depart quietly.

We gladly list these prayer concerns and ask you to keep us apprised of any updates so that we have the most current information. If you would like a pastoral visit please call or email Pastor Erick (860-303-0910, reverendole@gmail.com).

Members needing our prayers: Patty Cammilletti; Steven, Tina & Aaliyah Chausse; Linda Creedon; Bonnie Greenwood; Holly Kelsey; Will Kelsey; Arlene Patten; Dan Patten; Cindy Sinclair; John Thew

Ongoing concerns for our relatives and friends: Annattie P.; Eric; Jo; Donna Aakjar (Nancy Perry's sister); Andrew Anderson (Ruth Adotte); Jay Atkinson; Robert Battis (Leslie's father); Andrea Blacklow (Kristin Mudge's friend); Marcia Brenizer (Jen Pfaltz's mother); Denis Combes (Jason Combes' father); Joanie Eggering; John Funchion; Fran and Arnold Gellman (Tina Olsen's aunt and uncle); Judy Green; Dennis Carr Hannifin (Sally Carr's son); Nathan Hazeman (friend of David Bourne); Olivia Howard (Ky Byrne's cousin); Jim Korner (Liz Wilbur's brother); Bethany Lee; Serena Livingston (Kristin Mudge); Kathy Loomis (substitute pastor); Lynne Martin (Ruth Adotte); Rick Martin (Ruth Adotte); Bill Patrick (Lyn's husband) and family; Rev. Kenric and Debby Prescott; Constance Rotondo (Jane Williams); Desi Smith (Bonnie Greenwood); Ryan Sterba; Rob Thew; Sue Ellen Thomas (Pastor Erick's sister); Dennis Watlington (Tim Hitchcock); Judi Welch

Those who are grieving the families of: Jack Bowman; Kerry Garside; Stephen Getz; George Green; Jackie Hamad; The Rev. Paul Heller; Don Martin; Avery Nelson; Aaron Pelletier; Sue Pratt; Owen Simmons; Mary Sager

In the wider community: Leigh Cappabianca (missionary in Turkey); Laura Smith (missionary in Venezuela); The people of Haiti, Israel, Gaza, Ukraine - and all enduring ongoing violence; the people impacted by recent hurricanes Helene and Milton; the people of Syria, particularly the Christian community.