

Jesus, The Light Shining in the Darkness

January 25,
2026



Third Sunday after
Epiphany

Welcome, guests! We're delighted that you could join us. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be more than happy to assist you. This folder includes all the details about our services, with the congregational responses indicated by indented, bold letters. Please take a moment to complete the guest register in the church entrance; it will be used solely by the pastor and the elder. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS: Jesus appears as the light that shines in the darkness. Dark places remain covered in the shadow of sin and unbelief. Now there are, however, bright places, too, and there you find God's children. Jesus shines his light by preaching repentance and the good news of the coming kingdom, and he invites us to follow him to a life illumined by him. Following him means living in the joy of freedom and walking in the light of love for God and brother.

MORNING PRAYER: Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION— CW, p.15



OPENING HYMN:

#78

O LIGHT OF GENTILE NATIONS

****Please Stand For The Last Verse****



1 O Light of Gen - tile na - tions, O
2 Dear Lord, your ser - vants meet you In
3 Lord, when life's trou - bles touch us, You
4 Let us, O Lord, be faith - ful Like



Sav - ior from a - bove, Drawn by your Spir - it's
ev - 'ry ho - ly place Where your true Word has
seem to hide your face, And through our tears we
Sim - eon to the end So that his prayer ex -



lead - ing, We come with joy and love In -
prom - ised That we should see your face. To -
of - ten Can scarce - ly sense your grace. Then
ul - tant May from our hearts as - cend: "O



to your ho - ly tem - ple And wait with
day you still al - low us Who gath - er
be our joy and bright - ness, Our cheer in
Lord, now let your ser - vant De - part in



rev - 'rent mind As Sim - eon once had
round you here In arms of faith to
pain and loss, Our sun in dark - est
peace, I pray, Since I have seen my



wait - ed His God and Lord to find.
hold you As did that a - ged seer.
ter - ror, The glo - ry round our cross.
Sav - ior And here be - held his day."

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: MUNICH (76 76 D) *Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

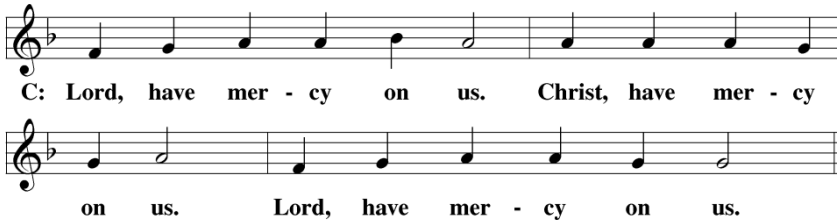
CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE



God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

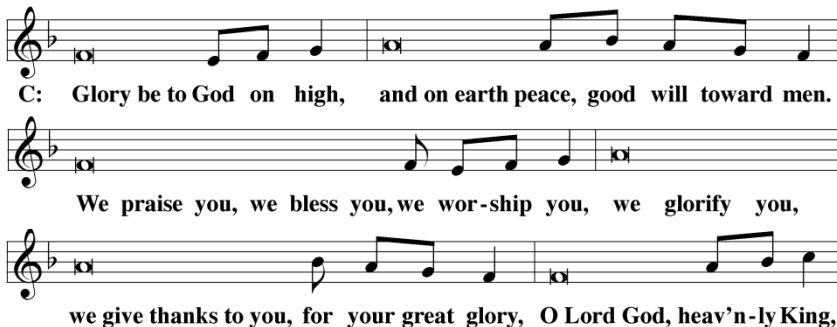


PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the

sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on - ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

FIRST LESSON:

ISAIAH 9:1 – 4

The story of Zebulon and Naphtali was one of suffering. These northern tribes bore the brunt of foreign attacks, most notably by Assyria. Adding insult to injury, the land had become Galilee of the Gentiles, a melting pot of resettled peoples and a hotbed of crass syncretism. It was a land covered by the darkness of gloom and unbelief.

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for the land that was in anguish. In former times, he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will cause it to be glorious, along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. For those living in the land of the shadow of death, the light has dawned. You have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy. They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time, like the celebration when people divide the plunder. For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them. You have broken the bar on their shoulders and the rod of their oppressor, as you did in the day of Midian.

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 27



Refrain

Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;*
be merciful to me and answer me.
Do not hide your face from me,*
do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper.
Do not reject me or forsake me,*
O God my Savior.

Refrain

Though my father and mother forsake me,*
the LORD will receive me.
I am still confident of this:*
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD;*
be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10 – 17

Paul appeals to the church that there be no divisions among the body of Christ. There is only one Light—Jesus. All other ministers are merely servants of the Light.

Brothers, I am making an appeal to you using the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I ask that you all express the same view and not have any divisions among you, but that you be joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For the news I heard about you, my brothers, from members of Chloe’s household, is that there are rivalries among you. What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized into the name of Paul? I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that I baptized you into my own name. (I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides them, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel—not with the wisdom used in speeches, so that the cross of Christ would not be emptied of its power.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching, preaching, and healing every disease. Alleluia. (Matthew 4:23 cf. NIV)



GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4: 12 – 23

The light of the world appeared and began to shine. Fulfilling Isaiah’s prophecy, the bulk of Christ’s ministry took place in Galilee of the Gentiles, which had been so oppressed. Galileans were the first to see the light of God’s Day breaking over the world

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



When Jesus heard that John was put in prison, he withdrew into Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. He did this to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and on those dwelling in the region and the shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that time, Jesus began to preach: “Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near.”

As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea, since they were

fishermen. He said to them, “Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They immediately left their nets and followed him. Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. Jesus called them. Immediately, they left the boat and their father and followed him. Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY:

#85

O GOD FROM GOD, O LIGHT FROM LIGHT



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
2 Deep in the proph-ets' sa-cred page, Grand in the
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of
4 Sing to the Lord a might-y song; Sing to his



Peace and King of kings, To you in heav-en's
po-ets' wing-ed word, Slow-ly, in type, from
pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and
name, his glo-ries tell! Sing, heav'n-ly hosts, your



glo-ry bright The song of praise for-ev-er rings.
age to age The na-tions saw their com-ing Lord;
now a-bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
praise pro-long, And all on earth, your an-them swell!



To him who sits up-on the throne, The Lamb once
Till through the deep Ju-de-an night Rang out the
Lift up your heads, O might-y gates! So sang the
Wor-thy the Lamb for sin-ners slain! For-ev-er



slain but raised a-gain, Be all the glo-ry
song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in
an-gel hosts a-gain. Lift up your heads—your
let the song as-cend! Wor-thy the Lamb en-



he has won, All thanks and praise! A-men, A-men.
splen-dor bright, Re-ech-oed now, "Good will!" A-men.
King a-waits. We lift them up, A-men, A-men.
throned to reign; Glo-ry and pow'r! A-men, A-men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, abr., alt.

Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LM D) *Johann Störls . . . Schlag-Gesang-Und Noten-Buch*, Stuttgart, 1744.

SERMON TEXT:

MATTHEW 4:12 – 23

SERMON TEXT:

UNITED IN THE ONE WHOM THE LIGHT DAWNS

CREATE IN ME

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in a soprano voice part. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

****Please Be Seated****

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

THE PRAYER FOR EPIPHANY

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and for the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts so we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home, where we will stand in the full light of your glory and, with all your saints and angels, sing the everlasting song of triumph.

Amen.

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.

Please Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#361

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y,
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph,



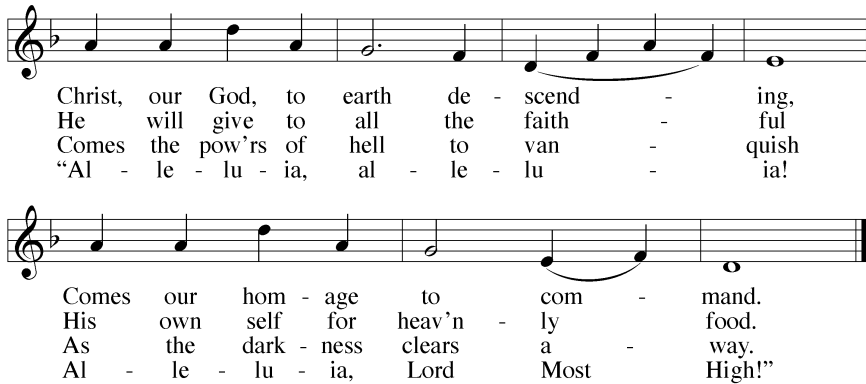
And with fear and trem - bling stand;
As of old on earth he stood,
Spread its van - guard on the way
Cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
Lord of lords in hu - man like - ness,
As the Light from Light, de - scend - ing
Veil their fa - ces to the pres - ence



For with bless - ing in his hand
In the bod - y and the blood
From the realms of end - less day,
As with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ, our God, to earth de - scend - ing,
 He will give to all the faith - ful
 Comes the pow'rs of hell to van - quish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

Comes our hom - age to com - mand.
 His own self for heav'n - ly food.
 As the dark - ness clears a - way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th century; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–85, alt.
 Tune: PICARDY (87 87 87) French folk tune, 17th century.

****Please Stand****

THE SACRAMENT



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Lift up your hearts.



C: It is good and right so to do.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

C: A - men.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

AGNUS DEI

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

****Please Stand****

SONG OF SIMEON



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

CLOSING PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it, you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN:

WE ALL ARE ONE IN MISSION

1 We all are one in mis - sion; We all are one in
2 We all are called to ser - vice, To wit - ness in God's
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, And let our song be

call, Our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed By Christ, the
name. Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; Our pur - pose
heard; Now let us be a ves - sel For God's re -

Lord of all. A sin - gle great com - mis - sion
is the same: To touch the lives of oth - ers
deem - ing Word. We all are one in mis - sion;

Com - pels us from a - bove To plan and work
With God's sur - pris - ing grace, So ev - 'ry folk
We all are one in call, Our var - ied gifts

to - geth - er That all may know Christ's love.
and na - tion May feel God's warm em - brace.
u - nit - ed By Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt. © 1986 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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Tune: WEBB (76 76 D) George J. Webb, 1803-87.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God, the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, assuming His human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work, receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return, all believers will be with Him in heaven, all unbelievers will be condemned to eternal torment, and this present world will be destroyed.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

February Calendars: The new monthly calendars are available in the entryway.

Congregational/Voters Meeting: The council is considering the Franks Landing location and seeks input and feedback from the congregation. We will hold the congregational meeting after service in the sanctuary; the voters' meeting will be held next Sunday, February 1, following the services. Please contact the council members if you have any concerns.

Council Meeting: The February council meeting is scheduled for noon on February 6.

Bible Information Class: Please consider joining us. All are welcome. Contact Pastor Emmons for the address or attend from the comfort of your home via the Zoom link below. Classes are at 6 pm on Thursday evenings.

Game Night: Game night was a success; thank you to Lani and Gary Carroll for hosting. We are looking forward to the next game night.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: We continue to focus on the Pauline letters, starting with Galatians. Please join us at 9:00 a.m. We hope you find this Bible study enlightening! Feel free to bring your questions. You may come and go as needed. Reading is optional, and questions are always welcome.

Midweek Bible Study: Please join us this Tuesday, January 27, at 6:00 p.m. at Gary and Lani Carroll's house, 3211 SW Umatilla Rd, Redmond, to study the book of Daniel. You can also join via Zoom. The Zoom link is provided, or you can email Pastor Emmons to request it.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057

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