

Sow Good News

"Faith comes by listening." (Romans 10:17)



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Lauren Somple, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*Mission in partnership is a transformational adventure....a risk...
There is no way to guarantee what will happen along the way to God's future.*

~ Sherron George

~ GATHERING ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Mark 7:14)*

Then Jesus called the crowd again and said to them:

“Listen to me, all of you, and understand”

*GATHERING

LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING

GTG #456

Kenyan (NENO LAKE MUNGU)

Refrain x2

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Philippians 1)*

I thank God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy,
because of your sharing in the Good News.

I am confident of that the one who began a good work among you
will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

And this is my prayer,

**That your love may overflow more and more
with knowledge and full insight**

So that the harvest of righteousness shall come
through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*HYMN

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME!

GTG #263

by Edward Perronet and John Rippon

CORONATION

CHILDREN OF GOD

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move closer to the people you would have us be. Amen.

[Silent Confession]

***RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY
by Swee Hong Lim

GTG #576
SINGAPURA

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

...This is Good News. **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*Isaiah 52:7*)

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

WALLS OF LOVE

~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING

PHILIPPIANS 2

NRSV

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.
For faith comes by listening.

WORD

O FOR A WORD
by Miriam Therese Winter

GTG #372
AZMON

GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 7:24-30

NRSV

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.
For faith comes by listening.

SERMON

TRANSFORMING PARTNERSHIP

~ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*adapted from The Confession of 1967*)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humanity. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for all when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to people, moves them to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

