

# Nurture Good News

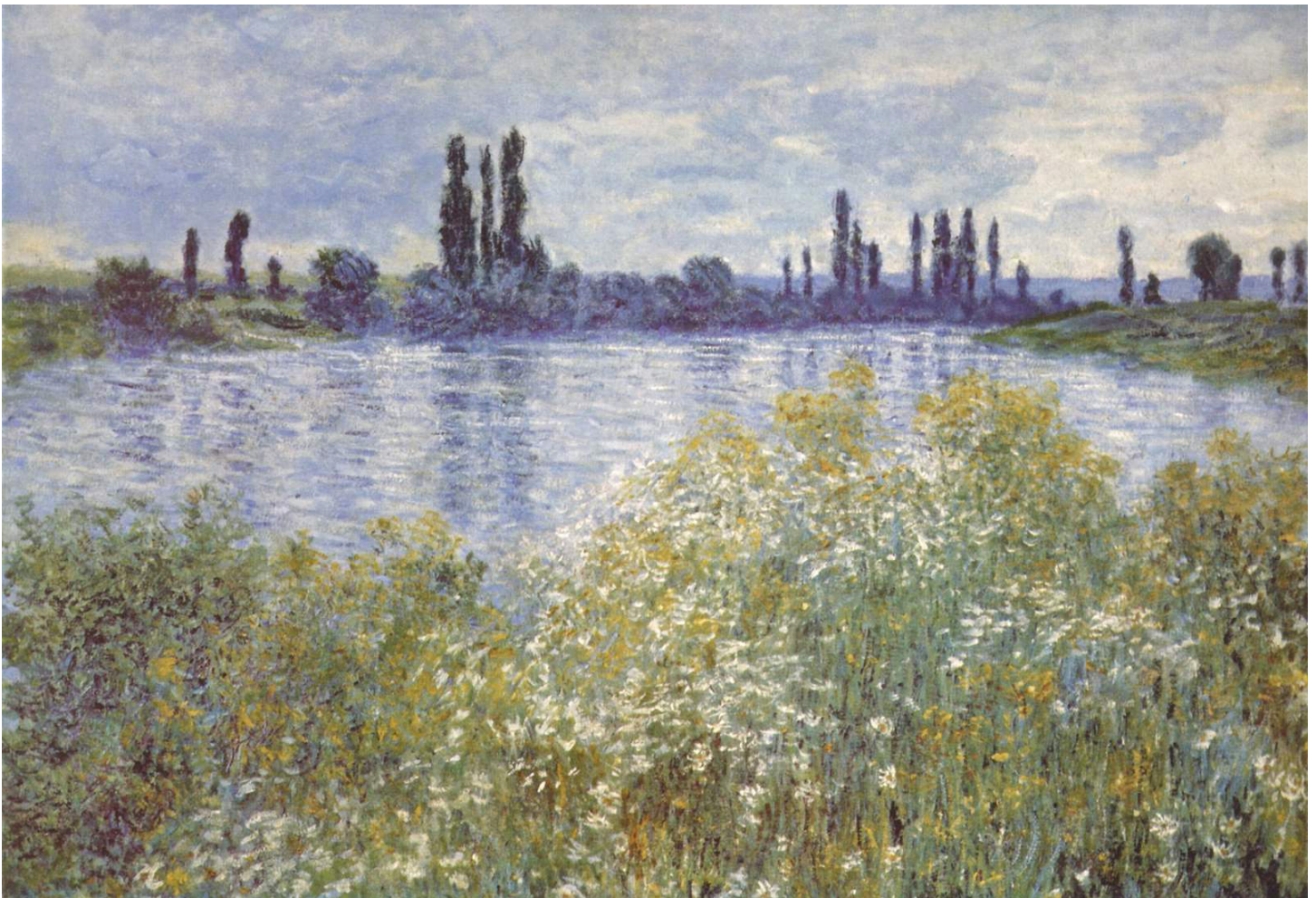
*"For all of you share in God's grace." (Philippians 1:7)*



## INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*January 26, 2025*



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

Wendy Lavey, Liturgist  
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life?*

~ Mary Oliver

## ~ GATHERING TOGETHER ~

### GATHERING MUSIC

#### PRELUDE

THE SUMMER DAY

BY MARY OLIVER

read by Mary Oliver, animation by 92Y

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Psalm 118:24; Philippians 1:7)*

This is the day that the Lord has made

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**For all of us share in God's grace.**

#### \*GATHERING

CALLED AS PARTNERS

GTG #761

by Jane Parker Huber (NETTLETON)

*Verse 1*

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Psalm 23, from PSALMS OF WONDER)*

*God is my shepherd, so I have everything I need.*

**God leads me to rest in the beautiful fields.**

**God takes me to quiet streams and make my soul new.**

God leads me down good paths because God's way is true.

**And when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,**

**I won't be afraid, because you won't leave me for a step.**

You comfort me by. Showing me the way.

**You send goodness and mercy with me everywhere I go,**

**and everywhere I go you are always my home.**

Come, let us worship God.

#### \*HYMN

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

GTG #215

American folk hymn

### POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

#### CHILDREN OF GOD

One: Let us send our kids with God's love:

**All: May God be with you there.**

Kids: May God be with you here.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice loved kindness, or walked humbly with you our God. Have mercy on us O God in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Amen. [*Silent Confession*]

**\*RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #579

Russian Orthodox Chant

KYRIE ELEISON (Orthodox)

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*based on Philippians 1:6-7*)

For we all share in the grace of God:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*from Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow*)

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

**SPREAD THE WORD**

**OUTREACH TEAM**

**~ SHARING IN THE GOSPEL ~**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**EPISTLE READING**

GALATIANS 3:26-29

*Pew Bible p.177(NT)*

**PSALM 23**

I WON'T WANT

[*See Below*]

by C.J. Briggs

JOSEPHINE

*I Won't Want,  
the Lord's my Shepherd  
Makes me lie down  
in green pastures  
Leads me to  
pacific waters.  
In that house  
I'll dwell forever.*

*For her sake,  
I won't go ramble.  
Righteousness will  
lead my travels.  
May sweet grace  
and goodness follow  
me all the days  
of my short life*

*Yea, though I walk  
through that valley,  
I won't fear  
for thou art with me.  
Death's dark shadow  
won't deny me  
the comfort of  
thy rod and staff.*

**GOSPEL LESSON**

JOHN 3:1-6

*Pew Bible p.88(NT)*

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.  
For all of us share in God's grace.

**SERMON**

ORDINARY LIFE

**~ TENDING THE GOOD NEWS ~**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**~ GOING FORTH TO NURTURE ~**

**\*HYMN**

STANDING ON THE PROMISES

GTG #838

by R. Kelso Carter

PROMISES

**\*BENEDICTION** *(from Philippians 1:7, 9, MSG)*

So this is my prayer:  
that our love may flourish more and more.

**POSTLUDE**