

2ND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

Let us meet you here, Christ Jesus, let us meet you in our lives together. Let us meet you in everyone we meet. Let us meet you in the stranger and even in the enemy. Let us find all that we need in our life together. Help us see your face in each of those around us! Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ [God] works on us in all sorts of ways. But above all, he works on us through each other. [People] are mirrors, or "carriers" of Christ to other [people]. Usually it is those who know him that bring him to others. That is why the church, the whole body of Christians showing him to one another, is so important. - C.S. Lewis
- ❖ *If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each* other. – Mother Teresa

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Christ Jesus calls us together.

People: We gather in praise!

Leader: Christ Jesus is revealed to us in our life together.

People: We know God's love!

Leader: We have all we need in our life together.

People: We celebrate life in Christ!

PRAISE SONG: Dance Together (music at end of bulletin)

OUR CONFESSION:

Christ Jesus, you taught your followers to form community and to share all that they had with those in need. In such a way, you provided for everyone. We have assurance that you walk with us in our life together, you provide all good things; yet we often horde what we have for fear that we will not

have plenty. Our cups overflow in many ways, goodness and mercy have followed us; yet, we often horde our own mercy toward others.

Teach us to share in common those gifts you have given us - material, emotional and spiritual. Forgive us when we fail to shine with the light of your love. May the Scriptures and our prayers transform our hearts every day, so that we keep your likeness in all we do.

We take time now to confess to you our own unwillingness to live together as your children:

(silence)

We are assured of your bountiful forgiveness, and we humbly thank you as you lead us to new life TOGETHER. Amen.

CONFESSION RESPONSE: No Longer Strangers (music at end of bulletin)

THE READINGS: 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9

This is the beginning of the Apostle Paul's first writing to the Christians at Corinth, a city in southern Greece. It is a typical greeting speaking to their unique identity in Christ and all that it means for them.

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord^a and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my^b God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1:29-42

In the beginning of John's story about the life of Jesus, he introduces John the Baptist witnessing to Jesus' unique status as the Lamb of God who is greater than John. This is followed by two brothers, Andrew and Simon, answering Jesus' invitation to come with Him and see, which serves as a call to become His followers or disciples.

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'a

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard

him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

MESSAGE: "How Can We See Jesus?" Pastor David Schoob

MESSAGE RESPONSE: Ubuntu (music at end of bulletin)

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

Leader: Go into the world now, with hope and grace, with courage and love, to confront the pain and grief that hold so many hostage. Go forth as people of God to share the light!

ALL: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG: All the People Said Amen (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



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Ubuntu



Verses (echo song leader)

- 1. ... Sisters and brothers ... made for communion ... bound to each other ... one holy union ... Drawn by a vision ... drawn by desire ... drawn to the circle ... round God's holy fire,
- 2. ... Called now we follow ... Jesus our brother ... Who gathers his children ... just like a mother ... Tenderly holding ... this new creation ... Making and molding ... a new holy nation,
- 3. ... This is our vision ... life's in the sharing ... Holding back nothing ... dreaming and daring, ... To live this communion ... that breaks us and binds us
 - ... Holds us and heals us ... frees us and finds us



