

Order of worship on January 14, 2024

(CCLI: License Number #3156883) (Welcoming Elder: Edwin Webster)

We Gather

- Welcome and Announcements
- Responsive call to worship
- Praise song – BOP 500 Open my eyes, that I may see
- Prayer for worship and Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Praise song – BOP 442 Speak, Lord, in the stillness
- Prayer for children

We Listen

- Prayer for illumination
- First reading: Psalm 96
- Second reading: 2 Corinthians 5:11-20
- Third reading: Matthew 28:16-20
- Sermon: Go, Invite & Share by The Rev. Dr. Jim Czegledi
- Prayer for the people

We Respond

- Offering, Doxology (BOP 830 with modified lyrics) & Dedication
- Song for the Journey – BOP 634 Will you come and follow me

We Serve

- Benediction

Responsive Call to Worship

Before we were born, God knew us.

God knit us together in the womb.

God searches out our paths, and tracks us along our way.

So we praise God, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

There is nowhere we can go where God is not with us.

How wonderful are all God's works! Let us worship God together.

Praise song – BOP 500 Open my eyes, that I may see

Prayer For Adoration and Confession

God ever creating, ever loving, ever leading, and ever lasting!

You are stillness when we are frantic; You are truth when we are perplexed. You give us freedom when fear takes hold; You send light when we have lost our way. You are love when we feel lonely and empty; You give us energy when we are ready to reach out.

We praise you, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, for all that you are, all that you have been, and all that you will be for us. In our worship we offer you our love and loyalty, here and now, now and always.

God of mercy and patience, you call us to follow you and offer us purpose and new possibilities. Yet we confess that we often hesitate. We are not sure what we have to offer you. We'd prefer that someone else take the lead and maybe we will follow them. Forgive us when we hesitate. Help us trust in you and give us courage to step outside our comfort zones.

This time we come to you in prayer that you taught us how to pray: (The Lord's Prayer:)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. **Give us** today our daily bread. 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, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Believe the good news! In Christ, God has offered us forgiveness for all our sins and shortcomings. Trust that this forgiveness is for you, and know that God's steadfast love and grace endure forever.

May the Peace of the Lord be with you. Let us take few moments to greet each other and share our peace.

Praise Song: BOP 442 Speak, Lord, in the stillness

Prayer for children

Prayer for Illumination:

Spirit of truth and life, speak to us in the stories of Scripture. As we listen, touch us with your Word for our lives and for the times in which we live, so that we may follow in the footsteps of Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

First reading: Psalm 96

Second reading: 2 Corinthians 5:11-20

Third reading: Matthew 28:16-20

"This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God."

Sermon: Go, Invite & Share by The Rev. Dr. Jim Czegledi

Prayer for the people:

Who compares to you, who set the stars in their place? You who calmed the raging seas that came crashing over me. Who compares to you? You who bring the morning light. The hope of all the earth is rest assured in your great love.

You are magnificent. Eternity, wonderful, glorious. Jesus, no one ever will compare to you, Jesus.

We praise and worship you Jesus. Thank you for bringing us here in your presence. Thank you for your love and grace upon us. Thank you for your faithfulness. God of mercy, we invite you in the centre of our hearts. Be in our hearts. Be the Lord. Give us faith. Give us courage. Give us wisdom. So, we can follow your steps in our daily lives.

We pray for this hurting generation. Wars. Climate crisis. High technologies, but disconnectedness. Distrust. Depression. Selfishness. Polarization of wealth. Starvation. Health crisis with virus. Violence. Anger. Hatred.

Life is not valued. Faith is no longer handed down. Church is losing its light.

Jesus is the hope of all nations and all generations. Fill this world, fill this generation with your Spirit. The first cry of Jesus, “Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand.” It was 2000 years ago, but we still need that cry. Capture our hearts. Help us come back to you.

We still worship you. We still need you. Help us stand firm. Fill us with your Holy Spirit again. Fill us with your Power again, so that we may try one more time. So that we may serve you one more time. So that we may shine your light again. We are your church. We are here before you. Regroup us. Rebuild your church. So, we may go. Be with us.

Be glorified and be worshipped through our lives. In Jesus’ precious name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to the offering:

For centuries, God has called his own people to give their lives serving God's holy purposes. May the gifts we offer today also serve God’s purposes in the church and the world, for the sake of Christ our Lord. Let us praise God and honour him with the Doxology (BOP #830.)

Offering prayer:

God of new possibilities, in Christ, you create a future for each of us, inviting us to flourish in our faith. Use us and use the gifts we offer to create new possibilities for those who are uncertain about what the future holds. For we trust that you hold the future for us all. We trust you and we worship you. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Song for the Journey BOP 634 Will you come and follow me

Benediction