



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer
and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

Healey Willan

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The Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Hear the call of God:
“Speak of me to my people.”

**People: But we are just ordinary folks.
Who will listen?**

Leader: “I will give you the words.
I will always be with you
as you speak my words
of truth and justice and love.”

**People: We gather here to worship you,
to praise you for your loving presence,
and to be strengthened for the calling
you have given us.**

The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: O God, in the midst of the cacophony of voices
that crush our spirit and deny our calling,
voices that say, “Who do you think you are?”
we come to hear your voice of affirmation;
we come to hear your voice calling us to be
and do what you have called us to be and do.**

**Let this time of worship quiet our fears,
soothe our bruised souls,
and energize us for ministry
in and with your beloved world.**

Let faith abide.

Let hope abide.

Let love abide—

**here in this sanctuary,
here in our community,
here in our world, but most of all,
here in us. Amen.**

The Hymn No. 110*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

EIN' FESTE BURG

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
 a bulwark never failing;
 our helper he amid the flood
 of mortal ills prevailing.
 For still our ancient foe
 doth seek to work us woe;
 his craft and power are great,
 and armed with cruel hate,
 on earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
 our striving would be losing,
 were not the right man on our side,
 the man of God's own choosing.
 Dost ask who that may be?
 Christ Jesus, it is he;
 Lord Sabaoth, his name,
 from age to age the same,
 and he must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled,
 should threaten to undo us,
 we will not fear, for God hath willed
 his truth to triumph through us.
 The Prince of Darkness grim,
 we tremble not for him;
 his rage we can endure,
 for lo, his doom is sure;
 one little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers,
 no thanks to them, abideth;
 the Spirit and the gifts are ours,
 thru him who with us sideth.
 Let goods and kindred go,
 this mortal life also;
 the body they may kill;
 God's truth abideth still;
 his kingdom is forever.

The Scripture Lesson

I Corinthians 13

The Sermon*Living Our Lives for Things that Last*

Dr. Matthew Bates

The Offertory Prayer**The Offertory Anthem***The Gift of Love*

Hal H. Hopson

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
 and have the gift to all inspire,
 and have not love, my words are vain,
 as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
 and striving so my love profess,
 but not be given by love within,
 the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
 our spirits long to be made whole.
 Let inward love guide every deed;
 by this we worship, and are freed.

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The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 that 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. Amen.**

The Hymn No. 2170

God Made from One Blood

ST. DENIO

1. God made from one blood all the families of earth,
the circles of nurture that raised us from birth,
companions who join us to walk through each stage,
of childhood and youth and adulthood and age.
2. We turn to you, God, with our thanks and our tears,
for all of the families we've known through the years,
the intimate networks on whom we depend,
of parent and partner and roommate and friend.
3. We learn through our families how closeness and trust
increase when our actions are loving and just.
Yet, families have also distorted their roles,
mistreating their members and bruising their souls.
4. Give, Lord, each family in conflict and storm
a sense of your wisdom and grace that transform
sharp anger to insight which strengthens the heart
and makes clear the place where rebuilding can start.
5. Then, widen that wisdom and grace to include
the races and viewpoints our families exclude
till peace in each home bears and nurtures the bud
of peace shared by all you have made from one blood.

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The Benediction

The Postlude

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Johann Pachelbel

***Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning and
throughout the week to make this worship possible.***

Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 13

The Gift of Love

13 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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