

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Sunday, January 28, 2024 – 10:30 a.m.**



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

Open up the heavens

We've waited for this day. We're gathered in Your Name
Calling out to You.

Your glory like a fire, awakening desire,
Will burn our hearts with truth.

You're the reason we're here.

You're the reason we're singing.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.

Open up the flood-gates, a mighty river,

Flowing from Your heart,

Filling every part of our praise.

Your presence in this place, Your glory on our face,

We're looking to the sky.

Descending like a cloud, You're standing with us now.

Lord unveil our eyes.

You're the reason we're here.

You're the reason we're singing.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.

Open up the flood-gates, a mighty river,

Flowing from Your heart,

Filling every part of our praise.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.

Open up the flood-gates, a mighty river,

Flowing from Your heart,

Filling every part of our praise.

Show us, show us Your glory.

Show us, show us Your power.

Show us, show us Your glory Lord.

Show us, show us Your glory.
Show us, show us Your power.
Show us, show us Your glory Lord.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.
Open up the flood-gates, a mighty river,
Flowing from Your heart,
Filling every part of our praise.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.
Open up the flood-gates, a mighty river,
Flowing from Your heart,
Filling every part of our praise.

“Open Up The Heavens” Words and music by James McDonald, Jason Ingram, Meredith Andrews, Stuart Garrard and Andi Rozier. Copyright 2012 Word Music, LLC/HBC Worship Music/Open Hands Music/Sony-ATV Timber Publishing/Stugio Music Publishing. CCLI Song #6304702. Used by permission CCLI # 2960087

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: We cherish Christ-centered fullness.

C: **The thief comes to steal, kill and destroy.**

P: But Jesus says, “I have come so that you may have life.”

C: **“And have it abundantly.”**

P: For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,

C: **And we have been given fullness in Christ.**

P: Let us pray: Lord God, Heavenly Father, we frequently tell ourselves that we don’t have enough—enough time, enough love, enough wisdom. In this time of worship come, in the power of your Holy Spirit, to impart the fullness we have in Christ. Assure us that in Christ we have enough; indeed, more than enough, now and forevermore.

C: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution:

P: In today's second lesson Paul writes, "For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and we have been given fullness in Christ." (Colossians 2:9–10)

C: **And yet, O Lord, we live as though we have nothing.**

P: Complaining about our lack.

C: **Believing that we never have enough.**

P: The thief has come,

C: **To steal, kill and destroy,**

P: The gifts given us in the Gospel.

C: **And so we feel empty, alone and ashamed, yearning for fullness in Christ.**

P: Believe and receive the good news! Paul announces that though you were dead in your sins, God made you alive with Christ in Holy Baptism. He forgave you all your sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. These promises are yours in Christ Jesus, now and forevermore!

C: **We have fullness in Christ!**

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

¹⁵ The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶ For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die."

¹⁷ The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹ I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

Colossians 2:6-15

⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces^[a] of this world rather than on Christ.

⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. ¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

²¹ They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²² The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. ²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

²⁵ “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” ²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” ²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us.
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven.
The King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me.
Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me.
Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.
Oh God, You are my living hope!

"Living Hope" words and music by Brian Johnson / Phil Wickham. CCLI Song #7106807. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 2960087

Sermon We Cherish Christ Centered Fullness Colossians 2:6-15

The Offering

Prayer of Blessing

P: God of community, we want to be your faith community. We want to be children of the light and the day. Bless and use these gifts that they might be sources of light and life to those in despair. Make your church a beacon of hope and blessings to all who are in need. Make us your faithful, grateful followers who know the joy of sacrificial giving.

C: Amen

Prayer of the Church

P: Father of love, You rescued Your fallen people with the sufferings and death of Christ, Your Son, our Brother in flesh. Guide us to know and rejoice in His salvation and to proclaim this Gospel with boldness to our brothers and sisters. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father of mercy, Your compassion has rescued us from the powers of evil and set us free. Guide us to use this liberty to serve others as Christ has served us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father of grace, You have provided us with the new life of Holy Baptism and granted us faith by the power of the Spirit. Keep us in this faith that we may be preserved from evil and delivered from all our enemies to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father of truth, You have given us Your Word that we might know the truth. Provide for us good and honest leaders who will heed the voice of Your Word and protect us from violence so that we may lead peaceful and godly lives without fear. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father of comfort, You have borne in Your Son all our wounds. According to Your will, deliver all who are sick, who suffer, who are troubled in mind, and those near death that they may be preserved in faith in the day of trouble. We pray especially forLord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father of hope, You have ended the reign of death by the resurrection of Your Son. Deliver us from death and grant Your peace to the dying and Your comfort to those who grieve. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father of peace, You have restored us to You and given us a place at the Table of Your Son. Lead us to repentance and strengthen our faith that we who commune at this altar may be of one faith and receive without hindrance the fruits of His atoning work in this Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father of courage, You have promised to grant us all things needful for this body and life even as You have provided eternal life to us in Christ. Help us always to pray with confidence in Your mercy, knowing that Your every answer is for our eternal good. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: All these things for which we have prayed and all other things we need, we pray You to grant us in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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 who 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 and ever. Amen

The Invitation

P: This morning we have another opportunity to encounter God's real, tangible grace for us in this meal; that in, with, and under these simple elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus Christ given to us for the forgiveness of sins.

And so, we become what we eat. We are the body of Christ to be sent out into the world. So it's necessary and good that we partake of this meal; that we experience God's love for us in this way, that we share this family meal together. So if this is your confession I would invite you to join me as we confess together our faith.

C: I understand and admit that I have sinned against God, that I recognize my sin and humbly ask God to forgive me. I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and that He is my only hope against sin, death, and the devil.

I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine I receive this true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life to the Lord and His Church by faithfully worshipping Him, cheerfully giving my time and resources, and joyfully sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

Words of Institution

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the bread, gave thanks, and said,
“Take eat, my friends, this broken bread,
this is my body for forgiveness of your sin.
When you eat, my friends, this meal of love,
remember me and my love for you again.”

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the cup, gave thanks, and said,
“Take drink, my friends, this cup of wine,
this is my blood for forgiveness of your sin.
When you drink, my friends, this cup of love,
remember me and my love for you again.”

**Oh, we are here, to thank You Lord,
for the bread and wine outpoured.
For it is Your body and Your blood
that You so lovingly and freely give to us.
So we praise You holy Lamb of God;
We love You our sweet Jesus.**

**We love You our sweet Jesus.
We love You our sweet Jesus.**

“On the Night” words and music by Mark Zehnder. Used by permission. CCLI#2960087.

Distribution

Come, Thou Fount, Come, Thou King

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

I was lost in utter darkness 'til You came and rescued me;
I was bound by all my sin when Your love came and set me free;
Now my soul can sing a new song, now my heart has found a home;
Now Your grace is always with me, and I'll never be alone.

Come, Thou Fount, come, Thou King;
Come, Thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear Your Bride, to You we sing;
Come, Thou Fount of our blessing

Come, Thou Fount, come Thou King;
Come, Thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear Your Bride, to You we sing;
Come, Thou Fount of our blessing.

O to grace, how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee;
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Come, Thou Fount, come, Thou King;
Come, Thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear Your Bride, to You we sing;

Come, Thou Fount of our blessing

Come, Thou Fount, come Thou King;
Come, Thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear Your Bride, to You we sing;
Come, Thou Fount of our blessing.

John Wyeth | Robert Robinson | Thomas Miller © 2005 Gateway Create Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (IMI)) Used by permission. CCLI# 2960087

Communion Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and blood, strengthen and preserve you in the one true faith until life everlasting.
Go in His peace.

C: Amen

Post-Communion Collect

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.
People: His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: We give thanks to You, gracious Father, that Your grace is timeless and Your mercy is for all people. As we heed the call of Christ and follow, strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Benediction: (From Colossians 3:16–17)

Pastor: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

People: And whatever we do, whether in word or deed, we will do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

I Will Follow

All Your ways are good
All Your ways are sure
I will trust in You alone

Higher than my sight
High above my life
I will trust in You alone

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow You

Who You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve
If this life I lose,
I will follow You
I will follow You

Light into the world
Light into my life
I will live for You alone

You're the One I seek
Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone
In You alone

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow You

Who You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve
If this life I lose,
I will follow You

I will follow You

In You there's life everlasting
In You there's freedom for my soul
In You there's joy unending joy
And I will follow

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow

Who You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve
If this life I lose,
I will follow

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow You

Who You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve
If this life I lose,
I will follow You

I will follow You
I will follow You
I will follow You

CCLI Song # 5806878 Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Reuben Morgan © 2010 SHOUT! Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) Spirit Nashville Three (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) Spirit Nashville Three (Admin. by Spirit Music Group) *For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](http://www.ccli.com). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2960087*