



**February 5, 2023**

*Prelude –*

*Krista Heilmeier*

*Word of Welcome*

*Lyn Oakley*

*Call to Worship* (based on Psalm 27:1)

*Lyn Oakley*

Leader: We are called to the work of Israel, to the work of Jesus.

**People: We are called to spread God's love in this world.**

Leader: We can do this work, as we are, because of the Holy Spirit.

**People: By God's grace, we are salt.**

Leader: We purify, we cleanse, we bind, we bring out the best in people.

**People: By God's grace, we are light.**

Leader: We allow things to be seen as they are. We point to holiness.

**People: By God's grace, we follow the commandments and the law.**

Leader: We love the Lord our God and our neighbors as ourselves.

**People: By God's grace, we are salt. We are light. God transforms us and uses us.**

Leader: Let us worship our God, so full of transformative grace.

**\*Hymn #391 – Sweet, Sweet Spirit**

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.*

*Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.  
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,  
When we shall leave this place.*

**Ritual of Friendship**

*Diana Davis*

*Members and Guests – Please sign and pass the friendship register  
located on the center aisle under the pew in front*

**Call to Confession**

*Diana Davis*

Leader: Let us pause here to confess the sins that have kept us from recognizing and enjoying God's presence.

**Prayer of Confession**

*Diana Davis*

**All: In worship, everyone is welcome as they are. We invite each other to set our burdens down, including the burden of false pretenses. Let us be honest with God and with ourselves about the ways that we fail so that we can hear the good news of Jesus' redemption anew. Let us confess our sins together and individually.**

*(Time for Silent Confession)*

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

*Diana Davis*

Leader Even when we fail, even when we are not perfect, God still claims us. God still calls us by name. God still places God's Spirit upon us.

**People: We are known and loved and forgiven. Amen.**

***\*Gloria Patri***

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.***

***\*Passing the Peace***

*Lyn Oakley*

Leader: God's love for us is the foundation of our lives as people and as a people. Let us respond to this love by sharing it with one another, assured of God's everlasting love in our lives and in our midst. The peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you!**

***Prayer of Illumination***

*Diana Davis*

**All: God of wisdom, by the power of your Holy Spirit, invites us into your Word. Give us ears to hear, wisdom to understand, and courage to answer your call to us today. Amen.**

***Old Testament Reading Isaiah 58:1-12***

*Diana Davis*

*Shout out; do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments;  
they want God on their side.<sup>[a]</sup>  
“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day  
and oppress all your workers.  
You fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.  
Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?*

*Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?  
Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator<sup>[b]</sup> shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water  
whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.*

### **Psalm 112:1-9**

*Diana Davis*

*Praise the LORD!  
Happy are those who fear the LORD,  
who greatly delight in his commandments.  
Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.  
Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.  
They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.  
It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.*

*For the righteous will never be moved;  
they will be remembered forever.  
They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.  
Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.  
They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.*

## **Anthem**

## **Like A Dove**

*Behold the Lamb of God, who takes our sins away.  
“After me will come a man whose sandals I’m Not worthy even to untie”*

*And then Jesus came, when from the water He arose,  
Behold the heaven’s opened up He saw the hand of God descending from on high.*

*Like a dove, the Spirit came to Him, Like a dove, it then remained with Him.  
From above a voice cried, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I’m well pleased”.*

*Prepare ye the way, The way of the Lord.  
And ev’ry valley shall be filled, each mountain and each hill will be brought low.  
The crooked shall be straight, The rough ways be made smooth.  
He on whom you see the Spirit descend, This shall be the Son of God.*

*Like a dove, the Spirit came to Him, Like a dove, it then remained with Him.  
From above a voice cried, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I’m well pleased”.*

*Like a dove, the Spirit comes to us, Like a dove, it then remained with us.  
From above a voice cried, “This is my beloved child, with whom I’m well pleased,  
with whom I’m well pleased”*

## **Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13-20**

*Lyn Oakley*

*“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.*

*“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*

*“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter,<sup>[a]</sup> not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks<sup>[b]</sup> one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.*

**Sermon - “We are Salt and Light”**

*Lyn Oakley*

**\*Affirmation of Faith - Belhar Confession**

*Lyn Oakley*

**All: We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.**

**\*Hymn #767 Glory to God Hymnal – “Together We Serve” (See Insert)**

*Together we serve, united by love,  
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.  
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
extending God's love to the last and the least.*

*We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
until we see Christ in each person we meet.*

*We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,  
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.  
We offer a home to those who will come,  
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.*

*Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,*

*remembering love is the strength of our song.*

***Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer***

*Lyn Oakley*

**All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

***Invitation to the Offering***

*Diana Davis*

Leader: Friends, we have confessed our sins; we have reminded each other of our forgiveness; we have heard the Word of God proclaimed. Let us respond by offering God what we hold as precious, whether that is our money, time or talents.

***Offertory –***

***\*Doxology***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost**

***\*Prayer of Dedication***

*Diana Davis*

**All: Heavenly Parent, we offer you these gifts. Please bless them, just as you bless those who gave them and those who will receive them. May the sharing of these gifts remind us of the connection that holds us all together and the beloved community you call us to form. Amen.**

***\*Hymn – #301 Glory to God Hymnal (See Insert)***

***All Are Welcome***

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
A place where Saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, Rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where prophets speak and words are strong and true,  
Where all God's children dare to seek To dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness And a symbol of God's grace,  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where love is found In water, wine and wheat,  
A banquet hall on holy ground Where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus Is revealed in time and space,  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone,  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard,  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter. All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

**\*Benediction**

*Lyn Oakley*

**\*Congregational Benediction**

***Make us one, Lord, make us one;  
Holy Spirit, make us one.  
Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in you***

***Postlude***

<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Monty Montgomery and Sue Wheeler</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Barbara Riehl, Bob Davis</b>
<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Diana Davis</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>Bob Eubanks, Krista Heilmeier &amp; George Hill</b>
<b>Minister</b>	<b>Dr. Andy Morgan</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Lyn Oakley</b>

***Announcements***

***Save the Date! Celebrate 100 years as a Congregation***

Join us at John Knox Center April 28-30 as we continue to celebrate our 100 years as a congregation, we will gather at John Knox Center during the weekend of **April 28-30!** Click the link in the Weekly Word or the Newsletter tab on the website for more info.



