



Order of Worship

Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 26, 2025

Call to worship

Jesus comes to proclaim good news to us all!

Jesus releases those who are captive, gives sight to the blind, helps the oppressed, and declares the year of the Lord's favor!

May we go and do likewise, offering hope to a hurting world.

And may it all begin with our worship of God.

Call to confession

In our day-to-day lives, we sin in a multitude of ways — by what we have done and what we have left undone. Confession allows us to unburden ourselves and lay before God our stark humanity. Let us offer our prayer, knowing that God is merciful and offers forgiveness to all who turn to God.

Prayer of confession

Gracious God, we are far from the people you have called us to be. We are mired in self-centeredness, seeing things only in terms of how they relate to us and our happiness. Turn our hearts, bent as they are towards ourselves, out to the world around us. Make us more concerned with others, with their welfare and happiness, leaving our own concerns to you, O God. Forgive us for our many mistakes and make us anew we pray. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

Hear the good news! God's promise to forgive is sure and everlasting. Know you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

Prayer for illumination

Loving God, may your Spirit be with us each, showing us your Word and your Way. Amen.

Scripture readings

Sermon





Affirmation of faith (1 Timothy 3:16)

Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: Jesus was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory. This is the story of our faith, and it fills us with hope. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Call for the offering

All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from God. Let us in turn offer our gifts to God's work in the world. Let us give our offering.

Prayer of dedication

Gracious God, whose love is so extravagant, we dedicate these gifts to you. May they go to share your love and care with the world. Amen.

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

O God, from the beginning of time humanity has called out to you for help, guidance and care. You have graciously heard our prayers and worked your good will in the lives of the faithful. Hear us again, Lord, as we pray.

We pray for the world around us that is both filled with incredible beauty and startling pain. We thank you for the blessings of this world — for family and friends, for work that fulfils and provides, and for the sure and certain knowledge of your presence and care. We thank you too that you come alongside us in our pain and difficulty and that you bring light out of darkness. Teach us each to care for the brokenhearted and to lift up those who suffer. Teach us to go again and again to the witness of Jesus and live into the persons he has taught us to be.

We pray for our churches: big and small, rural and urban. We pray for all churches who call on the name of Jesus Christ. May the body of Christ be strengthened in its witness and may we glorify you, O God. May we look more like our Savior and less like the broken world around us. May we be true to Christ alone.

Free us from distractions that deplete us and guide us away from you. Teach us to focus on helping others, trusting that you will provide for all we need. Let our hearts be freed to worship you with all that we are and all that we have. We ask this all in Jesus' name. Amen.

Charge and benediction

May you leave this place to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, seeking to love and serve. And may the love of God the Father, grace of Jesus the Son, and fellowship of the Holy Spirit surround you now and always. Amen.

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Liturgy written by Tara Bulger and provided for free distribution.

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