



Order of Worship

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 19, 2025

Call to worship (based on Psalm 36:7-9)

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! May all people take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

We feast on the abundance of your house, and you give us drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.

Call to confession

Let us humbly approach God's throne of grace to confess our sins and present ourselves honestly before our Savior.

Prayer of confession (based on 1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

You have blessed us with a variety of gifts, Holy God, but we are reluctant to share. We hoard what is most valuable and make excuses for ourselves when called to share. The Spirit has blessed each of us uniquely, but we hide our light under a bushel and fail to rise to our potential. God, forgive us and embolden us. Help us to claim our gifts and put them to good use. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

Our God is a loving God, full of mercy. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Believe in this forgiveness, be at peace, and respond in grateful service. Amen.

Prayer for illumination

Holy God, we need the guidance of your Word. Help us be honest with ourselves and with you in this sacred moment of proclamation. Amen.

Scripture readings

Sermon





Affirmation of faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Call for the offering

Our God blesses us with extravagance and abundance. Grateful for all we have been given, let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

Prayer of dedication

Just as Jesus turned gallons of water into wine, we too know God's extravagant blessings. Take these gifts we give today and bless them, Holy God, that others may know your abundance and live whole and healthy lives. Amen.

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

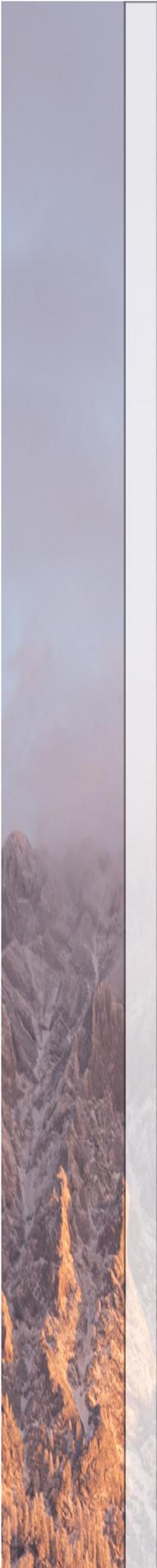
God, our refuge and strength,

Shelter us from life's storms, from hopelessness and despair, from heart-ache and loss. Strengthen us to withstand the worry, the exhausting but necessary work, the temptations to stray from you toward idols who only offer fleeting comfort. Hold us close, like the mother hen who covers her chicks under her wing, so we can know we are yours, feel your steady presence, and know your peace.

God, you are in our midst, yet the nations are in an uproar and kingdoms totter. Help us to know your presence among us, God. Comfort and guide us in this tumultuous and painful world. May our leaders walk humbly and practice faithful discernment, surrounding themselves with honest truth-tellers who will hold them to your ethic of love and justice.

God, in these days of uproar and upheaval, help us find ways to rest, restore and renew ourselves. Help us step away from the work still undone, the chores piling up, the deadlines approaching. Help us find ways to rest in your presence. Help us behold and enjoy you. We cannot continue without the rest you provide. Help us embrace stillness as your





great gift.

United as the Body of Christ we lift these prayers to you, Savior God.
Hear us now, as we pray the prayer Christ taught us by saying together,
“Our Father....”

Charge and benediction

God's grace is extravagant and abundant,
Know this grace in your life
Share this grace with others.

May God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, bless you this day and
forevermore. Amen.

