

Centenary United Methodist Church
Our Mission: "Love God, Serve Others"

February 23, 2025; Seventh Sunday after Epiphany, Liturgical Color; Green, **Traditional; 11:00 am**

If you are comfortable, please stand. **Bold - Join in response, **The Faith We Sing*

PRELUDE

INTROIT (*in response, Psalm 37:34*)

Hope in the Lord and keep his way

And the Lord will exalt you. AMEN.

GREETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN** Great Is Thy Faithfulness **140**

***OPENING PRAYER** (*unison, Christianity*)

'Our Lord God, we gather here today under your care and protection. Thank you for your loving kindness that never fails us. We thank you for those with us, that you would guide our thoughts and actions to bring you glory. Strengthen us and fill us with your peace. May we love and serve each other as Jesus has shown us. Fill us with the Holy Spirit to do your good work.' AMEN.

***THE PASSING OF PEACE**

***PRAYER RESPONSE** Blessed Be the Tie that Binds

RESPONSIVE READING (*in response, Psalm 37:35-40*)

Consider the blamelessness and observe the upright

A future awaits those who seek peace

There will be no future for the wicked

The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord

The Lord is their stronghold in time of trouble

The Lord helps them and delivers them

The Lord delivers them from the wicked

The Lord is our refuge. AMEN.

ANTHEM Jubilate Deo arr. Joel Raney

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE; Joys and Concerns (*Adopted from the Book of Worship 395*)

God of eternity: You are present with us because of Christ's rising from the dead, and you persist in lifting us to new life in him. We bring to you our prayers for this world in need of resurrection.

Especially, we pray for nations and peoples in strife, (*You may voice your prayers*). Lord in your mercy.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor and impoverished, at home and abroad...Lord in your mercy.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those we know in particular times of distress . . . Lord in your mercy.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who are ill and the sick . . . Lord in your mercy.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the gift of life...Lord in your mercy.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who lost their loved ones . . . Lord in your mercy.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who follow the risen Christ and for the ministry of the church . . . Lord in your mercy.

Lord, hear our prayer, Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

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, the power and the glory, forever. AMEN.

MISSION MOMENT Jane Nider

OFFERTORY "Come to Me" arr. J.B. Taylor

Nickels for Nigeria

Offering

***DOXOLOGY** Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (*Sung to the tune of 95*)

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (*unison*)

'Accept our tithes and offerings as a gift of worship to you. Multiply what we give for the effective growth of your kingdom. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord our God. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, and power and strength, be unto you our God forever and ever.' AMEN.

SCRIPTURE Youth Group

First Lesson Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 6:27-38

SERMON "Stronger with Love"

CLOSING HYMN** Wounded World that Cries for Healing *2177**

***BENEDICTION**

***HYMN** God Be with You till We Meet Again **672** (no refrain)

POSTLUDE