

***St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, PA
January 28, 2024***

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*Please stand in body or in spirit

GATHERING SONG

"This is the Day"

UNISON WELCOME

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

"The peace of Christ be with you"

"And also with you"

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE

"Prelude and Toccata on Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

arr. Kerr

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Come! Let us give thanks to the Lord with whole hearts.

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Glory be to the One whose wonders are to be remembered.

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

The Lord feeds the righteous with truth.

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Come! Let us give thanks and praise to God.

***HYMN #332**

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

CALL TO CONFESSION

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

The One who pardons, heals, and strengthens all who repent calls us to name our failings and our hopes. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have promised to receive us when we come to you. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have disobeyed your law. We have not loved you or our neighbors as we should. Forgive us, O God, and grant that we may live and serve you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

Hymnal Companion C-4

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from the UCC Book of Worship

God hears the confession of our hearts and lips. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven all our sins, and by the Holy Spirit we are empowered for new life. **We believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #704**

ANTHEM

"Guide My, O Thou Great Jehovah"

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 111

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to God with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of God, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is God's work, and God's righteousness endures forever.

God has gained renown by God's wonderful deeds; God is gracious and merciful.

God provides food for those who revere God; God is ever mindful of the covenant.

God has shown the people the power of the works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of God's hands are faithful and just; all God's precepts are trustworthy.

They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

God sent redemption to the people, and has commanded the covenant forever. Holy and awesome is God's name.

Reverence for God is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Roxanne Davenport

Children's Corner will be offered following the Children's Message

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:21-28

SERMON

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS)

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY

"Air II"

G. F. Handel

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #706**

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

from Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship

**Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world.
Amen.**

***UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH**

Hymnal Companion C-12

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION*POSTLUDE (seated)***"Allegro Maestoso (Water Music)"*

G. F. Handel

The "Nursery Nook in the Narthex" quiet area and infant/toddler space in the Parlor are available for children and families to use during worship. Age-appropriate activity bags are also available. See the deacon for assistance.

Join us after worship for coffee hour in the lobby!

Birthdays this week: 01/29 Douglas Stepler; 01/30 Robert Schollaert; 01/31 Emilio Cuesta; 02/02 Tom Harrison (Mt. Union Rd); 02/03 Gary Crum and Dr. Donald Hendrickson; 02/04 Michael Bitner, Jolene H. McGinley and Kurt Widmann.

Worship Participants:	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Guest Organist	Ferree LeFevre
Deacon in Charge	Sarah Myers
Lector	Henry Hopper
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz and Ginny Cairns
Bulletin cover	"The Possessed" by JESUS MAFA © http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr From Art in the Christian Tradition , a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given to the glory of God.

**St. John's Vision**

We are called to love, to learn, to worship and to witness in Christ
as a congregation that welcomes everyone,
and seeks service that will advance God's realm on earth.

St. John's Mission

To grow in love of God and neighbor

Worship Resources:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship

NEWS IN THE PEWS January 28, 2024

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton, pastor@sjucc1811.org (641) 260-1868 (cell)
Gary Crum, Music Director | Barbara Motichka, Organist
Roxanne Davenport, Director of Children & Youth
Stephen W. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today: Organ Music from Around the World – 3:30 pm – Sanctuary

Monday, January 29

7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall / Scout Room 207

Tuesday, January 30

5:30 pm Yoga – Room 202

6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study via Zoom

6:30 pm Cub Scouts – Fellowship Hall / Scout Room

Wednesday, January 31

9:00 am Nursery School Movie Day – Fellowship Hall

Thursday, February 1

9:00 am Nursery School Movie Day – Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm Thursday Night Dance – Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice – Bell Room 117

7:15 pm Choir Practice – Choir Room 103

Friday, February 2

6:00 pm Salsa and Merengue: Salsarengue Dance – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 4

8:45 am Godly Play Class – Room 119

8:45 am Spark! Elementary Church School Class – Room 115

8:45 am Teen Discussion Class – Youth Room 206

8:45 am Wired Word Church School Class – Room 116

10:00 am Sunday Service – Sanctuary

First Fruits We have the opportunity to offer support to local families in our community by supporting the Diaper Depot. The Diaper Depot is a ministry of Central Presbyterian Church that distributes disposable diapers and wipes to 180-200 families each month. They have also offered baby items, breakfast, and some food for families. Thank you for your generous support.

Camp Sunday is Sunday, February 11. We hope you'll join us for this special worship service.

Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner will be Tuesday, February 13, 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The meal is \$15 for adults, \$5 for kids 6-12, kids under 6 eat free (dine-in and carry-out). We'll need lots of help to make this event a success. Contact Harold or Susan Collier to volunteer.

United Way Winter Warmth Drive runs January 15 to February 12. Collection boxes for items are located in the front and back lobbies. More details about requested items are in the January Spirit. Thank you for your support of individuals and families in our community!

Online Giving Made Easy! Our bulletins now include a QR code that directs users to our online giving platform (Vanco), offering the option to make a donation to support our mission and ministry directly from your smartphone.

Puzzle Lending Library Please feel free to borrow a puzzle and/or donate a puzzle! Puzzles are available in the back of the library (room 106).

St. John's Future Together Strategic Plan copies are available at the Welcome Center, in the Narthex, and by request from the Church Office.

Ash Wednesday service will be on Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 pm, in the Sanctuary.

Valentine's Day Dance our Valentine's Day dance featuring DJ Frank Hancock will be on February 17 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in our fellowship hall. Donations will be accepted.

2023 Year End Giving Statements Year end giving statements are now available. Contact the church office for your copy.

Weather Alert Bad weather could be upon us at any time. Remember that the church follows the CASD schedule. If school is cancelled for the day, all church activities are cancelled for the day. If school is delayed in the morning, all morning church activities are cancelled. If school is dismissed early, all evening church activities will be cancelled. It is the goal to hold all scheduled worship services. When in doubt, safety first! Call the church office and select option 1 to hear a message. There will also be a special E-Blast sent with any information.

SAVE THE DATE: As February is Black History Month, the ONA Ministry Team has scheduled the viewing and discussion of the film "13th" on February 18 here at the church. This event will follow the worship service on February 18 and will include a light lunch. Time period will be approximately three hours, including lunch, viewing and discussion. The documentary film reveals the complexity of, and often a misunderstanding of, the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution. You will find this an enlightening and profound documentary film. If you have ever watched "The Birth of a Nation", you will find this a further learning experience. We do ask you to pre-register for this event by February 11th by calling (717-263-8593) or email (manager@sjucc1811.org) to aid in having sufficient lunch supplies.

332 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
 2. My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
 3. Je-sus, the name that calms my fears, that bids my sor-rows cease;
 4. He breaks the power of can-celed sin, He sets the pris-oner free;
 5. He speaks, and lis-tening to His voice, new life the dead re-ceive;
 6. To God all glo-ry, praise, and love be ev-er, ev-er given

the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of His grace.
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of Thy name.
 'tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears; 'tis life and health and peace.
 His blood can make the foul-est clean, His blood a-vailed for me.
 the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.
 by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the church in earth and heaven.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739 (Ps. 100)

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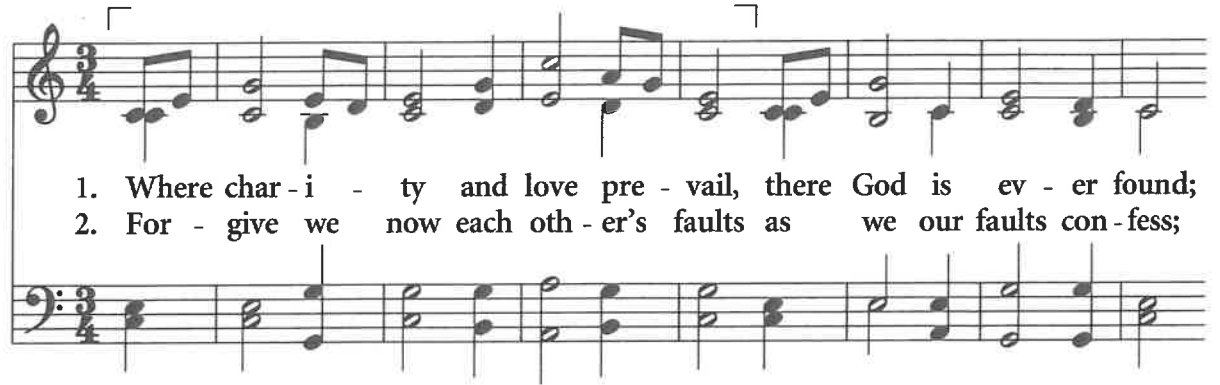
MUSIC: Carl G. Gläser; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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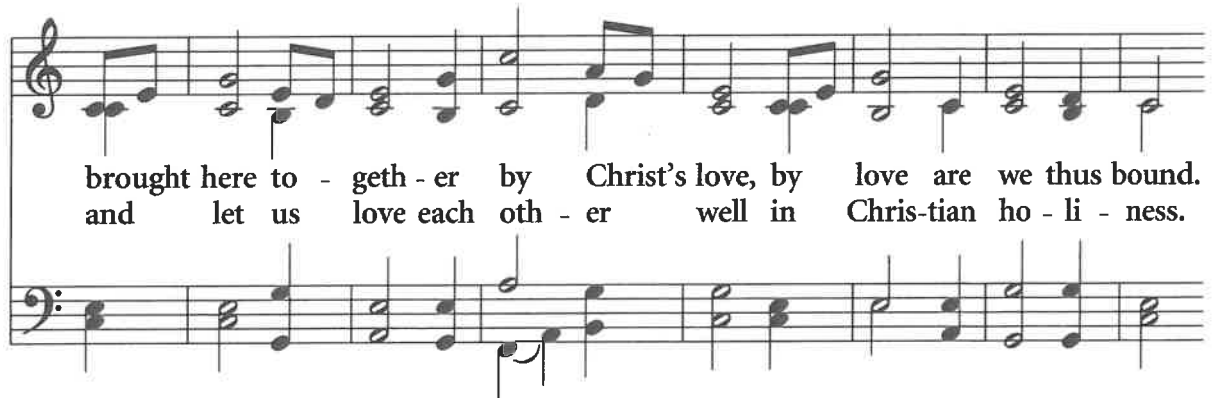
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Where Charity and Love Prevail


264



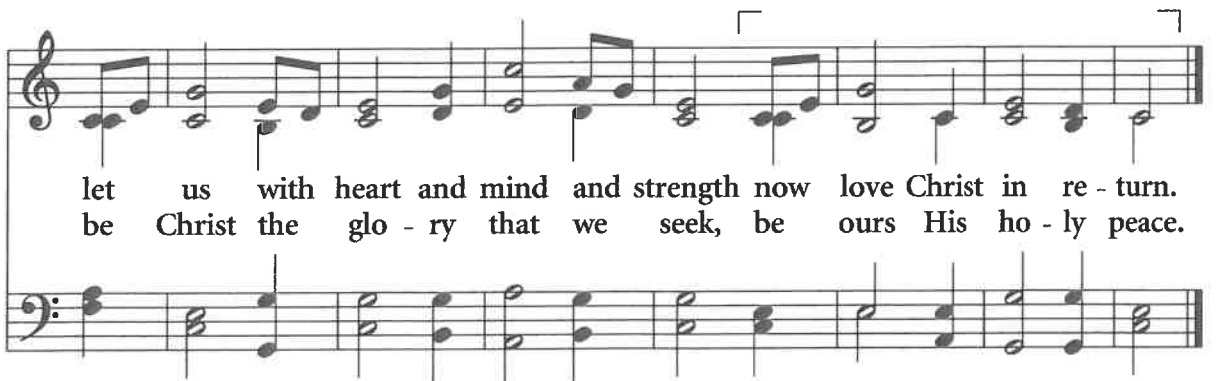
1. Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2. For - give we now each oth - er's faults as we our faults con - fess;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.
 and let us love each oth - er well in Chris-tian ho - li - ness.



With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear true char - i - ty we learn;
 Let strife a - mong us be un - known, let all con - ten - tion cease;



let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in re - turn.
 be Christ the glo - ry that we seek, be ours His ho - ly peace.

WORDS: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; para. Omer Westendorf, 1960

MUSIC: Freeman Lewis's *Beauties of Harmony*, 1828; harm. Shelby Trapp, 2007

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RESIGNATION

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