

Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 1, 2009 10:00 a.m.

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*Our mission is to change peoples' lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.*

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~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call To Worship

adapted from Psalm 11

L: Give thanks to God with all that you are here, in this place of worship and with this sacred community, for God's handiwork is alive within us.

P: **The Compassionate One is known for giving to those in need and the people of God's heart are constantly on God's mind.**

L: Justice is in God's right hand tried and true are the ways of God woven into the foundation of the world.

All: **God brings liberation to the people and our relationship with God is established in freedom and joy therefore our praise will endure forever.**

*Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

#451, vs. 1-2

Opening Prayer:

God of deserving praise, you gift us with voices to witness, hands to extend in welcome and care, and hearts to love. May your calling grow deeper within as your Spirit equips and inspires us with power to do your will.

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church

Offertory

Doxology

#95

Offertory Prayer

Take the gifts we offer, O God. Use them to pass on the story that we have received. Use them to further the faith that has nurtured us and brought us to this place. We also offer ourselves, and re-dedicate ourselves as disciples. Re-ignite the gifts you have placed within us, that we might serve you in big things and little things, each and every day. Amen.

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~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Reading of the Word

Epistle

1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

A Time for the Child in All of Us

Gospel:

Mark 1: 21-28

Anthem

"He's A Rebel"

The Message

Rev. Michele Ewers

A Time For Prayer

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~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

Celebration of the Sacrament

Invitation

Pg 12

Prayer of Confession

L: Though we are the anointed ones, called and empowered to be the Body of Christ, sometimes we feel helpless, God.

Left: Bombarded by endless images of suffering on the nightly news, sometimes we feel hopeless, God.

Right: When we put effort into justice and peace only to have our efforts lead to dead ends, sometimes we feel discouraged, God.

Left: When we see resources used for non-essentials instead of alleviating poverty and suffering, sometimes we feel ashamed, God.

Right: When we hear your name lifted up to justify torture, murder, war, and imperialism, sometimes we feel angry, God.

Left: When we feel the changes in our environment and hear the voices of careless denial, sometimes we feel afraid, God.

Right: When we experience setbacks in places dear to us - relationships, family, vocation, faith, sometimes we feel like failures, God.

L: Secure in your unconditional love for us, we share with you our deepest feelings...

(moment of silence)

Pardon (In Unison)

The Holy One regards the movements of our hearts; God knows each wave of emotion and holds it tenderly. God remains faithful and true when we are unfaithful and fickle. God's love is steadfast and sure when our souls tremble with insecurity. Rest in the faithful love of God and receive God's Spirit that fills you with power to be God's anointed in this world.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread & Cup *"Alleluia"* **#186**

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~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~

Hymn *"What A Mighty God We Serve"* **# 2021**

Sending Forth:

L: We have arrived on the other side of worship and it is time to leave this sacred space and enter new horizons with God.

P: **God's love has healed us; let us step out in faith to bring healing to our world. We have been called by God to step out in faith with power to be the Body of Christ. The Spirit accompanies us as we step out in faith to live fully, love wastefully, and become all that God has created us to be.**

***Closing Song** *"Awesome God"* **#2040**

~Bringing The Light Into the World~