SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SOUNDING THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE Selections from Six Canonic Sonatas by Telemann Played by Kate McShane and Jesse Heasly

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 111 adapted): Hallelujah!

We will give thanks to God with our whole hearts in silence and in company.

God's deeds are great—

We will study them.

God is compassionate and gracious

We will remember

God speaks in the heart—

We will listen

God's hands work faithfulness and justice

We will follow

Awe of God is the beginning of wisdom

We will praise God forever.

*OPENING HYMN Fairest Lord Jesus

1. Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,

O Thou of God and man the Son,

Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,

Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

2. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,

Robed in the blooming garb of spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,

Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, And all the twinkling starry host; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels heaven can boast.

*GATHERING PRAYER with WORDS OF CONFESSION

One: God invites us to come to worship with our whole hearts, to inventory our deeds and our works, mindful of our covenant with God. God offers us a new beginning day by day and week by week. Trusting in God, we pray for transformation and new life:

All: Gracious and Merciful God, maker of covenant, faithful and just, we examine our lives in light of your righteousness which endures forever. You give us commandments, raise up prophets among us from among our own people. You speak to us, and ask us to become accountable. Yet often we ignore your ways and disdain your works. We close ourselves to your prophets and to the suffering in our world. Forgive us and renew us, that we may walk in faithfulness to you today, tomorrow, and all days. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*PRAYER RESPONSE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:21-28 The Man With an Unclean Spirit

SERMON & STORY I Know Who You Are

*HYMN OF REFLECTION Arise, Your Light is Come

- 1. Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today!
 - 2. Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door; Proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to thre poor.
 - 3. Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born. Bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.
 - 4. Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing; Gods power will make us strong.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE MORNING OFFERING *Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God for all that love has done, Creator, Christ and Spirit one.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We worship with our whole hearts, and give with our whole hearts, remembering your covenant with us, O God. As we share these gifts, may they be for the work of faithful justice and gracious mercy through your church and in your world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN As With Gladness Those of Old

1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright; so, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to Thee.

4 Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way; and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed lives at last where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.

5 In that heav'nly country bright need they no created light; Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown, Thou its Sun which goes not down; there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.

*BENEDICTION & POSTLUDE

Selections from Six Canonic Sonatas by Telemann Played by Kate McShane and Jesse Heasly

*Please stand if you are able.

We remember in our prayers: Susan Green's Uncle Tim, the family of Ellen Keefe, the family of Ruth Bryant, Gary Spurgat, Rose Young, Ron Leeman, Amy Poole, Joe Dee, Kathleen Grigg, George & Pat Greene, Jeff & Jeanne Sewall, Carol & Eric Johnsen, the Betancourt family, and our neighbors at the Edgecomb Green. **Acknowledgements:** Except where otherwise noted, music in today's bulletin that is not in the public domain is reprinted/podcast/ streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-739201.

Edgecomb Community Church

United Church of Christ

"To bring together our communities in spirituality and loving service to humankind."



January 28, 2024
The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

"God is still speaking"



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