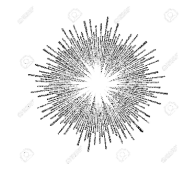


Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Theme: Hope Shines Bright

Sunday, January 22, 2023



“When you hope, be joyful. When you suffer, be patient. When you pray, be faithful.”
Romans 12:12 NIRV

GATHERING

Prelude: “Psalm 23” Gordon Young

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship Psalm 40:1-11

Leader: I waited patiently for the LORD; and the LORD inclined to me and heard my cry.

People: The LORD drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

Leader: The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

People: Therefore, many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

Leader: Happy are those who make the LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud or to those who go after false gods.

People: O LORD our God, You have multiplied your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You.

Leader: Were we to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

People: Sacrifice and offering You do not desire; burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

Leader: Rather, we delight to do your will, O our God; your law is within our hearts.

People: We have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; we have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation.

Leader: Nor have we restrained our lips or hidden your saving help within our heart. In all ways possible, we have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation within the great congregation.

People: Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from us; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep us forever safe.

*Hymn: #610 “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (see download)

Prayer of the Day and Confession

(A prayer of Martin Luther King, Jr. – Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta)

O thou Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being. We humbly confess that we have not loved thee with our hearts, souls and minds and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us. We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ. We often give in order to receive, we love our friends and hate our enemies, we go the first mile but dare not travel the second, we forgive but dare not forget. As we look within ourselves we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against thee. But thou, O God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be. Give us the intelligence to know thy will. Give us the courage to do thy will. Give us the devotion to love thy will. In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray. AMEN

Assurance of Pardon

Sung Response: #444 “Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive” (vs. 1 only)

Children’s Sermon

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “What Is This Place” (GTG #404)
Chancel Choir

Scripture: John 1:29-42

Sermon: **“Getting a New Name”**

*Hymn: “Blessed Be the Name” (see insert)

