

**John Calvin Presbyterian Church  
Second Sunday after Epiphany  
January 14, 2024 10:30 a.m.**



*Come and See* | based on John 1:35-51 | Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | *A Sanctified Art, LLC*

**“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8)**

***Christ is Lord!*** Following our Savior’s example, the John Calvin Presbyterian Church accepts the call to **worship** God, **teach** the Scriptures, **grow** in faith, **serve** the community, **love and encourage** one another, and **proclaim** the Good News.

# WORSHIP CELEBRATION

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Please silence all cell phones prior to the beginning of the service.

†You are invited to stand in body or spirit as you are able.

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*This liturgy is adapted from A Sanctified Art LLC by Sarah A. Speed*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

## PRELUDE

Margaret Rogers

## WELCOME

Elder Margaret Collar, Pastor Jen Kottler

## †CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

Al Feimster, Liturgist

We are from north and south.

**We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes.**

We are from this city and from others far away.

**We are from big families and dinners made for one.**

We are from stages of grief and stages of love.

**We are from hot summers and cold winters.**

We are from kitchens with passed down recipes, and front porches with old, familiar swings.

**We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.**

We are from a lot of places, but today we are here.

**Today we are together.**

Holy God, gather us in.

## PRAYER (*in unison*)

**You invite us, O God, to live in your ways, and you give us to each other to know and to love as we journey in this life. Show us your will for all creation. Help us to listen to your urgings with prayerful hearts so that we may honor what you have made, in the name of the holy Trinity, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## †HYMN

*Here in This Place (Gather Us In)*

Hymn 401

## CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsively*)

If we were to call the prayer of confession by another name, I would call it a moment for truth telling—a moment to pause, to reflect, to be honest about the places we want to grow and the way we need God’s help. Family of faith, there is power in honesty. So pray with me. We worship a loving and gracious God.

When people heard that Jesus was from Nazareth, they asked, “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”

**We confess, God of beginnings, that we have asked the same question.**

Can anything good come from that side of town?

**From a school with poor test scores?**

From a criminal history?

**From the opposite political party?**

From a history of addiction?

**From a faith with doubt?**

From a church with faults?

**Holy God, forgive us for doubting that you are in all things at all times. Open our eyes to see your goodness, not as something that resides here or there, but as the expansive grace that it is.**

Can anything good come from there?

**Yes. Always yes. Amen.**

**KYRIE**

*Do Not Be Afraid (refrain)*

Hymn 76

Refrain

*All* E B C#m G D/F# E B  
Do not be a - fraid, for I am with you. Cho - sen and be -

C#m D Bm7 Dmaj7 E B C#m  
loved, you are my own. Do not be a - fraid, for I have re -

E7 D Bm7 C Em Am7 Bm7 E *Last time*  
deemed you: by your name I called you for my own.

## **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

Family of faith, if you ever ask yourself, “Can anything good come from this messy and human life of mine?” Remember this: God is always whispering, “Yes.” You were created in the image of God. Your origin story is one of goodness and love from the very beginning. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**God is here. God is at work among us.**

**We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Because we have found reconciliation with God, we can offer that same reconciliation to one another – anytime and anywhere. The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*(Let us share a sign of Christ's peace – by waving to one another, shaking hands, giving a fist bump or a holy hug – and may we share Christ's peace with all we encounter this day.)*

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
F B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)  
C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

## A TIME WITH CHILDREN

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, I don't always know how to pray, but you find me anyway. I don't always know how to listen, but you are in my ears all the same. I don't always know how to believe, but you surround me with beauty and I find myself held together in love. Where I come from there are so many distractions. Where I come from there is so much noise. Find me. Hold me. Be in these words. Help me hear. **Amen.**

### FIRST SCRIPTURE

*Genesis 2: 4b-15 (NRSV)*

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup> when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; <sup>6</sup> but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— <sup>7</sup> then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. <sup>9</sup> Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup> A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. <sup>11</sup> The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; <sup>12</sup> and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. <sup>13</sup> The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows

around the whole land of Cush. <sup>14</sup> The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Betty Anne Smith, soloist

**FOCUS SCRIPTURE**

*John 1:35-51 (The Message)*

<sup>35-36</sup> The next day John was back at his post with two disciples, who were watching. He looked up, saw Jesus walking nearby, and said, “Here he is, God’s Passover Lamb.”

<sup>37-38</sup> The two disciples heard him and went after Jesus. Jesus looked over his shoulder and said to them, “What are you after?”

They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

<sup>39</sup> He replied, “Come along and see for yourself.”

They came, saw where he was living, and ended up staying with him for the day. It was late afternoon when this happened.

<sup>40-42</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard John’s witness and followed Jesus. The first thing he did after finding where Jesus lived was find his own brother, Simon, telling him, “We’ve found the Messiah” (that is, “Christ”). He immediately led him to Jesus.

Jesus took one look up and said, “You’re John’s son, Simon? From now on your name is Cephas” (or Peter, which means “Rock”).

<sup>43-44</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. When he got there, he ran across Philip and said, “Come, follow me.” (Philip’s hometown was Bethsaida, the same as Andrew and Peter.)

<sup>45-46</sup> Philip went and found Nathanael and told him, “We’ve found the One Moses wrote of in the Law, the One preached by the prophets. It’s *Jesus*, Joseph’s son, the one from Nazareth!” Nathanael said, “Nazareth? You’ve got to be kidding.”

But Philip said, “Come, see for yourself.”

<sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw him coming he said, “There’s a real Israelite, not a false bone in his body.”

<sup>48</sup> Nathanael said, “Where did you get that idea? You don’t know me.”

Jesus answered, “One day, long before Philip called you here, I saw you under the fig tree.”

<sup>49</sup> Nathanael exclaimed, “Rabbi! You are the Son of God, the King of Israel!”

<sup>50-51</sup> Jesus said, “You’ve become a believer simply because I say I saw you one day sitting under the fig tree? You haven’t seen anything yet! Before this is over you’re going to see heaven open and God’s angels descending to the Son of Man and ascending again.”

These words are trustworthy and true.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Where are you from?*

Pastor Jen Kottler

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that goodness can come from the dirt, that faith can come from doubt, that minds can be changed, that justice can begin with us, and that something good *can* come from Nazareth. We believe all these things, because we believe that God is more expansive than we have words for—showing up in the corners of our world so often ignored and denied. We believe that from this place of holy surprise, God invites us forward—beckoning hope, bravery, and curiosity from each of us. “Come and see,” God says. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

SONG OF PREPARATION *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* Hymn 469  
*Lord, listen to your children praying.*  
*Lord, send your Spirit in this place.*  
*Lord, listen to your children praying.*  
*Send us love; send us power; send us grace.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

...we pray to you the prayer you taught us, saying,

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*(All who are worshiping in-person who have not already given their offering online or by mail, are welcome to drop your offering in the offering plates at the rear of the sanctuary as you exit. Those present who wish to give by text are welcome to text “JCPC” and amount (ex. JCPC \$50) to 73256.)*

OFFERTORY Margaret Rogers

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God, from many places you call us to be good stewards of all that you have given to us. Work on us and through us to be the people that you need. Ready our hearts and our minds so that we might live into the call you have on our lives. Amen.**

†HYMN Hymn

†CHARGE Elder Collar

†BENEDICTION Rev. Kottler

†CHORAL RESPONSE Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Margaret Rogers, organ

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*WELCOME TO JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! We are so pleased you are here today! We pray today’s worship of our Lord is a blessing to you. If you are looking for a church home in this community, you are invited to speak with any member or Pastor Jen to learn more. If you are a first time visitor, we’d be grateful if you would fill out a visitor card so that we can thank you for being with us.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today is the last day to RSVP for the lunch on January 28th after worship!** We do not want to leave anyone out. When you sign in on the fellowship pad, please give us the total that we can expect from your family (including yourself) next to your name.

**Also, if you have a written or video reflection** about your time at JCPC that you would like to share, please get those to us as soon as possible. If you provide that we assume that these reflections can be shared publicly (in print or on social media.) Thanks!

**Please help us spread the word about our two open positions:** Director of Music Ministries and Nursery Attendant. If you know of someone interested please ask them to inquire by emailing [johncalvinpresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:johncalvinpresbyterian@gmail.com).

**If you were not here last Sunday, you are welcome to take a Star word from the basket on the welcome table.** You are then invited to live with this word in the coming year, understanding how it speaks to you and how God may be speaking through this word to you.

**If you are not receiving** our monthly email newsletter or weekly Thursday email with information for Sunday, **please make sure the office has your current email address.** A great deal of information is shared this way, as well as on **social media – so like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram and YouTube!**

### THIS WEEK AT JOHN CALVIN *Serving this week, January 14, 2024*

<b>Elder on Call:</b> Margaret Collar (843-662-1716)		<b>Liturgist:</b> Al Feimster
<b>Usher/Greeter:</b> Emily and Chuck Stonerock		<b>Children’s Church:</b> M Horton and J Coker
<b>Counters:</b> Margaret Collar, Tom Hawkins and Gary Pierce		
Today	9:15 AM	Sunday School Classes for all ages
	10:30 AM	Worship Celebration
Wednesday	12:00 PM	<i>A is For Alabaster</i> Bible Study (Zoom)
	6:00 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday	9:15 AM	Sunday School for all ages
	10:30 AM	Worship Celebration
	3:30 PM	Joyful Noise Children’s Music Program

### *Serving the week of January 21, 2024*

<b>Elder on Call:</b> Susan Tedder (843-319-9226)		<b>Liturgist:</b> Thomas Hawkins
<b>Usher/Greeter:</b> Kris Andrews and Sylvia Perkins		<b>Children’s Church:</b> Susan Nexsen
<b>Counters:</b> Ron Rogers, Susan Tedder & Tom Hoffmeyer		(We need an assistant!)

**Please note: There will be no Sunday School on Sunday the 28th, so that we can make sure that everything is set up for the luncheon.**

## The Session of Elders

### Class of 2024

Joe Bittle  
Margaret Collar  
Susan Tedder

### Class of 2025

Thomas Hawkins  
Myra Horton  
Betty Anne Smith

### Class of 2026

Kris Andrews  
Robin Permenter  
Gary Pierce

Clerk of Session: Betty Anne Smith ————— Moderator: Rev. Jen Kottler  
Treasurer: Tom Shearin ————— Assistant Treasurers: Tom Hoffmeyer and Will Gin

### Committees

Building & Grounds ————— Margaret Collar  
Caring & Fellowship ————— Joe Bittle  
Christian Education ————— Myra Horton  
Finance & Stewardship ————— Susan Tedder  
Evangelism, Outreach & Mission ————— Tom Hawkins  
Nominating Committee ————— Kris Andrews  
Office and Personnel ————— Robin Permenter  
Worship & Music ————— Gary Pierce  
Presbyterian Women ————— Jane Coker

### Staff

Coordinator of Children's Ministries and Administrative Assistant — Susan Nexsen  
Director of Music Ministries ————— (vacant)  
Worship Accompanist ————— Margaret Rogers  
Nursery Assistant ————— (vacant)  
Sexton ————— Milton Allen  
Pastor ————— Rev. Jennifer Kottler

## **JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of New Harmony*  
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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/johncalvinflorence/>

Pastor Jen: (843) 203-8477 (talk/text); [pastorjenkottler@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjenkottler@gmail.com) (email)

*...A place where all are welcome, and no one is a stranger.*