

*Your Friendly  
Community Church*



**January 29, 2023**

*Fourth Sunday after  
the Epiphany*

**Rev. Meegian Gossard**  
Pastor

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tiffany Phillips

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The Lord is our light and our salvation!

**People: Why should we be afraid?**

Leader: The Lord is the stronghold of our life!

**People: What have we to fear?**

Leader: Let's shout with joy to God!

**People: Let's sing and worship our God.**

**\*HYMN**

**UMH #402**

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of light and love, we come this morning with eyes stinging from the brightness of your glory. We have become so accustomed to the darkness, that your radiant light sometimes overwhelms us. Open our eyes to the light of your dawn, that our souls may be flooded with love and mercy and joy. Open our hearts to receive your message of comfort, peace, and security, so that we may find rest in your loving, protective presence. Open our spirits to follow the path you put before us, so that we may lead lives committed to your Way. Amen.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PASTOR**

Rev. Meegian Gossard

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Diane Horn

## WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

**\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen

**\*OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

**OT #476**

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

**SERMON**

Rev. Walter Strawther

**Psalm 27: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (NRSV)**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**UMH #880**

The Nicene Creed

**PRAYER**

Rev. Meegian Gossard

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

**"Rise and Shine (Arky, Arky)"**

Evy and Frankie Billingsley

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**UMH #95**

**WE GO WITH GOD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*HYMN**

**UMH #301**

**"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*AMEN RESPONSE**

**"Let the Church Say Amen"**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We welcome you to our worship service this morning. If you are visiting, please complete a visitor's card located in your pew and place it in the offering plate.

The Leadership Team will be meeting on Monday, January 30, at 6:30 pm in the parlor.

We would like to invite the children to join the children's choir starting on February 5. We will practice right after worship for 20 minutes each Sunday.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, January 30

6:30 Leadership Team - Parlor

Wednesday, February 1

10:30 Pastor's Bible Study – Crossroads Classroom

12:00 National Day of Prayer Service – Francis Burns UMC, 5616 Farrow Rd., Columbia

5:45 Choir Practice – Choir Room

## SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

You are welcomed to attend one of our Sunday School classes:

**Crossroads SS Class** meets via Zoom at 9am  
Contact L.W. Smith for Zoom invite.

**Pathfinder SS Class** meets at 9:45 am in the parlor in the Education Building.

## HEARING DEVICES

If you would like to use a hearing assistance device, please see an usher for assistance.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please write your prayer requests in the book found on the podium located at the back of the sanctuary before the service begins. Pastor Meegian will lift them up for prayer during worship.

## 2023 FINANCES

**2023 Budget = \$229,008.00**

**Need to Receive Weekly = \$4,404.00**

**Received for General Budget on 01/22/23 = \$2,751.00**

**Received Year-To-Date (2023) = \$12,036**

We are excited to have you in our worship service today. We love that the walls of our building do not limit the impact of our ministry and have a wonderful community joining us today virtually. As such, we would like to remind all in attendance that your presence in our worship service indicates your approval that you and all minors you represent being recorded for our digital usage. This includes, but is not limited to, your image, name, and involvements in today's services.