



Pittsburg Presbyterian Church

February 20, 2022 ~ 10:00 am

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

GATHERING

Prelude

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Based on African-American Spirituals *Swing Low and Ride the Chariot*

Dan R. Edwards

Pitt Pres Ringers

Lay Leader: Preset your folder at your seat.

Bring in the Light of Christ during the Prelude.

Welcome

Mark Denton

Good Morning, we are glad you are here with us today at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church. We are truly blessed to gather together for worship on this seventh Sunday after Epiphany.

Guest Speaker Introduction

Mark Denton

Today, we have guest speakers, Kate and Kurt Long. Kate is the daughter of Mary Mummert and the sister of Beth Manrique. Their mission is called God's Faithful Servants and their goal is to raise funds to provide the tools & services necessary to provide a better quality of life for people locally, nationally and internationally who are unable to help themselves. This includes, but is not limited to helping the disabled with mobility, helping students with the essentials they lack and sharing gifts & talents with the elderly, lonely and sick. Welcome Kate and Kurt to Pittsburg Presbyterian Church!

Mission Statement

Mark Denton

Our Mission at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church is to love God, know Christ, care for one another, and to joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please remain seated and join together in singing our Missional Song.

Missional Song

Susan Laushman

Love God, care for one another;
Know Christ, care for one another;
Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!
Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please stand for the Opening Sentences.

*Opening Sentences

Mark Denton

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Leader: *In this sacred space,*

People: trust in the Holy Spirit.

Leader: *On this sabbath day,*

People: take delight in Jesus Christ.

Leader: *Among the faithful,*

People: commit your way to the Lord.

Leader: *Worship the triune God with gladness!*

Our opening hymn today is "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" ...Come, let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn**

Glory To God #366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Text © 1989 Brian Dill

(V 1, 3, 4)

Verse 1

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

Verse 3

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Verse 4

Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Please be seated

Announcements

Mark Denton

- *Good morning and thank you for worshiping with us today!*
- *As part of COVID precautions, please be respectful of those that wish to social distance.*
- *Please Check-in on Social Media to share the peace of Christ with your friends and loved ones online!*
- *(Explain & show the Yellow Cards.) Please fill out the front and write any information/prayer concerns, etc. on the back and place it in one of the white boxes at the back of the Sanctuary, as you leave.*
- *“Kids Following Jesus” (KFJ) is available online. Please access the KFJ video through “The Sower”, Facebook page, or YouTube channel.*
- *(Show the Announcement flyer): Please refer to the Announcement flyer for important information and take it home with you.*
- **Only if Carol is here.** *Birthday Greetings: Please join together in wishing Carol Raquet “Happy Birthday”.*
- *Fellowship: Following worship, please join together for Coffee & Cookies Fellowship in the Parlor, hosted by Judy Malle and Darlene McLaren.*
 - * **Please mention any last minute announcements.**

Call to Confession

Mark Denton

*Jesus promised us that God is kind
Even to the ungrateful and the wicked, even to us.
Trusting in God’s kindness and love, let us confess our sin.*

Prayer of Confession

Mark Denton

Leader: Merciful God, we confess

All: that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises.

*We love only those who love us;
we show kindness only to those who are kind to us;
we give only when we expect to receive.*

Forgive us, Lord.

Fill our hearts with your selfless love.

Change our lives by your matchless grace.

These things we pray through Christ our Savior.

Leader: Hear now our individual silent confessions:

Wait a minute and say “Amen”, then proceed into the Assurance of Pardon.

Assurance of Pardon

Mark Denton

*Leader: Children of the Most High God, . . .
through Jesus Christ our Lord
we have received grace in good measure—
spilling out and running over.
. . . in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.*

People: Thanks be to God!

[Virginia offers intro to *Gloria*]

Please stand

***Gloria Patri**

The Presbyterian Hymnal #577

Richard K. Avery & Donald S. March, 1967

*Glory be to the Father,
and the Son,
and the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.*

*As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen*

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

Special Music

"If ye love me"

Thomas Tallis

Pitt Pres Choir

Old Testament Reading *Genesis 45:3-11, 15 (NIV)* **Mark Denton**

Reader: A reading from Genesis chapter 45, verses 3 through 11 and verse 15.

Listen to the word of God:

³ *Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.*

⁴ *Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt!"⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping.⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.*

⁸ *"So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt."⁹ Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay.¹⁰ You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have.¹¹ I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'*

¹⁵ *And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.*

This is the word of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.



New Testament Reading **Luke 6:27-38 (NIV)** Mark Denton

Reader: *A reading from Luke, chapter 6 verses 27 through 38.*

Listen to the word of God:

²⁷ *“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.*

³² *“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*

³⁷ *“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸ Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”*

This is the word of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Message

Guest Speakers

Kate & Kurt Long
God’s Faithful Servants
Wheelchair Mission

Prayer Hymn

Glory to God #48

Rain Down

Text © 1992 Jaime Cortez (Published by OCP) Music © 1992 Jaime Cortez (Published by OCP)

Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love on your people.

Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love, God of life.

Repeat

Prayer of Intercession

Mark Denton

You may say your own words OR the following:

Leader: *Let us offer our intercessions to God, saying,
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

*Holy god, your cross stands before us as a light
that shows us our failures and our salvation through your Son.
We thank you for forgiving us
and for coming among us to heal our pain and resentments.
We yearn for your word and praise you for your love.
. . . God, in your mercy,*

All: hear our prayer.

*Leader: You who preserves life,
who sends among your people caretakers and peacemakers,
who gives us scientists and inventors,
give your people new eyes to behold the needs of your creation.
Lead us into fields of wheat and pools of clean water.
Shelter the earth with clouds; nurture the soil with sun.
Make our gratitude so profound that with joy
we will love and guard what you have created for our very lives.
. . . God, in your mercy,*

All: hear our prayer.

*Leader: O Giver of prayer that groans within us,
teach us to pray for our enemies.
Their names are many,
and we whisper some of them now before you in our hearts . . .
[keep silence for a time]
Be with them, guard them from harm,
and guide them in the way of your light.
Save us from self-righteousness, and help us begin our lives anew,
. . . God, in your mercy,*

All: hear our prayer.

*Leader: Heal the nations, Mighty Lord.
Rain peace on all people.
Give hope to the hopeless and love to the lonely.
Surprise the leaders of all nations with your joy.
For the people, we cry out for reconciliation and plenty.
. . . God, in your mercy,*

All: hear our prayer.

*Leader: We beg comfort for the sick, O God.
Make whole the broken, make wise the foolish, humble the powerful,
make glad the hearts of those who tend our loved ones,
and for any who are in pain, give them release and rest.
Speak love to all who cry out silently.
. . . God, in your mercy,*

All: hear our prayer.

*Leader: Now hear, O God, the prayers of this assembly
spoken silently or aloud . . . [silence for people to name petitions].
. . . God, in your mercy,*

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: *Savior of the world, we give you thanks for the church,
for the meek, for the courageous, for those who teach us how to wait.
We praise you for the life-giving spirit
that inhabits the saints whose visions have shown the path.
We thank you for the biblical witness of Joseph and his brothers
in stories rich enough to feed us, along with them, with your mercy.
Make us truly grateful for prophets and dreamers.
. . . God, in your mercy,*

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: *Trusting in the mercy of your never-failing wisdom,
we commend into your hands all for whom we pray;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Please join together as Jesus taught us to pray . . .*

The Lord's Prayer

People: 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;
and 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 Offering

Mark Denton

As we prepare for our offering today, there are various ways that you may give. You may place your offering and Yellow Card in the white box, at the back, as you leave or contact the office for other options.

*Children of the Most High God,
in obedience to Jesus' words to love others as we love ourselves,
do good, bless and pray for friends and enemies alike,
let us now do to others as we would have them do to us,
offering our tithes and gifts for the sake of our sisters and brothers in
need.*

Prayer for Offering

Mark Denton

*Let us pray:
Holy God, you have given us land in which to grow and thrive,
food for survival and pleasure, air and water, fire and cold.
Make our thanksgiving bloom forth into the lives of others
in the name of the one who gave everything for us. Amen.*

Please stand

***The Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Gifts of the Spirit

Mark Denton

from *Our World Belongs to God: A Contemporary Testimony*, Article 31, 33, ©1987, CRC Publications, Grand Rapids MI, 1-800-333-8300. In *Keeping in Step with the Spirit*, posted on the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship website.
<http://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/keeping-in-step-with-the-spirit-romans-8-galatians-5/>

Leader: *Believer, what do you believe?*

People: Jesus stays with us in the Spirit,
who renews our hearts,
moves us to faith,
leads us in the truth,
stands by us in our need,
and makes our obedience fresh and vibrant.
The Spirit's gifts are here to stay
in rich variety—fitting responses to timely needs.
We thankfully see each other
as gifted members of the fellowship
which delights in the creative Spirit's work.
He gives more than enough to each believer
for God's praise and our neighbor's welfare.

***Closing Hymn**

Mark Denton

Our closing hymn today is "Open My Eyes, That I May See".

***Closing Hymn**

Glory To God #451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Verse 1

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Verse 2

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Verse 3

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

***Blessing & Charge**

Mark Denton

You may prepare your own OR the following:

*Now may the Lord who sent Joseph to Egypt
and gave him tears of joy at reunion with his family,
surround your days with strong visions, worthy work, reconciliations,
and the strength to persevere, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy
Spirit,
One God, Mother of us all.*

Lay Leader: After the blessing, begin to take the light of Christ into the world:

1. Light the candle lighter with one of the candles on the communion table.
2. Extinguish both candles on the communion table.
3. Stand with the light, facing the congregation.
4. Walk out with the light through the East aisle, in front of Pastor, to the back of the sanctuary.
5. Extinguish the light and stow the candle lighter.

Postlude

How Great Thou Art

Stuart K. Hine/Arr. Fred Bock

Virginia Darling, organ