

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
January 17, 2021
Second Sunday after Epiphany

While in-person Worship services are suspended, Montgomery Presbyterian Church will be recording services. The following is an order of service that you can use to follow along with the recorded service, or use to read and reflect on your own. The service will be posted on the church's Facebook page, [on YouTube](#), and will be linked to the MPC website, www.mpchurch.net. Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this challenging time.

PRELUDE *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Elder of the month: Steve Thiel, 708-0594
- Deacon of the month: Cheryl Mack, 317-294-8436
- Congregational Meeting via Zoom on January 31, 2021

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters; then God said: Let there be light, and God saw that it was good. At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus was baptized by John. The heavens opened, and the Spirit descended like a dove; then God said: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Let us worship God.

PRAYER

You invite us, O God, to live in your ways, and you give us each other to know and 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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Assured that the One who calls us to hear and obey already knows the confessions of our hearts and is ready to forgive, let us confess our sin before God and before one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully as creatures in need of your constant care. We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will. We have failed our neighbors, our families, our friends, and ourselves. Give us ears to hear your wisdom. Lead us to honesty and faith so that we may begin again with renewed strength in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness, and by the grace of God you have been saved. In Jesus' name you are forgiven. Your sins are no more. You have been made clean. God strengthens you with freedom through the Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God.

HYMN

O God, You Search Me

GtG 29

*O God, you search me, and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down, you are before me:
ever the maker and keeper of my days*

*You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting you besiege me:
in every moment of life or death, you are.*

*Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through
You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past, and future, too.*

*Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on Earth I can escape you:
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.*

*For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

By your Holy Spirit O God, open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, and our minds to your Holy Word so that it comes to rule within us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-

18

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

The Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC *Praise Ye the Lord*

SECOND READING

John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Rev. Ben Shaw

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

... And now hear as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.

BLESSING AND CHARGE

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all this day, and unto your life eternal. Amen.

POSTLUDE

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

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