



*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany*  
January 23, 2022

**Prelude**

*Alleluia*

**We are Called to Worship** – This day is holy to the Lord your God. Let us come ready to see, hear, and touch the Word of God. Do not mourn or weep, and do not be grieved. How can we be sad when we can experience God’s Word and know God’s love through our worship together? The joy of the Lord is our strength. Let us come together to worship the God of joy, strength, and love.+

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

*You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.*

**A Time of Prayer**— O God, who gives us strength when we feel weak, we gather to hear your Word, sing your songs, and give you praise. We know that you are always with us, and we are grateful. Help us to live our lives in ways that show you are near. Thank you for your presence and constant care for us — in worship, and in each day of our lives...+

**The Lord's Prayer** (unison)—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.

## **We Hear God's Word**

*Luke 4:14-21 (NRSV)*

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

## **Meditation**

*The Year of the Lord's Favor*

## **We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving**

**Invitation**— We share from what we have and from who we are as a sign of our desire to bring good news to the poor. May these gifts bring light to those in need, and put the joy of the Lord in their hearts.+

**January Benevolence**—Emergency Assistance: Every so often a neighbor contacts Zion for assistance for things our Franklin Township Ministerial Association and our Southeast Association Eviction Ministry do not cover. This could be anything from diapers and formula to bus tickets or clothes. We want to ensure that we have funds available when the call comes to serve our neighbors. Please, consider donating to our January Benevolence offering to help support Emergency Assistance.

You can mail your offerings to our office or give online at [www.zionuccindy.net/donate](http://www.zionuccindy.net/donate)

**Doxology** (Please sing the version that is most meaningful to you)

*Traditional*

*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.*

*Inclusive*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.*

**We Give Thanks**— O God of all gifts, we join with Jesus in proclaiming the year of your favor. Bless our gifts and bless us as we seek to bring joy and comfort to those who are unknown to us, and to those who are near and beloved. Amen.+

**Hymn**

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing, #96*

**We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing** (From Spanish Mystic, St. Teresa of Avila)— Christ has no body but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours. Amen.+

**Postlude**

*Rondo Gioioso*

+UCC Worship Ways.