

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

PreludeMarch in E Flat

Gathering—Called to be light, we come this day to shine. Called to follow Christ, we come this day to serve. Called to love God, we come to worship and praise.~

A Time of Prayer—To the revelation and the wonder, open us. With the vision and the possibility, convict us. For the recognizing and the following, equip us. In the struggle and the seeking, be with us. Holy One, manifest your love, make your justice known in and among us...+

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.

Special Music

He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd, Bob Brown

We Hear God's Word

John 1:29-42 (NRSV)

- 29 The next day [John] saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' ³²And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'
- 35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him,

'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

Meditation Be Called

Council Installation and Ministry Team Commissioning

Hymn

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus, #344

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation— Every gift we need is already here. Let us bring our gifts, whether we deem them small or large, and trust that they are enough.~

January Benevolence—Our Church's Wider Mission

Doxology

We Give Thanks— Lamb of God, bless these gifts with your mercy and your grace. Shine through these gifts with your light and love, that our ministries and our church may be a beacon of light and love, revealing your presence to our world. Amen.~

Hymn

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus, #398

Benediction— What are you seeking? What are you looking for? Deep down, what do you need? Deep down, what do we need?+

Postlude

A Trumpet Dialogue

Worship Notes: +UCC Worship Ways. ~_Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023 (p. 11). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.