



The People of God in Worship
February 17, 2019
Eleven O'Clock in the Morning
Season of Epiphany

THE GREETING

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

To our Guests, Members, and Friends: In the pew rack you will find a small brochure to give us the opportunity to get to know you and serve you better. Fill in where appropriate, and place it in the collection plate. Welcome and thank you!

THE PRELUDE

Please consider the prelude as an invitation to quietly, reverently prepare yourself for worship.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (from Matthew 5:3-11) (remain seated)

Dr. Clif Potter

**All: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 33**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

***THE INVOCATION AND GLORIA PATRI**

Dr. Clif Potter and The Community

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

**The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7-12

Dr. Clif Potter

Leader: A word from God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 5:7 and 9

Dr. Clif Potter

Leader: A word from God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

Holy Manna

George Atkins/arr. Joel Raney

**CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF COMMUNITY,
THE MORNING PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN (remain seated)

Love, Love, Love

Verse 1

Love, love, love, love
The gospel in a word is love!
Love your neighbor as your brother
Love, love, love

Verse 2

Joy, joy, joy, joy
The gospel in a word is joy!
Joy that fills to overflowing
Joy, joy, joy

Verse 3

Peace, peace, peace, peace
The gospel in a word is peace!
Peace that passes understanding
Peace, peace, peace

THE GIFTS

Offertory Moment and Prayer

Dr. Clif Potter

Offertory

*Doxology - No. 815

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

THE MESSAGE

Have Mercy

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

If you desire membership in this congregation, you are invited to present yourself at this time. If you prefer not to present yourself, you may speak to the minister after the service to effect membership. As an open membership church, we honor your previous baptism in any other Christian community. If you have not made a profession of faith, we invite you to do so and receive Christian baptism. Church members are invited to use this time to renew their covenantal relationship with God and their commitment to Christian service.

*HYMN No. 527

I Know Whom I Have Believed

*THE BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE

Benedictus

Craig Curry

*THE POSTLUDE

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- * The ushers will seat those waiting.
 - * Those who are able will please stand.
 - * Hearing aids are available from the ushers.

Copies of last week's sermon and the prayer list are in the narthex.

***Please keep Sharon Whitesell and her family in your prayers.
Sharon niece, Precious Whitley, passed away after battling cancer for three years.***

Offertory Emphasis

As we have been considering blessing and justice, love and mercy, today we come to this moment offering thanks for all those in our community who are working for justice in this city. For those working to bring people the blessing of food, we give thanks. For those working to bring people the blessing of healthcare, we give thanks. For those working to bring people the blessing of affordable housing, of justice in law, of good employment and fair wages, we give thanks. For those who share peace with their neighbors, we give thanks. We give today in honor of the many blessings we are allowed to share with the world.

Please join me in prayer:

Lord, we thank you for all the ways you give us good work to do. We thank you for each one here, who picks up his piece or her piece of your good work every day and does it with a kind heart. We thank you for the ways this community of faith helps us to do this work. Amen.