

2nd Sunday after Epiphany January 14, 2024

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Mission Statement

"Ebensburg Presbyterians are Christians giving help and hope to all by sharing God's love

GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (*Unison*)

Almighty God, we gather in your presence today with open minds and hearts, ready to worship and praise your holy name. We ask that you bless this time of worship so that we may be uplifted and inspired by your presence. Fill us with your love and grace in all that we do. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Psalm 148

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in all heights. All the shining stars praise you, O God, for you commanded and they were created.

Praise the Lord from the earth, young men and women alike, old and young together.

Let everyone praise the name of the Lord, for your glory is above heaven and earth.

*HYMN #376 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Matt. 11:28-30

We know that we fall short of God's glory, so let us now confess to God the ways we have individually and collectively fallen short of God's grace,

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) 1

Forgiving God, the past year is gone and the new has begun, have mercy upon us as we make our confession. What we should have done still waits for us to act, while we commit actions not in accord with your will. We think of ourselves before we think of others, as we serve our own needs. The new life you offer is not yet proclaimed in the land. Forgive us our sins and shortcomings and make us more faithful. Help us to use the gifts you have given us more wisely as we follow Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

(Moment of Silent Prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (responsively)

If we die with Christ, we believe we shall live with him. The death he died to sin, once and for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

So, we must all consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God, in Christ Jesus. So with this assurance in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

1 CTW561A

*GLORIA PATRI

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (responsively)

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also, with you.

(Please share the peace of Christ with those around.)

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Almighty God, prepare our hearts to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, so that in hearing, we may obey your will through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 9: 7-12 SECOND READING: Philippians 3: 8-14

The Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "A New Beginning

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN#341 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!"

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Most generous God, make us faithful in your image. Bless these gifts and all the gifts that we offer so that your kingdom may come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

— SENDING

*HYMN #276 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Almighty God, thank you for the gift of this day and all the blessings that you give us. Strengthen us to listen to your call to be disciples of your love and be willing to change the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SERVICE starts at 11:00 AM & Facebook Live

BIBLE2020 PROGRAM—will resume meeting in 2024

Pastor Owar will be on VACATION and traveling to Ethiopia: January 1- 31, 2024. **Bob Sheehan** will be covering while Rev. Ojulu is away. Please contact Jim Stratton and other church leaders for any needs.

SESSION MEETING, Monday, February 12, 2024

HOLY COMMUNION— 2024: will be approved & announced.

Annual CONGREGATION MEETING: Sunday, January 28, 2024, following worship service.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday

January 1. MarJwok Ojha

2. BodoJwok Ohja

Sandy MagleyJames Cassidy

17. Ashley Dixon

18. Tim Shamble

22. Lauren Rice

23. Anthony Taylor

24. Micah Magley

29. Ammanuel Ojha

You may join our church in one of three ways:

Transfer from another congregation;

Reaffirm your faith if you have not been an active church member recently;

Profess Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Please talk to the pastor or one of the leaders.

PRAYER LIST

Year 2024 New Prayer List begins. If you have any names to add to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 814-472-6920, send email to ebgpresby@gmail.com or place the names in the Offering Baskets. Thank you.

Eva Tomb Claudette Segear
Jim Estep John Fedora
Ramona McKim Gloria P.

Candi Elam Father Pat Kirsch

Ben & Patricia Tuchi Family of Richard McKim

Peter & Margaret Funch Phil Brulia
Albie Doug Wolfe
Tom R. Dave Estep

Erin M. Mary Lou Carlisle

Marty F. June Noel

Use of the Building

<u>Scout</u>

January 7 - 5-8 pm January 14 - 5-8 pm January 28 - 5-8 pm

Point of Freedom Group

Every Tuesday - 6 pm

January 2 January 9 January 16 January 23 January 30

NA Business Saturday January 20- 9:45 am