

HOLY COMMUNION

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

**EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
200 North Center Street, P.O. Box 327
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Mission Statement

*"Ebensburg Presbyterians
are Christians giving help
and hope to all by sharing God"*

GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, your wisdom influences all creation. We gather before you to give you all praise and glory. You made a covenant with us and call us your heirs. Support us with your Holy Spirit and surround us with your care and concern, as we make a witness to your saving grace. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively) Psalm 9

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. Praise the Lord!

Your work is full of honor and majesty, and your righteousness endures forever.

The works of your hands are faithful and just; all your precepts are trustworthy.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice it have good understanding.

*HYMN #261 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CALL TO CONFESSION

We come before God this morning aware that we have fallen short of what God desires of us. We have not loved God with all our heart, soul, and mind, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. So let us come before God to confess where we have failed, and seek God's forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (in unison)

God of mercy, we pray that you will give us a sense of your majesty that cannot be limited. Your wonders span the universe and your goodness cares for even the smallest creatures of nature. Lead us to know that your Word endures through all ages. You command us to tell of your mighty deeds, yet we remain silent. You call us to be faithful yet we're slow to respond. Our allegiance is divided between this world and yours. Show us compassion as we confess our sins. Restore us and make us worthy to serve Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Moment of Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsively) Jesus Christ intercedes on behalf of human weakness before the great throne of God. Therefore, every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Therein lies our assurance that our sins are forgiven.

*GLORIA PATRI

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST (responsively)

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

(Please share the peace of Christ with those around)

Choir Anthem

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURES

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 1:21-28

SERMON: "The Authority of the Message"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, we bring to you our gifts of thanksgiving. Receive them as symbols of our wholehearted praise. Transform what we bring to you to harmonize with your wishes, and convert all our actions to be in accord with your will. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Responsive)

The Affirmation of Faith *from the Belgic Confession*

What do you believe about the church of Christ?

We believe and confess one single catholic or universal church—a holy congregation and gathering of true Christian believers.

What binds them all together?

They await their entire salvation in Jesus Christ, are washed by his blood, and sanctified and sealed by the Holy Spirit.

How big is this church?

This holy church is not confined, bound, or limited to a certain place or certain persons. But it is spread and dispersed throughout the entire world, though still joined and united in heart and will, in one and the same Spirit, by the power of faith.

*Hymn #513 Let Us Break Bread Together

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

The Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We thank you for this meal that will help us grow in faith and ready to serve. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE TABLE

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation: The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord. **It is right to give thanks to the Lord.**

The Words of Institution and Prayer

It is truly right and our greatest joy...

...and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name saying together:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy...

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Gracious God, ... Amen

As Christ our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray: **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.**

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

The Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We thank you for this meal that will help us grow in faith and ready to serve. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN #387 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

CHARGE AND BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you, and may the Lord shine his face upon you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. Amen.

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WORSHIP SERVICE *starts at 11:00 AM & Facebook Live*

Congregational meeting today following worship

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, Feb. 12, 2024

HOLY COMMUNION— today and Feb 14-Ash Wednesday

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday

<i>January</i>	1, MarJwok Ojha
	2, BodoJwok Ojha
	5, Sandy Magley
	11, James Cassidy
	17, Ashely Dixon
	18, Tim Shamble
	22, Lauren Rice
	23, Anthony Taylor
	24, Micah Magley
	29, Ammanuel Ojha

PRAYER LIST

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

Eva Tomb

Phil Brulia

Jim Estep

The O'Brien and Jeffers families

Walter Feath

Ash Wednesday Breakfast and Communion Service- Feb. 14 at 9AM. If anyone can help, please see Judy Carl or call the office and leave a message.