

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY
WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE

February 9, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY // IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM SERVICE

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Liturgist: Eric Schoch

[CC] = closed-captioned

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

GTG #307

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.

Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the Lord's doing,

And it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day, the Lord has acted;

We rejoice and are glad in it.

You are my God, and I thank you;

You are my God, and I exalt you.

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, your Son, Jesus Christ, pours out his gifts on the church. Grant us that unity which your Spirit gives, keep us in the bond of peace, and bring all creation to worship before your throne; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READING #1

Isaiah 52:7 – 10

HYMN

“We Are One in the Spirit”

GTG #300

(They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love)

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain:

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:

Refrain

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:

Refrain

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

Refrain

SCRIPTURE READING #2

Mark 1:14 – 15

TIME WITH
YOUNG DISCIPLES

“**Today is a Super Day**”

Pastor Steve Nofel

MESSAGE

“**TODAY'S MESSAGE IS FOUND IN THE FOOTNOTES**”

Pastor Steve Nofel

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY SONG
OF REFLECTION

“Grace Alone”

TFWS #2162

Every promise we can make,
every prayer and step of faith,
every difference we will make
is only by his grace.

Every mountain we will climb,
every ray of hope we shine,
every blessing left behind
is only by his grace.

Refrain:

*Grace alone which God supplies,
strength unknown he will provide.
Christ in us our Cornerstone;
we will go forth in grace alone.*

Every soul we long to reach,
every heart we hope to teach,
everywhere we share his peace
is only by his grace.

Every loving word we say,
every tear we wipe away,
every sorrow turned to praise
is only by his grace.

Refrain

PRAYER OF GENEROSITY

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just our money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

TFWS #2026

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF FEB 9 – FEB 16

All meetings are via Zoom (unless otherwise noted).

All meetings are open to the members and affiliates of SJU unless otherwise noted. Members are encouraged to connect to, engage, and invest in the life and leadership of this Body of Christ, the church! Contact SJUColumbia@gmail.com if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

Sun, 2/9	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and streaming</i>) (<i>Liturgist: Eric Schoch</i>)
Mon, 2/10	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
	4:00 pm	FINANCE COMMITTEE
	7:00 pm	COUNCIL
Tue, 2/11	7:30 pm	PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Sat, 2/15	9:00 am	COUNCIL RETREAT – DAY 1 (<i>Granite Presbyterian Church</i>)
Sun, 2/16	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and streaming</i>) (<i>Scheduled liturgist: Susan Moody</i>)
	11:30 am	COUNCIL RETREAT – DAY 2 (<i>Conference Room</i>)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

The SJU office is closed on Monday, February 17th, in observance of Presidents' Day.

Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible

Isaiah 52:7 – 10

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'

⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

⁹ Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Mark 1:14 – 15

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news^[a] of God,^[b] ¹⁵ and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;^[c] repent, and believe in the good news.'^[d]

[a] Or *gospel*

[b] Other ancient authorities read *of the kingdom*

[c] Or *is at hand*

[d] Or *gospel*

