

January 30, 2022 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

Greeting

Opening Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 540 - "We plant a Grain of Mustard Seed" was originally written for a wedding. Mary Matney and Sally Morris included the following text that coincides with this 4th Sunday of Epiphany. The closing verse includes "our lives will be fulfilled and blessed if through the seeds we've sown and by the love that we profess the love of Christ is known."

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Liturgist #1: Come, people of God, to the one in whom we trust. Praise God who delivers and rescues us.

Liturgist #2: God is our rock of refuge, our strong fortress. God saves us amid wickedness and cruelty.

Liturgist #1: Hope in God, who has created you. Open yourself to the one who knows you well.

Liturgist #2: God accepts us, even when people do not. God affirms us, even when we fail.

Liturgist #1: Our God gives us tasks to do and strength to do them. God's Word of love is ours to proclaim.

Liturgist #2: We have come to embrace the mysteries of our faith. We are here to worship the God who empowers us.

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 61 - Inspired by today's reading from I Corinthians, "Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost" is a contemporary hymn that in part says, "Love is kind, and suffers long. love is meek, and thinks no wrong' Love will ever with us stay; therefore, give us love."

Confession of Sin (Liturgist)

Merciful God, you know us better than we know ourselves, but we have not believed this. You care about us even when we do not love ourselves, but it has been hard for us to understand that this is true. We see so dimly and hear your Word so faintly that we doubt your truth. We dare not trust the prophets or risk the cost of discipleship. We are afraid to believe, hope, and endure when there is suffering all around us. O God, grant us courage to change, to follow Jesus in spite of ridicule and rejection. Yet keep us from insisting on our own way, which may not be your way. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Gloria Patri (Instrumental)

Old Testament Lesson – Jeremiah 1:4-10

Hymn of Praise (Recorded) - The Greatest Of These Is Love, Words and music by Tina English, Arranged by Jay Rouse. Recorded by The Sunday 7pm Choir at St. Francis de Sales Church in Ajax, Ontario, Canada. A beautiful song based on 1 Corinthians 13 where St. Paul the Apostle says, "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

Children's Sermon

Epistle Lesson – 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory - 793 - Today's offertory is a synthetic choral arrangement of an Argentinian "Sanctus" and it closes with "my heart is glad to say the words. you are holy, God."

Doxology

Gospel Lesson – Luke 4:21-30

Sermon

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 161 - A fitting close to any service, Nelsie Johnson's "Amen, Amen" is a celebration of receiving the word of God.

Benediction

Postlude