St. Mary's United Church of Christ

1441 E. Mayberry Rd.
Westminster, MD 21158

2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 17, 2021

Prelude – Lord, Speak to Me (Canonbury/arr. L. Smith)

Call to Worship
We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
Gentle and patient
God, you are calling.
Careful and persistent
God, you are calling.
In grieving and in praise
God, you are calling.
Through dawn and midday
God, you are calling.
Unexpected and planned
God, you are calling.
In a still small voice and in power
God, you are calling.
Spontaneous and prepared
God, you are calling.
Willing or protected
God, you are calling.
Our God is eager to share with us, wherever we are in our journey. May we be diligent to listen.
God, you are calling. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen!

Hymn – Bless Be the Tie That Binds
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we do not always love our neighbor. We confess that we have despised others, even to the point of hatred. We confess that we have been hurt by others. We confess that forgiveness and reconciliation at times are just impossible for us. We know that nothing is impossible in You. We come to You, seeking healing and wholeness for us. Help us, whenever possible, to live in peace with others, to seek reconciliation and healing and forgiveness. For Your Son came and lived among us, was betrayed and denied, abused and put to death. He rose again, and came with the message of peace to those who had denied him and abandoned him. May we walk in his ways. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer of the Day
God, we have come here this morning to learn wisdom from your Word, from your Holy Spirit, and from one another. We have come so that wisdom may call us out of the darkness and into the light. We have come to have the deeper, richer, wisdom-filled life that you have promised to each of us. O God, make us ready to hear the Words spoken to our hearts this morning. Call us to hear your wisdom and grant us the courage to respond. Amen.

Readings
Epistle: Ephesians 5:1-2, 15-20

Psalm 139:1-14
O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

Gloria Patri
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!

Sermon – What Now? Part 1 – Where

Hymn – All Sons & Daughters, "Call Me Higher"

Pastoral Prayer

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.
Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory Prayer
Grant us, Lord God, the vision of your kingdom.
Grant us forgiveness and new life.
Grant us the stirring of your Spirit
so that we may proclaim your love
and change this world.
May your Spirit make us wise.
May your Spirit guide us.
May your Spirit strengthen us
so that we may be strong in the faith,
courageous in witness,
and persistent in good deeds.
God the Sender, send us.
God the Sent, come with us. Amen.

Hymn – God of Grace and God of Glory
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, as-
sail thy 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 righteous goal, lest we miss thy righteous goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; fill our lives that
we may be strengthened with all Christ-like graces
pledged to set all captives free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail our call from thee, lest we fail our call from thee.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils
we deplore; let the search for thy salvation
be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude – Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies (Ratisbon/J. Mansfield)

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Collect for the Week of January 17

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My prayers for the week

Dave Cunningham
Brian Cunningham
Dawn Penney
Ann Wilson
Chelsea Cyr
Perry Lyons
Dave Moerschbacker
Joe Thornton
Diane Kuhn
Jeremy Dutterer
Allen Showalter
Sandy Suit
Amber Ashe
Savannah Price
Karen Anderson
Carolyn Yost
Rob Rickell
Ron Garrett
Richard & Deborah Hahn
Jim Boone
Jean Snyder
Baby Lacey
Family of Abe Weller
Shari Armstrong
Shirley Amspacher
David Miller
Margie Snyder
Donna Rill
Marcia Brown
Family of Evelyn Schaeffer
Tom Cross
Terry Chauvios
Richard & Beatrice Hess
Family of Jeff Campbell
Anna Owings
Panzer Family
Jean Alexander
Gene Brothers
Steve Morehead
Cart Denner
Jennifer Ramsey
Mike Driscoll
Family of Nancy Brewer
Ruth Hess Eichler
Mike Knight
Caitlyn
Susan
Linda Mayo
Aunt Mae
Family of Mel Pittinger
Cathy Cavey
Family of Patricia Kolbe
Family of Lou Gillis
Family of David Thornton
Russell Ruby
Mike and Dee Daily
Family of Bob Seipp
Family of Betty Harman
Betty Heath