

**ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
"Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People"

February 1, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

**PRELUDE** (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**WELCOME** – *A hearing assistance system and large print bulletins are available. See an usher for assistance. And a reminder that the Missions Basket will be available during Communion if you would like to make a contribution.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*)

Leader: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gathers the poor of the earth.

**People: Glorious is our God, who wipes away the tears of sorrow.**

Leader: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives inheritance to the meek.

**People: Glorious is our God, who satisfies the hunger of the just.**

Leader: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives mercy to the merciful.

**People: Glorious is our God, who gives vision to the pure in heart.**

Leader: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who adopts the peacemakers.

**People: Glorious is our God, who lifts high the persecuted.**

Leader: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who finds the lost.

**People: Glorious is our God, who awakens the dead.**

*-written by Bruce Prewer, and posted on Bruce Prewer's Home Page.*

**\*HYMN**     *Be Thou My Vision*

**UMH 451**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Psalms 15**

Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? <sup>2</sup>The one whose walk is blameless, who does

what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart; <sup>3</sup>whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others; <sup>4</sup>who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the Lord; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind; <sup>5</sup>who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS**

### **WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

#### **\*DOXOLOGY**

**UMH 95**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all  
creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#### **\*BLESSING THE OFFERING**

### **SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **HYMN OF PREPARATION *Lord I Want to Be* (vs 1, 2, 4) UMH 402**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

**Matthew 5:1-12**

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup>and he began to teach them. He said: <sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. <sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice

and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

## **MESSAGE**

## **God's Promise of Blessing**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Holy God, we do not deserve to be in your dwelling place. We have not led a blameless life. We have not done what is right in your sight or spoken the truth that you have sealed in our hearts. We have done evil to both those we love and to those we refuse to love as we should. We have not been faithful stewards of that which we have been blessed and have hoarded that which should be shared with the least of these. Hear our cry, God of our hope, as we confess that which weighs us down...Redeeming God, save us from our foolishness and guide us to your wisdom. Gather us in your righteousness and redemption. Forgive us for we are seeking your light and your salvation. Cleanse us of our brokenness that we might do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen.**

## **COMMUNION**

**UMH 13**

**HYMN    *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me***

**UMH 521**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*BENEDICTION**

### **\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

***Jesus, Name Above***

**Red Folder 2071**

## **EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES**

## **POSTLUDE**

**☞ ANNOUNCEMENTS ☞**

**COFFEE HOUR TODAY AFTER THE SERVICE**

**ONE BOARD MEETING – February 2 via Zoom at 6:30 p.m.** See Linda for the link. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY CELEBRATION – on February 8**

Bring your best soup or chili to compete for the St. John's Wooden Spoon Award! See if you can beat last year's winner, Jennifer Frieman. All proceeds benefit projects supported by the Missions Team.

**FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK** – Requests include canned meats, spaghetti noodles and sauce, jelly, baby diapers, boxed juices, and macaroni and cheese.

**PRAYER CHAIN** – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

**NEWSLETTER** – Submit information to Paul Nelson at [pnelson37@gmail.com](mailto:pnelson37@gmail.com) by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month.

**SOCIAL HOUR** – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.

**Music Director: Mike Nelson**  
**Videographer: Roger Vandegrift**  
**Liturgist: Nancy Wachter**

**St. John's United Methodist Church**  
**312 East Main Street P. O. Box 236**  
**Fruitland, Maryland 21826**  
**410-742-5592**  
**[stjohnsfruitland@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsfruitland@gmail.com)**  
**[www.stjohnsfruitland.org](http://www.stjohnsfruitland.org)**  
**Pastor Shannon Harris**  
**Cell: 410-777-0162**  
**E-mail: [pastorsharris@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsharris@gmail.com)**