

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2025

Prelude

Nenad Ivović

Welcome

Raquel Irizarry

Announcements

***Call to Worship** *You Are Beloved and You Are Welcome Here* by Joan Javier-Duval

All: You are beloved and you are welcome here.

Leader: Whether tears have fallen from your eyes this past week, or gleeful laughter has spilled out of your smiling mouth,

All: You are beloved and you are welcome here.

Leader: Whether you are feeling brave or broken-hearted; defiant or defeated; fearsome or fearful,

All: You are beloved and you are welcome here.

Leader: Whether you have untold stories buried deep inside, or stories that have been forced beyond the edges of comfort,

All: You are beloved and you are welcome here.

Leader: Whether you have made promises, broken promises, or renewing your promises,

All: You are beloved and you are welcome here.

Leader: Whatever is on your heart, however it is with your soul in this moment,

All: You are beloved and you are welcome here.

Leader: In this space of welcome and acceptance, commitment and recommitment, of covenant and connection,

All: Let us worship God together.

Kids' Church Children are welcome to meet in the entrance area of the sanctuary Nicole Giannetta
for Kids Church in the Parish House.

***Unison Prayer of Invocation**

God of the Baptism pour over us this morning, and cleanse our hearts of any pain, sorrow, bitterness.

Use your healing water to renew, to refresh, and make us into your children with spirits full of mercy, justice and love. May it so, in all your many names and in Jesus' name.

***Gathering Hymn** *There Is a Balm in Gilead* #553 Black Hymnal

[Refrain] There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. *[Refrain]*

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,
Who, if you ask for knowledge, will never fail to lend. *[Refrain]*

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, who died to save us all. *[Refrain]*

***Passing the Peace**

Service of Prayer

Joys and Concerns / Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts)

Offering

Call to Offering

Choir Anthem *The Gift of Love* Arr. Hal Hopson Faye Chen & Choir

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; (or) Praise God, from Whom All blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise God for all that love has done;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Praise Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Let our gifts of Body and Spirit be like seeds we place on the waves of time, and in the fullness of time they will return to us, not tenfold, but a hundred times a hundredfold in blessings and miracles of love and hope. We share these gifts with your blessed kindness and guidance. May it be so, in all your many names, and in Jesus' name!

Musical Amen

*Hymn of Reflection *Wade in the Water*

[Refrain] Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water,
God's a goin' to trouble the water, O water.

See that host all dressed in white, God's a goin' to trouble the water;
the leader looks like the Israelite, God's a goin' to trouble the water. *[Refrain]*

See that band all dressed in red, God's a goin' to trouble the water;
looks like the band that Moses led, God's a goin' to trouble the water. *[Refrain]*

Look over yonder, what do I see? God's a goin' to trouble the water;
the Holy Ghost a comin' on me, God's a goin' to trouble the water. *[Refrain]*

If you don't believe I've been redeemed, God's a goin' to trouble the water;
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream, God's a goin' to trouble the water. *[Refrain]*

Scripture *Jeremiah 1:4-10 & 1 Corinthians 13* (pg. 647 & 1000 in your pew Bible) Christian Corvino

Sermon Reflection *Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters*

Musical Response *For the Times They Are a Changin'* by Bob Dylan Paul DeCoster

*Closing Hymn *Blessed Assurance* #473 Black Hymnal

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.

[Refrain] This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long, (2X)

Perfect submission, perfect delight! Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *[Refrain]*

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love. *[Refrain]*

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

*Please rise in body or in spirit



Raquel Irizarry

Raquel Irizarry is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary (M.Div) and Columbia School of Social Work (MSSW). She is an activist, writer, guest worship leader as well as the lead facilitator of a brain training program for adults with early to mid-stage memory loss. Raquel is a former member of the United Church of Christ Metropolitan

Association Board of Directors and is currently part of their Social Justice Committee and a member of the NYS/NYC Coordinating Committees for the Poor People's Campaign. She is also a long-time member and the Council President of All Souls Bethlehem Church in Brooklyn NY. Raquel is married to accomplished singer/songwriter Paul DeCoster who frequently accompanies her when she preaches with a song that exemplifies the message of her sermon. She loves photography, sings a little, and is a believer in the power of God's abundant love.

The children who participate in Kids Church on Sunday mornings create a service / mission project every month. January's mission was making treats for animals in local shelters. The first shelter donations were at Woodbridge Regional Animal Control. Here is what they shared on their Facebook page:



Woodbridge Regional Animal Control

United Christ Church of Woodbridge contacted us about making us some treats for the residents here at the shelter. They made us two different ones. An apple cinnamon oat treat and a carrot cake muffin. Thank you so much for these delicious treats for the residents. They will for sure enjoy them!

2025 Sunday Offertory Envelopes are in the Memorial Room. Please print your name next to the number that corresponds with the number printed on the envelope box.

Thank you.



"SOUP"-ER BOWL

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH FOR ALL AGES



SOUP
BUFFET
&
MAC'N'
CHEESE



MUSIC WITH
MICHELE
URBAN

CAN
DONATIONS
WELCOME



SUNDAY, FEB 9, AT 11:15 AM
Parish Hall , 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT
For more info: 203-936-9356