

**PROVIDENCE FORGE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Third Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 24, 2021**

**CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 62)**

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from my God.

**People: God alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

Leader: On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

**All: Trust in God at all times, O people; pour out your heart before God; God is a refuge for us all. Amen.**

**SONG OF PRAISE #302 I Danced in the Morning**

**1 I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth; at Bethlehem I had my birth.**

*Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said He, and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said He.*

**2 I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, but they would not dance, and they wouldn't follow Me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came with Me and the dance went on.**

*[Refrain]*

**3 I danced on the Sabbath, and I cured the lame: The holy people said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they hung Me high, and left Me there on a Cross to die. *[Refrain]***

**4 I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried My body and they thought I'd gone; but I am the Dance and I still go on. *[Refrain]***

**5 They cut me down and I leapt up high; I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in Me: I am the Lord of the Dance, said He. *[Refrain]***

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**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

*Silence is kept.*

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

**FOR CHILDREN John 1:46 (Easy to Read Version)**

But Nathanael said to Philip, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from Nazareth?"

**SCRIPTURE**

**John 1:43-51 NRSV**

**43** The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." **44** Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. **45** Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." **46** Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." **47** When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" **48** Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." **49** Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" **50** Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." **51** And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

**ANTHEM**

**SERMON**

**Rev. Nancy Coleman**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Morgan Valencia King**

Loving God, we welcome you into this place. We welcome you into our homes, into our lives, into our hearts, asking that you would make your presence known to us both today and throughout the coming week. We thank you, Lord, for another day of life, for this new year, for the promise of a miraculous, persistent, eternal hope, despite the chaos, the disorder, the destruction we face. Gracious God, we humbly offer prayers of support to the many suffering and hurting in our world. For the lonely and heartbroken, we pray for your comfort and your peace. For the sick and the tired, we pray for your grace and your strength. For the persecuted and defenseless, we pray for your stamina and your justice. For the confused and the disoriented, we pray for your wisdom and guidance. Every day the moments of anxiety around politics and pandemic is so thick, so intense, it's hard to breathe. There are moments, dear Lord, when many of us feel as if we're left with nothing. No more patience, no more energy, no more fight, no more hope and even sometimes no more love. And God we need you to sustain us, to reorient us, to call us to your marvelous service in love of neighbor and in bringing about your kingdom which knows no sickness, no suffering, no delusion, no injustice, no end. Patient God, in this troubling time of division and uncertainty, amid the shouts, the name-calling, the retorts, the blaming, we ask that you would teach us to listen. Teach us to listen to those far from us— the whisper of the hopeless, the plea of the forgotten, the cry of the anguished. Teach us to listen, O God, to ourselves. Help us to be less afraid to trust the voice inside. Teach us to listen, Holy Spirit, for your voice — in busyness and in boredom, in certainty and doubt, in noise and in silence. Teach us, oh Lord, to listen, to hear, to live the words that Christ himself taught us when he prayed...

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **OFFERING**

Opportunities are Easytithes <https://app.easytithes.com/App/Giving/pfpc>  
C&F Bank for PFPC and mail to P.O. Box 239

*\*5¢ a Meal can be offered both using Easy Tithe or a separate check sent to the church.*

### **SONG OF RESPONSE #345 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind**

**1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;  
re clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.**

**2 In simple trust like theirs who heard  
beside the Syrian sea the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like  
them, without a word rise up and follow thee.**

**3 O Sabbath rest by Galilee, O calm of hills above, where Jesus  
knelt to share with thee the silence of eternity, interpreted by love!**

**4 Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives  
confess the beauty of thy peace.**

**5 Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy  
balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the  
earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm!**

### **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

**People: Peace be with you!**

**Liturgy not otherwise attributed is from *The Book of Common  
Worship*, 2018, Westminster John Knox Press.**