

Covenant Congregational Church

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Service of Worship

January 15, 2017

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE *How Firm a Foundation* arr. Shackley

WELCOME Alynne MacLean

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Listen up, everyone!

God has given us work to do.

God has called each of us before we were even born.

It was God who named us.

It is God who claims us.

The light of God's love shines in us.

Let's shine God's love into all the world!

*HYMN *Rejoice O Pure in Heart* 496

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ.

Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD Mike Bassett

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7 NRSV (Old Testament page 679)

49 Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.

3 And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

4 But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,
and my reward with my God."

5 And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,

and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,

and my God has become my strength—

6 he says,

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob

and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

7 Thus says the LORD,

the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,

to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,

the slave of rulers,

"Kings shall see and stand up,

princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,

because of the LORD, who is faithful,

the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

New Testament Reading: Acts 2:37-47 NRSV (New Testament page 120)

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" **38** Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." **40** And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." **41** So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. **42** They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

43 Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. **44** All who believed were together and had all things in common; **45** they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. **46** Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, **47** praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Response:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Alynne MacLean

*HYMN *The Church's One Foundation* 579

(Children K through 3rd grade are dismissed to Junior Church at this time)

SERMON "Bee the Church" Pastor Jason O. Mohn

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE 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; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Choral Anthem *The Lord Never Closes His Eyes* Angerman

*Doxology 48

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

* Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* 294

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Joyful Hymn of Praise* arr. Lopez

*Please stand in praise to God, if able
CCLI #982653

Thank you for participating in our worship gathering! We are glad that you are here this morning and pray that this might be a meaningful faith-building experience for you and/or your family. To more deeply connect with this faith community, we invite you to stay following our worship gathering and enjoy a time of refreshments and fellowship in our Fireside Room and Narthex.



Bee the Church