

Power *to Do*

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.



For Children: Please feel free to attend services with your children. For the safety of the children, staff and volunteers ERUCC will not be providing childcare during services until further notice. Your children are welcome to bring their own quiet activities, no materials will be provided. Please take ALL personal items with you after the service.

We have removed all items from the pew racks for your safety. Music selections will be provided within this bulletin. If you are visiting and did not stop at the welcome desk in the downstairs lobby please stop by after the service they would love to meet you or, please feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. Many of our visitors ask us about the time of offering. This is a time in our service when we respond to God's gifts of love by offering the gifts of our lives. For many of us, this is when we make a financial gift towards the ministries and programs of our church. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts in sharing God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshipping with us. At this time we are taking offering at the end of the service. Plates will be placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary, Thank you.

We ask that you please silence your cell phones during our worship service. We also ask that you refrain from applause after our choirs sing and allow the music to resonate in the quiet of the sanctuary and in your hearts. Our musicians are playing and singing for the glory of God. They know you appreciate their efforts and their gift.

Rest rooms (equipped with changing stations) are located on the first floor of the church building and outside the Community Room and the Nursery.

There is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: www.erucc.org.

Donate online by scanning this code:

or you may use our new texting donation system. Send a donation amount to 301-804-2933 . You will receive a text back within minutes with a link. Click the secure link and provide your method of payment and a receipt will be sent to you! Or, download the GivePlus Church application and make your donation via the app.



Thank you.



Ministers - All the People of Evangelical Reformed Church

Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Senior Pastor (bkdaniel@erucc.org)

Rev. Fred Wenner, Pastor Emeritus (faw500@msn.com)

Kim Sexton, Associate for Children's Ministry (ksexton@erucc.org)

Alison E. Shafer, Music Director • Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director

Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

Amy Aguilar, Office Administrator (erucc@erucc.org) • Jenna Duranko, Social Media Coordinator

15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • (ph) 301-662-2762 • www.erucc.org

EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

January 31, 2021

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

10:30 a.m.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

We gather as God's people.

We come, people of deep, abiding faith;

and people seeking a way, straining our ears for the good news:

we lift our praise to God.

*Opening Prayer

Faithful and just God:

our songs of gratitude

echo down

the hallways of creation.

You reach out your hand

to lift us up

so we may follow you.

Holy God:

our songs of praise

echo down

the hallway of our hearts.

Without your wisdom,

we would be speechless;

without your peace,

we would be heartless;

without your presence,

we would be graceless.

Bearer of truth:

our songs of joy

echo down

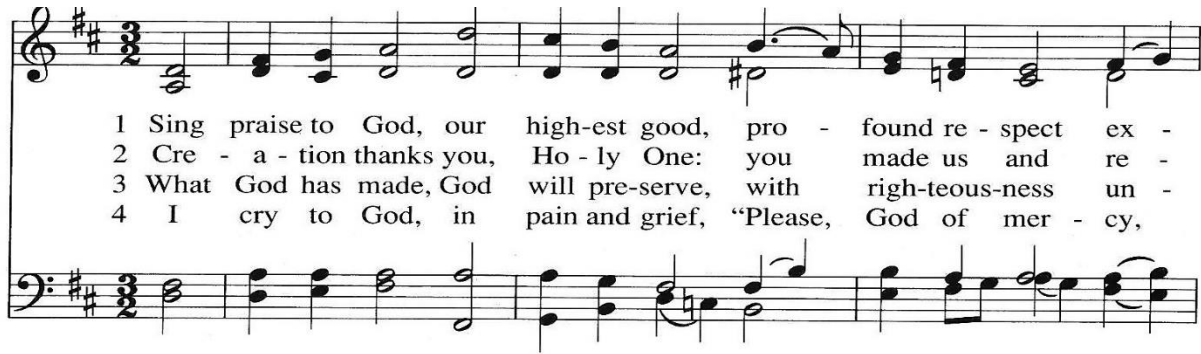
the hallways of eternity.

God in Community, Holy in One,

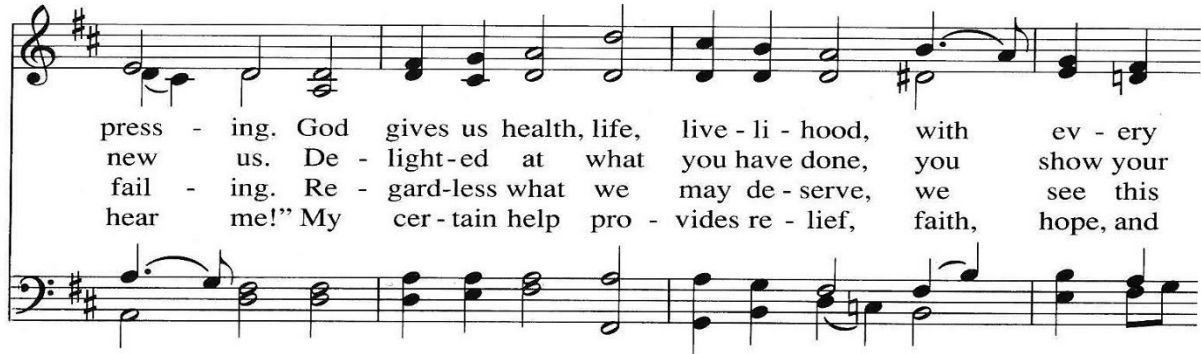
may our songs echo in your heart. **Amen.**

*Opening Hymn *Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good*

6



1 Sing praise to God, our high-est good, pro - found re - spect ex -
2 Cre - a - tion thanks you, Ho - ly One: you made us and re -
3 What God has made, God will pre-serve, with righ-teous-ness un -
4 I cry to God, in pain and grief, "Please, God of mer - cy,



press - ing. God gives us health, life, live - li - hood, with ev - ery
new us. De - light-ed at what you have done, you show your
fail - ing. Re - gard-less what we may de - serve, we see this
hear me!" My cer - tain help pro - vides re - lief, faith, hope, and



need - ed bless - ing. To God, who won-drous works per-forms, cre -
great - ness through us. So may all liv - ing things pro-claim the
good pre - vail - ing. To God who gov - erns ev - er - more with
love to cheer me. So let me sing, joy - ful and free: ah,



a - ting life and calm-ing storms, to God give praise and glo - ry!
won-ders of their Mak-er's name: to God give praise and glo - ry!
jus - tice serv - ing rich and poor, to God give praise and glo - ry!
thank-ful Chris-tians, sing with me: to God give praise and glo - ry!

5 For-ev-er with us, God is here,
Nor ev-er will de-sert us.
So dear-ly loved, we shall not fear:
there's noth-ing that can hurt us.
We place our trust in God's com-mand,
who leads us with a moth-er's hand:
to God give praise and glo-ry!

6 Dear Chris-tian friends, we bear the name
of Christ, our sure sal-va-tion.
Let us re-call Christ Je-sus came,
most ho-ly in-car-na-tion,
Came from the one God we a-dore,
came with new life for-ev-er-more:
to God give praise and glo-ry!

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

**God of truth and love,
there are times when we fill our souls with the empty sounds of our
culture and miss your words of hope, of grace, of comfort.
Sometimes, we do not heed your hopes for us.
Sometimes, our pride gets in the way of witnessing to your love.
Forgive us, Holy One, and be gracious to us.
Astound us with your words,
so we may learn your ways;
nourish us with your mercy,
so we may be filled with life;
and overflow with praise for you. Amen. *(Silence)***

***Assurance of Pardon**

**Of all the astounding works of God, this may be the most wonderful:
God is gracious and merciful to all!
What is this? Good news, of the very best kind!
We give our heartfelt thanks to God.**

Thought For the Day

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

The Scripture

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Mark 1:21-28

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Offering of Tithes, Gifts and Lives to Christ's Service

Anthem *There Is None Like You*

- L. LeBlanc, arr. J. Koerts

ERUCC Singers

*Closing Hymn *Children of God*

533

1 Chil - dren of God, lift hearts to one an - oth - er;
2 For God whom Je - sus loved has tru - ly spo - ken:
3 Fol - low with rev - erent steps the great ex - am - ple
4 Then shall all shack - les fall; the storm-y clan - gor

where pit - y dwells, the peace of God is there;
the ho - lier wor - ship which Christ deigns to bless
of Christ whose ho - ly work was do - ing good;
of wild war mu - sic o'er the earth shall cease;

To wor - ship right - ly is to love each oth - er,
Re - stores the lost, and binds the spir - it bro - ken,
So shall the wide earth seem a ho - ly tem - ple,
Love shall tread out the bale - ful fire of an - ger,

each smile a hymn, each kind - ly deed a prayer.
and feeds the wid - ow and the par - ent - less.
each lov - ing life a psalm of grat - i - tude.
and in its ash - es plant the tree of peace.

*Benediction

Let us go now into the world, not with power tightly grasped,
but with the humility to know we do not have all the answers.
Let us go now into the lives of others, not to direct,
but to share in their brokenness as well as their hopes.
Let us go now into our communities, not with loud voices,
but with gentle whispers of grace and mercy.

*Postlude



Every Sunday at 10:30

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/bzloh0xyyacgq5fmjnoi>

Want to listen to the sermon again? Visit our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w

You can get to the link on our homepage at www.erucc.org

The flowers on the altar this morning are in memory of Richard I. Donovan, by the Hueting Family.

The **yellow rose bud** on the stand is in honor of those currently serving in the military by Jack Day and Peter Brehm.

Sponsor a Yellow Rose

For only \$6.00 you can sponsor the weekly yellow rose to honor veterans or those currently serving in the military. Mail your check to the church office. Thank you in advance.

Worship Next Week: Ctrl + Click HERE to join worship Sunday 10:30 a.m.

February 7 **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

The readings today affirm the importance of prayer in keeping our focus for ministry. Restored by God's transforming love, we are reshaped as messengers of good news. In our Gospel lesson, Mark 1:29-39, as Jesus is seeking rest at the home of Simon and Andrew, he is called upon to heal Simon's mother-in-law. Crowds begin to press in around the house, demanding more words and deeds of power from Jesus. Isaiah 40: 21-31 calls God's people to remember that God – who created the universe and rules everything within it – is their source of strength. We will share in communion this morning.

Consider Sponsoring the Monthly Live Stream in 2021 We have updated our weekly live streaming of Sunday services and other events with an additional camera, higher speed transmission, and a no advertisement platform. This has been a great service for our members who have been hospitalized or homebound as well as for those traveling who want to check in. We know they have enjoyed watching the service and being able to participate on a Sunday morning when they're not able to be here. On occasion, we have folks watching from Germany and other places.

Like the altar flowers and yellow rose, we are looking for sponsors for this valuable service. Would you considering sponsoring the live stream service for \$50 a month? We would acknowledge your gift in the bulletin and it can be donated in honor or memory of someone.

Contact the church office if you are interested.

Power to Do
Health and Human Service Sunday

The book of Mark begins with a bang. Jesus is anticipated by John, baptized in the waters of the Jordan, sent into the wilderness for forty days of testing, begins preaching repentance and calls to the fishermen who will become his disciples - all in the first twenty verses.

And now, beginning in verse 21, we hear the story of his first encounter with a suffering person - a man with a so-called "unclean spirit." As Jesus is teaching in the temple, "with authority," the man cries out, naming Jesus as Holy. Jesus, showing the firmness of his authority, rebukes the spirit that is causing the man so much torment.

In this first healing story in the book of Mark, we encounter a person who was suffering as much in spirit as in body. When the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the globe last year, the response to avoid infection was quarantine. While this tactic undoubtedly saved millions of lives, it resulted in another crisis - a spiritual one as many were isolated away from the love and touch of ordinary human interactions.

Health can be thought of as a three-legged stool. Mental, spiritual and physical health work together to support the whole person. The United Church of Christ Council for Health and Human Service Ministries understands this whole-person approach to wellness. So, in addition to providing timely medical and emergency information to clergy and congregations, the Council also provided a corner for tending to spiritual health. For example, The Community Care Space, a YouTube channel and playlist, provided guided meditations and prayers as a way to bring healing to the weary and isolated.

On this Health and Human Service Sunday, we give thanks for the United Church of Christ Council for Health and Human Service Ministries and their work in supporting all the facets of human health.



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

Bulletin artwork and backpage stories copyright © 2021 United Church of Christ