

Order of Worship: Sunday, February 23, 2025
8:30 and 11:00 AM Services of Worship
7th Sunday after the Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Latricia Scriven, Senior Pastor

Prelude

Panis Angelicus

C. Franck/H. Hopson

Lighting of the Candles

Acolytes

***Opening Prayer**

Lyn Shoffstall/ Letia Hughes and Congregation

All-knowing God,

**We gather together with praise and thanksgiving for who You are,
and for all that You have done for us.**

**You know us better than we know ourselves—
all our thoughts and actions—and yet You love us.**

No matter where we go or what we do,

Your love encircles us—ahead and behind—gently leading and guiding and blessing.

We praise You for Your love and Your faithful presence in our lives.

**May Your Spirit move in our hearts and minds as we worship together—
examine our attitudes and actions, lay bare the things we need to confess,
challenge us with Your Word, and guide us on to paths that lead to life.**

For we are Your people, called by Your name. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

To God Be the Glory

UMH 98

***Prayer of Confession**

Lyn Shoffstall/Letia Hughes and Congregation

Almighty and merciful God, we know that when we offend another, we offend you.

**We are aware that we have often allowed the shadow of hate to cloud our souls,
hiding the light from our unseeking eyes.**

**We have said unpleasant and hurtful things to our brothers and sisters
when they failed to live up to our expectations.**

**Grant that we might find that spark of love that ever burns within us,
the love that you have shown to us even when we failed you.**

**Fan the embers of that love until it roars again
in flames of love, peace, and reconciliation.**

Forgive us our sin and help us to forgive those who have sinned against us.

Lead us into new life through your Son Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of all. Amen.

(MICHAEL J. O'DONNELL, U.S.A., 20TH CENT.)

Response

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

UMH 402, vs. 2

***Passing of the Peace**

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Rev. John Quinton

Anthem (11:00)

Seventy Times Seven

J. Martin/J. Raney

Covenant Chancel Choir

Children's Chat

Gail Quinton

The Offering

Offering Prayer

Offertory

***Doxology**

I Then Shall Live arr. L. Larson

Rev. Dr. Scriven

Sue Spencer

UMH 95

Scripture

Matthew 18:21-22 and Hebrews 12:14-15 Lyn Shoffstall/Letia Hughes

Sermon

"Choosing Forgiveness Over Bitterness"

Rev. Dr. Latricia Scriven

Closing Hymn

Freely, Freely

UMH 389

Sending Forth

Rev. Dr. Scriven

Postlude

Postlude on 'Thornbury'

C. Callahan

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