

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**  
**February 2, 2025**  
**10:30 AM**

PRELUDE

*Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*  
Mary Jo Cox, organ

Emma Lou Diemer

WORDS OF GREETING

One: From the beginning, God calls us.

**All: God sets us apart with  
a meaning and a purpose.**

WELCOME

\*PROCESSIONAL

*Come, All You People*

**Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
Come now and worship the Lord.**

*(Choir 1<sup>st</sup> time, Congregation joins 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> time)*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jean Winther

One: Our hope is in God of our lives.

**All: God is a rock of refuge: a fortress  
against threat and shame.**

One: God has held us since our birth.

**All: So we are never in the full grasp  
of the unjust and cruel.**

One: In love, God saves and supports us.

**All: Trusting in God, we continually  
offer our praise!**

\*HYMN No. 409

*God Is Here!*

Text: Fred Pratt Green © 1979, Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor © 1942, Hope Publishing Co.  
All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-721155

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

(Silent Confession)

\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of life, we admit to you and to each other that we have not always lived lives of  
love. We have lost patience and been rude. We have been irritable and insisted on our own  
way. We have even let love end. Forgive us and heal us, dear God, through Jesus Christ,  
your love incarnate. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*RESPONSE No. 441

*Hear the Good News of Salvation*

(v.1)

**Hear the good news of salvation:  
Jesus died to show God's love.  
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!  
Come to us from heaven above.  
Jesus Christ, how much I love you!  
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!  
How I love you! Look upon me.  
Love me still and cleanse within.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 71: 1-6

Amen. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

*In Thee, O Lord*

Jane Marshall

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

The Spirit speaks to the church today. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

“The Better Way is Love”

Andrew Miller

Question of the day: What is the most important core value of the Christian faith?

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.15*

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. Amen.**

SOLO

*The Gift of Love*  
Megan Ransom, soprano

Hal Hopson

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*If you are worshiping virtually today, please make sure that you have some sort of drink and bread or cracker for Communion. In person communion wafers are made of flour mix (garbanzo bean, tapioca, sorghum, fava beans, potato starch), water, canola oil salt.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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 have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN No. 722                      *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak*                      (vs. 1,2,5)

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 300                      *We Are One in the Spirit* (verse 1)

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.**  
**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.**  
**And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.**  
**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,**  
**Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

\*POSTLUDE                                      *Our Father in Heaven*                                      J.C. Bach

\*NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS, SO GO IN PEACE AND SERVE THE LORD

Notes:

Worship Leaders: Mary Jo Cox; Chancel Choir; Jean Winther; Andrew Miller

Gil and Elinor Rau Choral Scholars: Liam Cox; Lauren Geates; Lexi Galliers; Lorelei Wilburn

The Prayers and Concern of the Congregation are extended to:

Jennifer Miller Sheffield (Andrew Miller's sister), Kolton Hutson, J T Schmitt (Barb Lindley's son-in-law), Nick Baker, Wendy Shugert, Mike McNabb, Scott Campbell (Andrew & Martha Miller's friend), Betty Gempel, Jillian & Flynn Gray, Martha Loubert (sister-in-law of John, Pete, and Sheri Loubert), Lois Miller, Jaime Love (brother of Kevin Love), Louisa Ellis (Jeff & Cam Ellis granddaughter), Olivia Geisthardt (friend of Anna Clare Miller), Suzanne Hand, Charles Loubert, Jim Gilbert, Verna Russell, Lois Kerr, Sarah Gilbert, Joyce McNabb, Lavona Osborne. Cathy Chang, Juan Lopez, and Noah Lapp, Vowles Elementary, First Presbyterian Church, Vassar, MI, Evangelical Church of the Helvetic Confession in Austria, and the Habitat for Humanity.

Offering

If you are joining us for worship in-person and would like to give an offering, please place your offering in an offering plate. You can also give your pledge, per capita payment, or offering by mailing it to the church office: First Presbyterian Church, 1250 Watson Road, Mt. Pleasant, 48858. You can also give an offering by going to the church's website, [www@fpcmp.org](http://www@fpcmp.org) and hit the "Give Now" button or use the QR Code,



**Isabella County Restoration House Rotating Shelter**

Your help is needed at the homeless shelter for the week of February 9-16. The Isbella County Restoration House has moved to its permanent location, 555 Main Street. We will need help with preparing and serving dinners the signup sheet for dinners is located at the church in the Narthex (Monday and Wednesday we only need desserts made and servers, Thursday we only need servers) We also need volunteers in the evenings from 7PM-10PM, two evening volunteers and a reception area volunteer to hang out with the guest. There is a need for two overnight volunteers from 10PM-2:00AM, and two morning volunteers from 7-9AM to put out breakfast items and clean up. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex or scan this QR Code: (scroll down to the Isbella County Registration choices and make sure to sign up for the week of February 9-16) Dinner signups are at the church only or contact Andrew 989-954-3297.

